

**Nexamp Testimony – LD 1317**  
**Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology**  
**Jake Springer**  
**April 10<sup>th</sup> 2025**

Thank you, Chair Lawrence, Chair Sachs, and members of the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee for the opportunity to submit testimony for this hearing.

I am testifying today in opposition to: **LD 1317, An Act to Promote Responsible, Cost-effective Energy in Maine by Amending the Tariff Rates Applicable to the Commercial and Institutional Net Energy Billing Program.**

Nexamp is a vertically integrated clean energy company with nearly two decades of experience in this region developing, constructing, operating and maintaining solar and energy storage projects. We are the long-term owners for all our projects, managing the assets through their whole lifecycle until decommissioning, and we work directly with the customers participating in our projects providing them a guaranteed discount on the credits they receive.

Nexamp has some 40 projects in Maine and through the Net Energy Billing (NEB) program we serve almost 20,000 customers in the state. In doing so we have invested hundreds of millions of dollars building these projects and upgrading the distribution grid infrastructure that supports the state. We are proud of what we have been able to build in Maine and to serve the Mainers who have chosen to participate in these projects. Our customers are Maine businesses of all sizes—including hospitals, breweries and ski areas—as well as municipalities and school districts. But the vast majority are residential customers who are saving on average \$232 each year by participating in one of our projects.

LD 1317 would make substantial and damaging cuts to the current C&I Tariff rate program under NEB that would undermine existing projects and contracts. The credit values for Tariff rate projects, established in current law, are the critical underlying basis that projects have used to determine economic viability, arrange for financing, and to sign agreements with businesses across the state.

While LD 1317 proposes a transition to a new rate structure, make no mistake—this is a retroactive cut to project compensation. Solar projects require significant amounts of capital upfront to construct, and that investment is paid off over time as the project produces energy. The revenue that is expected to be earned in the future is the lifeblood of the project. Recognizing this, and the need for revenue certainty for these projects, NEB agreements are 20-year contracts and under current law the rate structures in place today are available for 20 years. These are the terms under which the investments were made.

On multiple occasions, the Legislature has chosen to make changes to NEB. In doing so, it has modified the structure prospectively, but recognized and protected investments that had been made under the prior structure. Amidst the changes made to NEB over the years, that principle has remained consistent.



Policies enacted by the Legislature to attract private investment, such as NEB, rely on the credibility of the state and the predictability of state policy to secure the investment. Retroactive actions like that proposed in LD 1317 completely undermine this premise.

Nexamp is ready and willing to discuss improvements to the existing NEB program so it can deliver for all Maine consumers and to chart a path forward for future distributed solar and energy storage to achieve the state's goals. But we cannot support efforts that unwind the progress made to date and that undermine existing investments.

We strongly urge you to oppose LD 1317.

Respectfully,

Jake Springer  
Policy Director, East Coast  
Nexamp