An Act to Establish Processing Time Limits for Permit by Rule Applications Under the Site Location of Development Laws

Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 204. Reference to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

Presented by Representative BOYLE of Gorham.
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §344, sub-§2-A, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 890, Pt. A, §22 and affected by §40, is amended to read:

B. The commissioner shall decide whether an application meets the permit by rule provisions under subsection 7 within 20 working days after notifying the applicant of acceptance of the application, except that the commissioner shall decide whether an application to undertake an activity that requires a permit under chapter 3, subchapter 1, article 6 meets the permit by rule provisions under subsection 7 within the applicable time period established pursuant to section 344-B.

SUMMARY

This bill exempts applications for site location of development from the 20-day time period in current law for the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to decide whether an application meets the permit by rule provisions and instead requires the commissioner to determine whether an application for site location of development meets the permit by rule provisions within the applicable time period established annually by the commissioner pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 344-B.