

Chair Lawrence, Chair Sachs and Esteemed members of the EUT Committee

I can not support this bill, LD 596, Resolve, to Provide Legislative Approval of Northern Maine Transmission Infrastructure because I know where the real fight against this project will occur

I offer a new name for this bill. The “Catch 22 Bill.” What is the inherent paradox? How can anyone approve an unknown route for a project of this magnitude? How can anyone approve an unknown cost for this project?

Is that not insane? But, if you admit it is insane, you would be acknowledging you are sane. This bill is not set up to be sane, it is to influence Maine citizens in believing this project is sane and our legislature's judgment is superior to the people's judgment.

But, the real “Catch 22” falls on the people who do not approve this project because **they** find it insane.

If we concern ourselves with what the legislature does prematurely(for instance, if we demand a referendum vote), we risk losing our focus on defeating this project at the PUC and/or the DEP and/or locally by ordinances.

Therefore, I do not care how the committee votes. It is irrelevant at this time.

I care about a sane method of increasing power generation that provides baseload and/or dispatchable and/or peaking power at lower costs.

One small, modular nuclear power plant could replace this project with an asset of real value, and would stamp out an insanely mega transmission line footprint on Maine's landscape.

Vote how you desire. The real fight begins at the PUC.

Clayton McKay Dixfield