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2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002
(207) 287-1400
TTY: MAINE RELAY 711

Nina Azella Milliken

P.O. Box 147
Blue Hill, ME 04614
Phone: (207) 412-8828
Nina.milliken@legislature.maine.gov

March 31, 2025

Testimony of Representative Nina Milliken presenting
**LD 62, An Act to Support Municipal and County Actions on Dam
Ownership**

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Good morning, Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and friends and colleagues on the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. My name is Nina Milliken and I happily represent the folks in Blue Hill, Brooksville, Castine, Sedgwick, Surry and Trenton in the Maine House. Today I am here to present the bill **LD 62, An Act to Support Municipal and County Actions on Dam Ownership**.

Hancock County is currently facing a difficult situation where three dams are in the process of being abandoned. In the 1990s, the Legislature laid out a process for dam abandonment. The process has never been done to completion and, because of that, many of the challenges in the statute had not been discovered until my communities and those of Rep. Steven Bishop in Bucksport were thrust into this process last year. This bill simply changes some parts of that statute to create a more smooth process by doing two things. First, it requires the abandoning company to provide more information about the dams to the potential new owner. And second, it extends the timeline of the abandonment process to a more reasonable number of days to accommodate the logistics of the transfer of ownership.

I appreciate all of your time and consideration and am happy to try to answer any questions.