



Mark W. Lawrence
Senator, District 35

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

***Testimony of Senator Mark W. Lawrence introducing
LD 906, An Act to Update the Solar Energy Development Reporting Date Deadline
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
March 26, 2025***

Chair Sachs and esteemed colleagues of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology, my name is Mark Lawrence. I am the State Senator from District 35, proudly representing Eliot, Kittery, Ogunquit, South Berwick, and York. I am here to present LD 906, An Act to Update the Solar Energy Development Reporting Date Deadline.

This bill proposes to change the date from January 1 of each year to February 10 of each year for the submission of the report from the Public Utilities Commission regarding the monitoring of the level of solar energy development in the State.

As you'll hear from the representatives of the Public Utilities Commission, the analysis required from the previous year requires more time than current statute calls for.

The report encapsulates quite a bit of data including but not limited to:

1. Revenue from the sale of renewable energy credits;
2. Societal benefits through avoided greenhouse gas emissions;
3. Reduced electricity prices; and
4. Avoided or reduced costs associated with:
 - a. Electricity capacity requirements;
 - b. Environmental compliance requirements;
 - c. Portfolio requirements established in section 3210;
 - d. Renewable energy credit price suppression; and
 - e. Electricity transmission and distribution costs.

With the year ending on December 31 and the report being due on January 1, due to the way the current statute is written, the PUC may have to make their most informed projections on the Solar Energy Report. As you can see above, the report is robust and captures quite a bit of data to help inform the Legislature as we create policy.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this bill. I am happy to answer questions you may have for me and would defer questions about specifics to the representatives from the PUC that are here today.