

Chair Lawrence, Chair Sachs and Fellow Energy Consumers of the EUT Committee

I oppose 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

This bill may be a start in unraveling the agony of Net Energy Billing, a move in the right direction, a compromise, a hope that this year represents the peak saturation of subsidized, distributed generation in Maine and a systemic reduction follows.

But, 12 cents per kilowatt hour still exceeds the ISO-NE wholesale value of generation by a lot, so ratepayers will still be on the hook to pay stranded costs associated with differential prices and administrative costs of interaction with wholesale markets.

Ratepayers want stranded cost expenses to become zero and the sooner the better, To make this happen, competitive markets must replace subsidized markets or a buyout of NEB contracts must occur, an avenue that has historical precedent.

Distributed generation will not keep up with expected future electricity demand. It is too dilute and always needs backup. Batteries are way too expensive and are far from being an acceptable last resort power source.

If insanity is expressed in terms of repetitive losing propositions, then NEB takes first place. Distributed generation can not even comply with the PUC duty statement of "reliable electricity at reasonable prices."

Is it the pleasure of this legislature to become the proverbial immovable object to the unstoppable force of the "Energy Emergency Declaration" backed by federal agencies? If so, the Maine energy consumers will be the ones to pay.

Support nuclear because it is coming and coming fast.

Thank You Clayton McKay Dixfield, The Only One