



Maine State Legislature
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
February 25, 2026

**Testimony of RENEW Northeast
Supporting
LD 2174 An Act to Update Certain Water Quality Standards and to
Reclassify Certain Waters of the State**

Chairpersons Tepler and Doudera, and members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee, I am Francis Pullaro, president of RENEW Northeast, Inc. (RENEW),¹ here in support of this legislation, including the sponsor's amendment, for reforms to provide consistent permitting rules across the state and a predictable and an efficient review schedule for developers seeking to supply Maine with new clean energy supplies to meet the its comprehensive state energy plan.

An efficient permitting process will ensure the state's plan is affordable for consumers, meets its environmental requirements, fosters local economic development, and ensures a reliable electric power system.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

¹ The comments expressed herein represent the views of RENEW and not necessarily those of any particular member of RENEW. RENEW Northeast (www.renew-ne.org) unites environmental advocates with developers and operators of the region's largest clean energy projects to coordinate their ideas and resources with the goal of increasing environmentally sustainable power generation in New England from the region's abundant renewable energy resources.