

Good Afternoon, my name is Grant Provost I am the Business Agent for Ironworkers Local 7, I rise in favor of LD 1619 An Act To Establish a Moratorium on Offshore Wind Power Projects in Maine's Territorial Waters. The inner coastal water in Maine is used by many who work and recreate throughout the seasons. It is where the Lobsters come to mate, molt and harden up for their fall journey back offshore. In the summer months the State Coastal Waters are a buzz with lobsterman, sport fisherman, Yachters, and a multitude of out of state visitors. The coast comes to life with an influx of tourists that jam small town roadways angering locals as affluent individuals return to their coastal summering locations. Thus how it has been since before EB White cut his teeth on Charlette's Web and how we all have grown accustomed to the idea of the Maine Coast. As I do agree here this is no place for 800' foot, 10,000 ton monolithic towers for the creation of power no matter how green they are. In saying that I do believe that there is a place for them, just not Bucks Harbor or similar waters between Deer Isle and North Haven where a good chunk of the countries lobster catch comes from. If they can float we can place them where we want and this means out to sea where there's less action and more wind, where high seas and bad weather limit the numbers who fish the waters. Where through stake holder involvement we can find locations that work for all and where we can have a viable new technology to lead Maine into the new carbon neutral future. For unlike during EB Whites time, climate change is a more existential threat to us all and more

importantly our children. The Gulf of Maine is one of the fastest warming bodies of water in the world with the acidity of the water also exponentially increasing. As in Southern Maine the Lobster catch is not what it once was as the bugs migrate to the north out of warming waters and into cooler ones. Maine is the last stop before they become Canadian Lobster. Thinking also of mollusks and bicuspidids that don't have the good fortune to be able to walk off to cooler waters as the ones around them continue to increase in temperature. Much like my late father they are born in Maine, don't have plans to leave and will be buried here.

I do believe that there is something we can all agree on when it comes to our environment, we need to do what we can to protect it so that future generations can enjoy what a wonderful life one can have here. With LD 1619 I understand the attempt of the Governor's Energy Office to say "we are not trying to change the idea of Maine or the Maine we all love and enjoy. We are trying to change how we get our power to something that will preserve the Maine we all love for future generations." I can appreciate that.

Grant Provost  
Brunswick

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