

**Via Electronic Mail**

May 24, 2021

The Honorable Mark Lawrence  
Chair, Energy, Utilities, & Technology Committee  
Senate Democratic Office  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

The Honorable Seth Berry  
Chair, Energy, Utilities, & Technology Committee  
House Majority Office  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

**Re: Northeast Clean Energy Council Written Testimony on LD1710, An Act to  
Require Prompt and Effective Use of the Renewable Energy Resources of  
Northern Maine**

Dear Chair Lawrence and Chair Berry,

The Northeast Clean Energy Council (the "Council") appreciates the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of LD1710, An Act to Require Prompt and Effective Use of the Renewable Energy Resources of Northern Maine. This bill represents a unique opportunity to not only encourage the development of renewable resources and contribute towards the state's climate commitments, but also to promote economic development through capital investment in Aroostook County.

The Council is a clean energy business, policy, and innovation organization whose mission is to create a world-class clean energy hub in the Northeast, delivering global impact with economic, energy and environmental solutions. Council members span the broad spectrum of the clean energy industry, including clean transportation, energy efficiency, wind, solar, energy storage, microgrids, fuel cells, and advanced and "smart" technologies.

LD1710 would drive investment in renewable resources and, equally as importantly, in transmission. And the Public Utilities Commission would be tasked with running the procurement, which ensures that cost-effectiveness is front-of-mind in project evaluation. As evidenced by the testimony at the May 18<sup>th</sup> hearing, there is broad support for this bill, and we urge you to seize upon this opportunity to promote economic development through renewable deployment, taking an important step towards our clean energy future. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on LD1710. Please contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,



Jeremy McDiarmid  
Vice President, Policy & Government Affairs



Sean Burke  
Policy Associate