



STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Testimony of the Maine Public Utilities Commission

Neither For Nor Against

LD 1317, An Act to Promote Responsible, Cost-effective Energy in Maine by Amending the Tariff Rates Applicable to the Commercial and Institutional Net Energy Billing Program

April 10, 2025

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, and Distinguished Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology (Committee), my name is Deirdre Schneider, testifying neither for nor against LD 1317, An Act to Promote Responsible, Cost-effective Energy in Maine by Amending the Tariff Rates Applicable to the Commercial and Institutional Net Energy Billing Program on behalf of the Public Utilities Commission (Commission).

LD 1317 requires the Commission to establish the tariff rate for participants in the commercial and institutional net energy billing program in 2026 and 2027 within the range specified in the bill. In 2026, the rate must be greater than 12 cents per kilowatt-hour but no more than the lower tariff rate that was in effect in 2025. For 2027, the rate must be greater than 12 cents per kilowatt-hour but no more than the established in 2026.

While the Commission has the ability to establish the rates as required by LD 1317 it would be helpful if the bill provided what factors or criteria the Commission should consider when establishing the rate. For example, would the Commission be weighing the recovery of costs for developers against achieving the best outcome for ratepayers in establishing a rate? If the Committee has a preference for what considerations should be taken into account when setting the rates in 2026 and 2027 it would be beneficial to the process to make this explicit in the law.

I would be happy to answer any questions or provide additional information for the work session.