

Testimony in Support of LD 1240, An Act to Align the Schedules for Climate Change Protection Plans on Grid-enhancing Technology Reviews with the Integrated Grid Planning Process

Senator Lawrence

Representative Sachs

Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

My name is Debra Hart, and I am a resident of Manchester, Maine. I am providing this testimony on behalf of my clients, the Dirigo Electric Cooperative. The Dirigo companies, which are consumer-owned, include Van Buren Light & Power District, Houlton Water Company, Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative, Fox Island Electric Cooperative, Madison Electric Works, Kennebunk Light & Power District, Isle Au Haut and the Brunswick Landing Electric Utility (collectively, "the COUs").

The COUs support and appreciate the change in Section 3146 that changes the timeframe for the submission of the report from every 3 years to every 5 years for a 10-year plan for the expected effects of climate change on the utility's assets that are needed to transmit and distribute electricity to the COU's customers beginning May 1, 2027.

Thank you for your time and attention. I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.