

April 11, 2019 Testimony of Hendrik D. Gideonse (gideonse@midmaine.com, 119 Old County Road, Brooklin, ME 04616 207-359-8510) before JSCENR on LD 1287, 1320, and 1336.

Chairman Carson, Representative Tucker, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment, and Natural Resources. I am Hendrik Gideonse of Brooklin, ME. I testify in support of all three bills you hear today.

LD 1320, in my opinion, shouldn't be needed. Any agency ought, as a matter of common courtesy, automatically notify other governmental authorities affected by its decisions and actions. A memo to all state agencies to that effect from the State's Chief Executive should be more than enough. The appearance of this bill suggests that formal legislative action is required. And this bill is before you because it references DEP; if the bill had been written to apply to any state governmental actions of *any* kinds affecting specific municipalities, counties, whatever, it might well have gone to SLG as well. It wasn't, and didn't, so vote OTP.

My rationale for supporting LDs 1287 and 1336 is essentially the same for each. While the Penobscot River is, overall, and after a lot of effort, cleaner than it once was, its present quality does not live up to Maine's obligations with respect to the sustenance fishing rights of the Penobscot Nation. Furthermore, the mercury pollution that despoiled the River and the Bay on Mallinckrodt's and HoltraChem's watch remains to be addressed. On both these counts the state needs all the help it can get. These two bills are steps in that direction. [Catherine Schmitt's November 19, 2018 article in Working Waterfront (Island Institute) is a succinct summary of the inherent difficulties and scale of the required cleanup task.]

Vote OTP on LDs 1287 and 1336.