

Testimony of Michael Mains
Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee
LD #1063

April 9, 2025

Good Afternoon – my name is Michael Mains and I am the Director of Environmental Compliance for Eagle Point Energy Center and a resident of Bar Harbor. I am testifying today in support of LD 1063 – “An Act to Require Competitive Procurement of Electricity from Generators Fueled by Municipal Solid Waste in Conjunction with Recycling”.

Our state and New England faces a daunting challenge to address the solid waste disposal needs of our communities at a time when landfill space is limited. For over 30 years, Maine’s waste to energy facilities have provided a proven solution for municipalities to meet their waste management needs.

LD 1063 provides long term electric rate stability while providing benefit to electric ratepayers through lower cost electricity from Maine’s three waste to energy plants. This bill seeks to meet the critical waste infrastructure needs of communities without penalty or subsidy from electric ratepayers.

I urge this committee to support LD 1063. Thank you for your time and attention to this bill that is important to so many municipalities across our state.

* LEI finds that between 2026 and 2040, the average forecasted SO prices for small- and medium-sized customers in the BHD and CMP regions are 19% and 21% higher than the combined PPA price and associated capacity costs, respectively. For large customers, the 2026 to 2040 average forecasted SO prices in the BHD and CMP regions are 14% and 9% higher than the PPA price, respectively.

- The commission shall initiate a competitive solicitation for contracts under this section for energy and renewable energy credits from generators up to 35 megawatts.
- The commission shall select generators for contracts that provide the most benefit to ratepayers and have contract pricing levels below 7 cents per kilowatt-hour for each contract year.
- A contract submitted under this section must be for a term of not less than 5 years and not more than 15 years unless the commission determines a longer term is prudent.

