



March 16, 2021

Senator Mark Lawrence, Chair
Representative Seth Berry, Chair
Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: Testimony in Opposition to LD 249, LD 583 and LD 634

To Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry and Members of the Energy Utilities and Technology Committee:

Please consider this written testimony in opposition to LD 249, LD 583 and LD 634.

BlueWave is a community solar developer and services provider, which co-developed the first community solar projects in Massachusetts and has since developed over 135 MW of community and public solar. We are writing to you today with respect to our 20 pending community solar projects that represent significant time, labor, and investment towards Maine's clean energy future.

We urge the Committee to recognize the benefits of the Net Energy Billing (NEB) program and reject the measures outlined in LD 249, LD 583, and LD 634. If these measures are adopted, BlueWave and other solar developers would be left with no other choice but to abandon our investments and commitments to Maine residents and businesses who have placed their trust in a robust clean energy transition. A recently released report from Daymark Energy Advisors outlines the net benefit of NEB to Maine consumers under every scenario of solar penetration. Taken together with the bulk power system benefits and societal benefits of NEB, it is clear that the Committee should reaffirm its commitment to reaching Maine's ambitious clean energy goals.

Many of BlueWave's projects already have a significant number of customers signed up for community solar subscriptions and these customers are expecting to receive the benefits and savings associated with their projects. To date, we have approximately 180 subscriptions from small and medium Maine businesses and other non-residential offtake, including food-related businesses, hotels, small industry, personal services, and multi-family housing, as well as over 600 residential subscriptions. If our projects are unable to move forward due to the measures in these bills, these Maine people and businesses will be unable to realize the savings they have

BLUEWAVE

planned for. During the intersecting crises of COVID-19 and climate change, now is not the time to cut off these benefits to Maine businesses and hardworking families.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Curran
Senior Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs
BlueWave Solar