Anne Weston Owls Head LD 450

Dear Energy Committee,

I just drove past a large solar field, all the panels covered in snow. I'm sure they are generating massive amounts of free energy!

Personally, we looked into installing panels on our roof, since we have excellent sun access, but after reviewing all the factors - longevity, energy production factors, how panels are manufactured (including how mining creates human carnage in other countries), repair/maintenance, and eventual replacement costs, it was clear that the project would be a complete waste of time and money, adding headache that far outweighed any "benefit", in addition to outright immoral. And bad for the environment. The only people profiting are the manufacturers and installers, lobbyists, and investors.

If solar energy is so amazing, then why have Mainers' electric bills continued to skyrocket? The energy savings panels produce should far outweigh the costs of tree maintenance and storm repair.

We've given you years to prove your point, and you have failed. If you believe so strongly in the value of solar, let people opt in to being charged for all your public/government initiatives. Once all the participants report amazing savings, it will convince others to join. Let's see what happens!

Sincerely, Anne Weston