



February 5, 2026

Testimony in Support of LD 307

Resolve, to Establish the Maine Artificial Intelligence Data Center Coordination Council

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology, my name is Kathleen Bowman, Vice President of Government Affairs for Central Maine Power Company. I am here today to speak in support of the sponsor's amendment to LD 307 Resolve, to Establish the Maine Artificial Intelligence Data Center Coordination Council.

CMP appreciates the thoughtful and proactive approach reflected in this legislation. The establishment of a coordinated forum to evaluate artificial intelligence data centers is both timely and necessary, particularly given the significant electric system, land-use, and customer impacts these facilities can present.

As a member of the proposed council, our participation would focus on evaluating how these facilities interact with the electric grid, identifying potential system upgrades they may require, and ensuring that their development does not create unintended cost or reliability impacts for existing customers.

We believe early, collaborative planning is essential to protect ratepayers while allowing Maine to thoughtfully consider emerging economic opportunities. By engaging now—before projects are fully proposed or permitted—the state can take a comprehensive and coordinated look at siting, infrastructure readiness, environmental considerations, and customer protections. The sponsor's amendment to LD 307 provides a sensible framework for doing exactly that and we look forward to contributing constructively to the council's work.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.