

Charlene Cummings
Phippsburg

Testimony in support of Ld 170

Sen. Lawrence, Rep Berry , Members of the Committee ,and my able senator, Sen Vitelli.

My name is Charlene Cummings , residing in Phippsburg. I am one of the 100,000 Mainers strongly opposed to the totally unnecessary Necec project. I am also a plaintiff in the ongoing court case to protect Maine's public reserved lands from illegal, unconstitutional leases ,although I prefer the term public lots, since my Dad, Bob Cummings, was a driving force to get them recovered for the people of Maine.

This bill is would begin to codify exactly when a project is truly publicly needed and serves Maine people not the citizens of Massachusetts. It also would require any project to have verifiable greenhouse gas reductions , a stated goal of the governor's and President's climate plans. This bill may set the bar too high for public benefit, but it is a good start for the discussion. Given the fact that Cmp is charging exorbitant fees to connect to the grid for energy producers, it specifically waives these requirements for interconnection lines, which is a start for a more resilient grid. A more resilient grid is extremely important if Maine is to transition to carbon free energy sources, all the heat pumps and electric vehicles are useless if there is no power to run or charge them.