



May 15, 2025

Testimony on behalf of Central Maine Power Company In Support of LD 1964 An Act to Require the Development of a Standard Written Disclosure for Sellers and Installers of Distributed Generation Resources, to Make Changes to Other Standard Disclosures and to Make Misrepresentation in the Sale of Electricity Products an Unfair Trade Practice

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology, my name is Kathleen Newman, Vice President of Government Affairs, submitting testimony in support of LD 1964 – An Act to Require the Development of a Standard Written Disclosure for Sellers and Installers of Distributed Generation Resources, to Make Changes to Other Standard Disclosures and to Make Misrepresentation in the Sale of Electricity Products an Unfair Trade Practice

CMP strongly supports this legislation as it offers electricity consumers information and protections as they make decisions about their electricity supply.

We have been concerned about instances of individuals falsely representing themselves as utility personnel for some time. Persons claiming to be affiliated with the utility when they are not causes confusion and, in some instances, real financial harm. CMP appreciates that this bill makes false representation a violation of Maine's Unfair Trade Practices Act and subject to penalty.

We also appreciate the bill's creation of a Standard Disclosure Form to be provided to residential and small commercial customers when they choose a competitive electricity provider or participate in net energy billing agreements.

The electricity marketplace remains confusing for some customers. When customers are confused, they tend to call the utility. We want every interaction with our customer service representatives to be satisfying, but it is difficult for us to help the customer understand a transaction in which we are not a party.

The requirements for the Standard Written Disclosure Form set forth in the bill are thorough and thoughtful and will be helpful in addressing confusion and frustration for customers. We would be happy to share common questions we receive from customers as the Attorney General works to develop the standard disclosure form.

We also strongly support the Sponsor's proposed amendment. Expired credits are a source of frustration for customers and drive up the cost of electricity for participants who have subscribed for more kWh's than they need. The amendment provides strong incentive to properly size agreements based on the customer's specific needs and does not reward upselling.

During this session, we have heard debate around the selling of RECs and what that means in terms of classifying Maine-based solar generation as renewable. We support amendment's attempt to honestly represent the solar power Mainers are purchasing as truly renewable per Maine's Renewable Portfolio Standard.

In summary – this bill is about truth in advertising – making sure Mainers understand what they are buying from whom, how the transaction works and the resulting costs and benefits. We think that is a good thing.

Thank you for your consideration.