

Terry Grill
Sealed Air Corporation
LD 1660

Dear Senator Brenner, Representative Gramlich and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Re: Opposing LD 1660: An Act to Provide That Advanced Recycling Facilities Are Subject to Solid Waste Regulation and That Advanced Recycling Does Not Constitute Recycling"

SEE Corporation respectfully requests your opposition to LD 1660 - An Act to Provide That Advanced Recycling Facilities Are Subject to Solid Waste Regulation and That Advanced Recycling Does Not Constitute Recycling.

SEE provides packaging materials that are essential to the safety and quality of food, especially protein, sold into the state of Maine. We are committed to the safety of our products and to the protection of public health. We support efforts to protect Maine's communities, environment and natural resources, however we respectfully oppose LD 1660 for the following reasons:

This bill provides that advanced recycling technologies are not considered recycling facilities or recycling. ME LD 1660 prohibits advanced recycling technologies including pyrolysis and gasification from being considered recycling and instead links these technologies to the destruction of waste materials under solid waste regulation. Advanced recycling processes remanufacture post-use plastics back into useful products.

Advanced recycling enables our ability to remake high performance, food contact plastic film packaging which cannot be recycled through mechanical recycling operations. Advanced recycling helps us decrease plastic waste by converting even food contaminated packaging back into basic chemical building blocks and it enables us to include recycled content in highly regulated food-grade packaging— instead of landfilling them.

Advanced recycling is NOT incineration. Advanced recycling facilities are subject to the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and state and local authorities. They also need to obtain operating permits from applicable states and continue to monitor and report various air emissions as they operate. State environmental officials have the tools they need to properly regulate the facilities.

We ask that you not stand in the way of recycling food contact packaging nor the use of recycled content in food packaging. Please oppose LD 1660.

Sincerely,
Terry Grill
Advocacy