

1/11/2024 Energy, Utilities & Technology Committee; LD1963

Good Afternoon Senator Lawrence, Representative Ziegler, and esteemed members of the committee:

My name is Jamie Huntsberger; I live in Unity. Yes, I would have been severely affected by LSPower's transmission line running 400' from my house, exposing my family and pregnant livestock to EMF radiation, and destroying the pleasing atmosphere of our home. We would have to have sold at a loss, and moved elsewhere.

But that's not the point of my being here. The State's energy policies are hopelessly fragmented, disorganized, and based on political whim, rather than science, practicality, or net cost vs net gain. They are based instead on the wholly misguided Maine Energy Plan. This plan is NOT science, it is emotionally charged, politically motivated buzzwords, such as: NetZero, Fossil Fuel, Greenhouse Gas, Decarbonization, Green Energy, etc.

99.9% of our atmosphere is Nitrogen, Oxygen, and Argon; Carbon Dioxide is a trace gas, currently at 0.04 %; its role in temperature regulation is negligible. An honest look at the data shows that the amount of CO2 in the atmosphere is related to the temperature of the oceans; a rise in ocean temp is FOLLOWED by an increase in the amount of CO2, as it is released by the warming water; NOT the other way around.

Greenhouse gases are NOT evil! Without them, the average global temperature would be 0 degrees F, not 59 degrees F!

Carbon is the essential element of all life. It is the base of an incredible web of interdependent processes. I encourage anyone who wants to understand Carbon's role in the ecosystem to go here: <https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/greenhouse-carbon-dioxide-supplementation.html>

Some greenhouse growers who want to increase crop production supplement their houses with CO2. At levels 2 to 4 times above current levels, plant production DOUBLES. Their recommended levels go as high as 2000ppm. Respiration by the plants provides CO2 for the early morning, but by 10:00, that is often completely turned into oxygen by the plants. In other words, the result of an increase in CO2 is more food and more oxygen, NOT more CO2 in the atmosphere! So very young "fossil fuels", AKA hydrocarbons, are formed as CO2 increases. Similarly, sewage can be turned into hydrocarbons in two weeks, if it is handled as a resource instead of a waste. Biofuels and hydrocarbons of all sorts are clean, efficient, and economical. They should NOT be vilified simply to enhance the so-called "Green Energy" industry. There is NO advantage in replacing them with intermittent "Green" sources which only work when the sun is shining, or the wind blowing, and even then are NOT efficient or economical, considering the huge infrastructure needs, and also the amount of energy wasted in conversion, distribution, and in the final consumption.

Of COURSE there is a place for solar and wind power, but it is NOT in Aroostook County when the final destination is Massachusetts! Let's support sensible, local, neighborhood and community alternatives; NOT resource intensive, environmentally destructive, private industry boondoggles that ratepayers will still be financing long after they are nothing but defunct industrial waste!