



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 1507

S.P. 565

In Senate, May 7, 2013

An Act To Include Useful Thermal Energy as a Renewable Energy Source

Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative CROCKETT of Bethel.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3210, sub-§2, ¶B-3**, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 542, §3, is
3 amended to read:

4 B-3. "Renewable capacity resource" means ~~a source of electrical generation:~~

5 (1) ~~Whose~~ A source of electrical generation whose total power production
6 capacity does not exceed 100 megawatts and relies on one or more of the
7 following:

8 (a) Fuel cells;

9 (b) Tidal power;

10 (c) Solar arrays and installations;

11 (d) Geothermal installations;

12 (e) Hydroelectric generators that meet all state and federal fish passage
13 requirements applicable to the generator; or

14 (f) Biomass generators that are fueled by wood or wood waste, landfill gas
15 or anaerobic digestion of agricultural products, by-products or wastes; ~~or~~

16 (2) ~~That~~ A source of electrical generation that relies on wind power
17 installations; ~~or~~

18 (3) Useful thermal energy.

19 **Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §3210, sub-§2, ¶D** is enacted to read:

20 D. "Useful thermal energy" means renewable energy derived from geothermal, solar
21 thermal or biomass thermal sources that can be metered, that is delivered to an end
22 user in the form of direct heat, steam, hot water or other thermal form and that is used
23 for heating, cooling, humidity control, process use or other thermal end use, the
24 energy requirements for which nonrenewable fuel or electricity would be otherwise
25 consumed.

26 **Sec. 3. Commission rules; renewable energy credits based on useful**
27 **thermal energy.** The Public Utilities Commission shall adopt rules providing a
28 methodology for measurement of useful thermal energy and valuation of that energy for
29 purposes of calculating renewable energy credits under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title
30 35-A, section 3210. Rules adopted under this section are routine technical rules as
31 defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

32 **SUMMARY**

33 This bill provides that renewable energy credits may be based on renewable energy
34 derived from geothermal, solar thermal or biomass thermal sources that can be metered,
35 that is delivered to an end user in the form of direct heat, steam, hot water or other
36 thermal form and that is used for heating, cooling, humidity control, process use or other
37 thermal end use, the energy requirements for which nonrenewable fuel or electricity

1 would be otherwise consumed. The bill requires the Public Utilities Commission by rule
2 to provide a methodology for measurement of useful thermal energy and valuation of that
3 energy for purposes of calculating renewable energy credits.