

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

—
H.P. 907 - L.D. 1411

An Act to Enhance Reporting by Certain Agencies Regarding Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §576-A, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Annual report. On or before February 15, 2024, and annually thereafter, the Department of Transportation shall submit a report to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources matters and transportation matters regarding capital work plan investments designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with the Department of Transportation during the prior calendar year, including a summary of Department of Transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions associated with different sources and Department of Transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions associated with new road alignment construction activities during the prior calendar year.

Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §577, sub-§5-A is enacted to read:

5-A. Greenhouse gas emissions reductions projections. Beginning with the updated climate action plan under subsection 1 due by December 1, 2024, and for each subsequent update to the plan thereafter, the plan must include greenhouse gas emissions reductions projections, including sector-specific greenhouse gas emissions reductions projections, based on the strategies and actions in the plan and information regarding how those projections and the updated plan are designed to achieve the greenhouse gas emissions reductions specified in section 576-A.

Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §578, as amended by PL 2019, c. 476, §10, is further amended to read:

§578. Progress evaluation

The department, in consultation with the Maine Climate Council, established under section 577-A, shall evaluate the State's progress toward meeting the ~~reduction goals~~ reductions specified in section 576-A and progress toward implementing the climate action plan in section 577. The department, after consultation with the council, shall submit a report of its evaluation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction

over natural resources matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters by December 1, 2022 and by that date every 2 years thereafter. The report must include, but is not limited to, an evaluation of gross annual greenhouse gas emissions, including an identification of greenhouse gas emissions by source category, energy emissions and consumption and an economic analysis of greenhouse gas emissions per unit of economic activity; an evaluation of net annual greenhouse gas emissions, including the State's carbon budget, forest carbon markets and a time series analysis of net greenhouse gas emissions; and an evaluation of sector-specific progress made toward meeting the reductions specified in section 576-A. The department, in consultation with the council, may recommend other metrics to share the progress on climate mitigation and adaptation strategies with the Legislature and the public. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resources matters is authorized to report out legislation relating to the report required under this section, and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters may make recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resources matters regarding that legislation.