

Ira Miller
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Dear Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry, Distinguished Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and technology:

I am writing to express my opposition to LD 1619 An Act to Establish a Moratorium on Offshore Wind Power Projects in Maine Territorial Waters. I am against this Bill as it doesn't go far enough protect Maine waters from the effects that go along with offshore wind power. If approved in its current language it will still allow power cables to be run ashore which certainly would result in negative effects where that happens. Furthermore by allowing the cables to come ashore in Maine it seems to me that is an invitation to put windmills in the Gulf of Maine which I am against for many different reasons, but the biggest one is that we cannot afford to set a precedent that our and others need for power outweighs the the ability to sustainably feed millions of people which the Gulf of Maine has done since before our nation was born. To my point regarding the cabling issue and the fact that it will encourage more participation by wind farms is that as this bill is written still it still allows for a State proposed offshore demonstration site and the continuation of the Monhegan project. As far as I can see the only point to be proven in this whole exercise is that the floating structure designed by UMO will be able to withstand the elements created in an offshore environment. this can be done by erecting one windmill and there's no need to run a cable in that circumstance.