



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 31, 2012

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CIANBRO'S MISLEADING PRIVATE HIGHWAY PROMOTION

Taxpayer Funds Used for Incomplete, Biased 'Study'

DOVER-FOXCROFT—In response to Cianbro CEO Peter Vigue's public presentation promoting his corporation's East-West highway plan today in Dover-Foxcroft, Sierra Club Maine released the following statement:

“Sierra Club joins thousands of Mainers in strongly opposing the Cianbro Corporation's superhighway across the heart of Maine's north woods. The 220 mile, \$2 billion private toll highway for truck transport between New Brunswick and Quebec would permanently destroy Maine's central landscape, threatening local communities, landowner private property rights, forests, air and water quality, and potentially leaving Maine taxpayers on the hook for this risky project.

The public is justifiably outraged by the fact that the State of Maine gave \$300,000 of taxpayer dollars to the Cianbro Corporation to conduct a biased financial viability study to promote their private highway. Cianbro's incomplete study will not examine the highway's numerous harmful effects, including impacts on waterways, water quality, critical habitat, and threatened and endangered species; private property and eminent domain; local communities' environment and economies; public recreational lands; taxpayer risks; noise and other pollution.

There is a smarter way to move goods and generate economic activity through Maine: upgrading and using the existing Maine Montreal and Atlantic Railway rail line that travels east-west across Maine to Canada. Revitalizing an existing train infrastructure is an efficient, economic and environmentally sound transportation option.

Sierra Club Maine will bring national and state Club resources to challenge this private interest highway boondoggle in federal and state administrative and legal arenas, and the non-profit organization is considering an independent and balanced study of Cianbro's superhighway plan.”

Concerned citizens can find out more information about the Sierra Club's efforts to stop the Cianbro highway by contacting maine.chapter@sierraclub.org or 207-761-5616.

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