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Comments: In a state, and region, where much of the land has been clearcut several times areas of old growth forest, as encompassed by the telephone gap project, should be treasured and protected. Destruction of such an ecosystem would have a grand impact on the ecology, hydrology, and history of the area. Vermont is one of the most forested states in the United States, its state nickname (green mountain state) and reputation is strongly reliant on this fact. It should be helping maintain a precedent for the rest of the region and country in how it chooses to protect swaths of old growth.