



Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
% Legislative Information Office
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

March 6, 2025

Re: Public Hearing, LD 451, *An Act to Require Testing of Solar and Wind Energy Developments for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination*

Dear Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to share testimony in opposition to LD 451, *An Act to Require Testing of Solar and Wind Energy Developments for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination*, on behalf of the Maine Renewable Energy Association (MREA). MREA is a not-for-profit association of renewable energy producers, suppliers of goods and services to those producers, and other supporters of the industry. Our member companies include wind, solar, hydropower, biomass, and tidal energy generators and developers of such projects, as well as companies that provide services to those producers, such as environmental engineers, electricians, and general contractors.

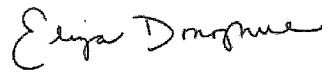
LD 451 would require that the operator of a solar or wind energy project conduct testing for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in accordance with rules adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Should PFAS contamination be found, the development would be ineligible for Renewable Portfolio Standards procurements or to participate in the net energy billing program.

MREA opposes LD 451 because there is little - if no - evidence that solar or wind project components contain or leach PFAS and as such, testing and cause determination (as proposed by the bill) would be unduly burdensome to the project operator and the DEP. Furthermore, Maine has an existing PFAS products law that bans the use of PFAS in several consumer product categories by 2026 and states that no products can be sold in Maine by 2032 if they contain PFAS. There is no exception for solar and wind project components, meaning that the presumed intent of the bill to limit PFAS contamination is achieved by existing law.

Thank you for your consideration of MREA's testimony.

Sincerely,

www.renewablemaine.org

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Eliza Donoghue". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid.

Eliza Donoghue, Esq.
Executive Director