

Dan Davis
Porter
LD 826

Senator Brenner, Representative Gramlich and Members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,

I represent no entity or interest other than that I am a resident, land-owner, and taxpayer in this State.

I support the passing of this legislative document, if only to prevent what we've experienced in the past with PFAS poisoning major sections of our state and economies.

Many of the molecular structures and chemical compositions for solar panel designs are changing rapidly and deep in the R&D stages throughout the country. These new designs lack long-term degradation testing of material safety data.

<https://www.mackinac.org/blog/2022/bright-panels-dark-secrets-the-problem-of-solar-waste>

Ironically, there are now ideas to utilize biomass waste to create solar panels, akin to bulk shipping sludge waste across the state and spreading it over our fields, contaminating our waters, our soils, our animals, and the people who live here with "innovative" chemicals that last forever and have health hazards. Instead, they'll line vast fields for decades that wash into watersheds and are grazed by farmers animals that provide food for their families and yours.

Other ideas are leveraging unstable perovskites, which once exposed to UV and acid rain begin to rapidly and exponentially decay (autocatalysis), unless a "protective coating" is applied.

In the past, the incredible cutting-edge innovative "protective coatings" were PFAS and it's 5,000+ related compounds and molecular structures. Other fascinating "protective coverings" of the past were BPH, Asbestos, and even glyphosate.

Maybe the poison of tomorrow is TMD's, transition metal dichalcogenides, but who knows, there's no MSDS or long-term decay and environmental studies established, as products like these, perovskites, reconstituted plastics, and biomass tailings are rushed to market to spread solar across the nation at a breakneck pace and have not been subjected to years of weather, wind, and sun exposure.

I would respectfully urge the ENR Committee and the State policy-makers to serve pause and consider how the sprawl of materials we know nothing about may come back to haunt future generations in the same way that PFAS is doing to Mainers right now. Please support moving LD826 forward, to help educate the legislative community and to protect Mainers.

Thank you.

Dan