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LD 2077

Thank you for the opportunity to testify yesterday (Jan 23) to this committee. I am providing you with my testimony and supporting information as it's relevance to this bill. Since this is a text base format, I will provide interpretation of article screenshots, text and my own relevant experiences in this matter. Some of my testimony is opinion and I will qualify them as such.

Healthcare - a perspective:

I was in Healthcare for over 40 yrs as a clinician (Respiratory Therapist) and a systems analyst, and data reporter i.e. mortality rates etc.

One value that was consistent on a monthly basis was in hospital deaths from iatrogenic and nosocomial means - by the hospital procedures or infections. That value was 25%, so if you survived an emergency visit for methane related asthma, you had a chance of not making it out of the hospital. That translates to 440,000 national deaths per year. This number can be Googled courtesy of the British Medical Journal. I don't know how many people die of methane exposure per year.

One person giving testimony espoused a possible 35% chance of children developing asthma from methane exposure. I can't validate that claim, but I do know most childhood asthma is caused by allergies, smoking in the home and likely from some 80k new industrial carcinogenic compounds that make their way into our foods, clothing furniture. Also obesity (climbing in children), viral respiratory infections and yes, even cold winter air can cause an asthma attack.

I did find an NIH study referring to "Unconventional natural gas development and pediatric asthma hospitalizations in Pennsylvania". So again context and perspective are important when it come down to restricting Natural Gas in Maine.

Hipocrisy:

So the US recommended European countries to start abandoning fossil fuels. They did including abandoning Nuclear power, but with winter approaching found they didn't have enough reserves of energy. Russia came to the rescue and supplied them with Natural gas via the pipeline. According to government reports they then blew up their own pipeline- another godsend but to the US.

We then made a deal with China and shipping our LNG to them. They then proceeded to sell this to Europe at a premium. Of course, while China and the EU will be the largest consumers of LNG, we're asking Mainers to cease the expansion of NG facilities, infrastructure and distribution to homes, restaurants etc.

So as the globe spins and we get China's pollution how do Mainers benefit and how do we justify this initiative?

Therefore LD 2077 ought-NOT-to pass

Thank you.