



**TOWN OF THOMASTON**  
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March 10, 2025

The Joint Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology

RE: LD 257 an Act to Eliminate the Practice of Net Energy Billing

The town of Thomaston has invested well over a million dollars in a solar array that generates enough electricity through our Net Energy Billing Agreement (NEB) with Central Maine Power Company to offset about 85% of what our electric cost would be without the NEB. We have strong opposition to LD 257, and related bills, which would repeal NEB in Maine. Passage of these bills will cause severe economic impact to our town and to our taxpayers.

According to Strategy C in Maine's four-year plan for climate action (Maine Won't Wait) it states "Plan and build the infrastructure to achieve a resilient and 100 percent clean energy grid by 2040". Removing the financial incentive for investing in clean energy producing solar arrays is not encouraging moving toward this goal. Eliminating NEB would force higher energy costs onto both residents and local governments.

Owners of solar arrays who participate in NEB do more than just benefit themselves, they reduce strain on the grid, lower transmission and distribution costs through avoided line losses and decreased peak demand charges. These factors contribute to a more resilient and cost-effective energy infrastructure than benefits all Mainers.

We urge you to oppose LD 257, LD 450, LD 32, and LD359.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chris Rector, Chair

Bill Hahn, Vice Chair

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Sandy Moore

Peter Lammert

Kimberly Matthews