



**LD 509 - An Act to Amend the Net Energy Billing Laws to Require Net Energy Billing Credits to be Nonlapsing**

**Maine State Legislature, Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee**

**131st Legislature**

**March 2, 2023**

**Position: Favorable**

## Testimony of Arcadia on LD509

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this legislation. Arcadia urges the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee to favorably report out this important legislation. Below is an introduction to Arcadia and a brief explanation of why we support this legislation.

### **Introduction to Arcadia**

Arcadia is building the software necessary for Mainers to realize the full benefits of clean energy. Today, customers face a bewildering assortment of energy technologies – ranging from energy efficiency and renewable energy to battery storage and electric vehicles – all of which have unique capabilities, costs, and user experiences. Arcadia’s software makes it possible for energy technology providers to delight their customers and move clean energy forward by enabling a simple user experience that saves people money.

The Company’s software is revolutionizing community solar, making it easy for people to sign up with guaranteed savings and without any risk. Today, Arcadia manages more than 150 megawatts of community solar across 34 projects in the state. Once energized, these projects will serve approximately 22,500 energy users. Nationwide Arcadia works with more than 40 developers to manage 475 community solar projects representing a combined 1.3 gigawatts of capacity, making it the largest subscriber manager in the country.

### **Support for LD509**

The Maine NEB program allows all Mainers to access local renewable energy while receiving guaranteed savings on power bills, each month. Of course, a community solar farm’s electric output varies throughout the year, generally producing more in the summer and less in the winter. The amount of credits generated by the solar farm vary in an identical manner.

To ensure subscribers receive reliable community solar credits and savings, it is essential that their credits be allowed to rollover month-to-month without expiration, for the life of the project. This allows projects to properly allocate credits to subscribers in a consistent, predictable manner – and also ensures that subscribers receive the full value of their credits while accounting for the variability of solar production and consumer usage occurring throughout the project’s operation.

# Arcadia

When credits rolling over is prohibited after 12 months, subscribers are left with a confusing outcome whereby their credits suddenly disappear because of an arbitrary 12-month time limit. By now many subscribers are used to receiving their savings in the form of credits applied to their monthly power bill, receiving an additional allotment of credits from the utility, often in an amount of a few dollars may result in more questions from the consumer.

Ensuring customers have a reliable and comprehensible billing experience is essential to any program's success. Other leading community solar programs allow credits to rollover indefinitely, including those in New York and Delaware. We would be glad to provide the statutory and rule language from those states if that proves useful to the committee during its discussions.

## **Conclusion**

Arcadia asks for a favorable report on LD509. We appreciate the opportunity to provide this testimony and would be happy to answer questions. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [Aya.Takai@arcadia.com](mailto:Aya.Takai@arcadia.com) or 314-210-4792 if you would like to discuss further.

Sincerely,



Aya Takai  
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Arcadia