

Presentation to the Maine Legislature's Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee

> Dan Burgess, Director January 21, 2025

The GEO website includes information on key energy initiatives, heating fuel prices, latest news, upcoming public meetings, stakeholder group information, studies, a contact form, and other relevant resources.

www.maine.gov/energy



Maine Governor's Energy Office (GEO)

- Established within the Executive Department and directly responsible to the Governor, is the designated state energy office tasked with a wide range of activities relating to state energy policies, planning, and development.
- As the lead energy office for the state, GEO is responsible for several activities such as providing policy leadership and technical assistance, developing energy programs, monitoring energy markets, and reporting on heating fuel and energy prices. GEO works in partnership with various entities on energy issues.
- GEO Director is a member of the Board of Efficiency Maine Trust and is on the Board of the National Association of State Energy Officials







GEO works closely with other agencies through several other planning processes including Efficiency Maine's Triennial Plan; The Infrastructure Rebuilding and Resilience Commission; and The Maine Climate Council, among others.





Funding

U.S. Department of Energy, State Energy Program (SEP)

The SEP emphasizes the state's role as the decision-maker and administrator for program activities tailored to their unique resources, delivery capacity, and energy goals. Since Congress created SEP in the 1970s, it has provided funding and technical assistance to the 50 states, 5 territories, and the District of Columbia to enhance energy security and resiliency, promote economic growth, improve environmental quality, and increase energy affordability and efficiency.

State Heating Oil and Propane Program (SHOPP)

SHOPP is a joint effort between the Energy Information Administration and various state energy offices to collect state-level residential heating oil and propane price data in states where residential use of these fuels is common.

Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act – Competitive and Formula General Fund Appropriation PUC Funding as Directed







Federal Funding

>\$215 million

Awarded directly to GEO to implement or subgrant to

partners:

- State Energy Program: \$3.6 million
- Flexible Interconnections and Resilience for Maine (FIRM) (Grid Resilience and Innovative Partnerships): \$65 million in collaboration with CMP and Versant
- Solar for All: \$62 million
- Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEAR): \$35.7 million to be administered by EMT
- Home Energy Rebates (HER): \$35.9 million to be administered by EMT
- Grid Resilience Program: \$6.6 million
- Assistance for Latest and Zero Building Energy Code Adoption: \$7.6 million
- Energy Efficiency Resolving Loan Fund: \$863k to be administered by EMT
- Energy Auditor Training: \$815k
- State Based Home Energy Efficiency Contractor Training (TREC): \$1.3 million

>\$700 million

In energy-related funding awarded to regional partners

or other entities in Maine:

- New England Heat Pump Accelerator Coalition: \$450 million (\$45 million to Maine in collaboration with EMT)
- Transmission Facilitation Program: \$425 million to CMP
- **Power Up New England** (Grid Resiliency and Innovative Partnerships): \$389 million (\$147 million to Maine)
- Weatherization Assistance Program: \$31 million
 to MaineHousing
- Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas: \$10 million to EMT
- **Hydroelectric upgrades**: \$35.7 million to 23 facilities across Maine
- Various awards to communities and businesses via the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant and Rural Energy for America Programs



Initiatives & Program Highlights



Home Heating

Fuel Oil Consumed by the Residential Sector, by state (2022)



Share of Energy Sources Consumed for Residential Heating, Maine



Maine consumes more residential heating oil per capita than any other U.S. state. It has long been a bipartisan goal to reduce this reliance—Maine instated a heating oil reduction target in 2011.

The share of Maine households reliant on heating oil decreased more than 6 percent from 2022 to 2023, the largest year over year decrease since at least 2010. The share of Maine homes using heating oil as their primary source of heating is down from over 70 percent in 2010 to just over 50 percent in 2023.



Heating Fuel Prices

GEO conducts a weekly survey of heating fuel prices, obtained from fuel retailers statewide. This survey provides the current Maine cash prices, in dollars, rounded to the nearest penny. Prices are typically updated by Friday each week.

Heating Fuel	Statewide	Southwest/ West- Central	Southeast/ Greater Portland	Central	East/ Downeast	Northern
Heating Oil - Average	\$3.61	\$3.69	\$3.78	\$3.54	\$3.50	\$3.54
Heating Oil - High	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$3.70
Heating Oil - Low	\$2.94	\$3.10	\$3.10	\$2.94	\$3.03	\$3.30
Kerosene	\$4.38	\$4.49	\$4.70	\$4.30	\$4.15	\$4.28
Propane	\$3.42	\$3.61	\$3.80	\$3.32	\$3.24	\$3.10

Maine Retail Heating Fuel Prices as of January 13, 2025





Consumer Resources

for Maine people to help stay warm during the winter heating season and find heating assistance if needed.

BE INFORMED

Track Home Heating Fuel Prices

The Governor's Energy Office (GEO) tradks heating fuel prices veekly to help consumers make informed energy decisions. The latest Maine heating fuel prices are available to view here. To compare the costs of operating different home heating systems, visit <u>Efficiency Maine</u>.

Energy prices going into this winter are forecasted to be similar to last year's prices. This guide contains resources

Maine Winter Heating Resources

2024-2025 Heating Season

MAINE GOVERNOR'S

Energy Office

October 2024

Review Electric Rates

Track the latest Maine electricity prices on the <u>GEO website</u> or find information about competitive electricity providers through the <u>Office of the Public Advocate</u> or <u>Maine Public Utilities Commission</u>. Higher-usage households may qualify for new alternative rates from Central Maine Power (CMP) or Versant Power. Contact your usility for details.

Know Your Rights

Maine law protects consumers when it comes to heating fuels. More information on home heating rights is available in the Office of the Maine Attorney General's <u>Consumer Protection Guide</u>.

GET EFFICIENT

Tune Up

Schedule your annual heating system maintenance as soon as possible to ensure safe and efficienc operation. Schedule a chimney cleaning for wood and oil burning systems. Stay comfortable and save money by keeping your heat pump properly maintained. Learn more about heat pump maintenance by visiting <u>Efficiency</u> Maine.

Weatherize

Numerous financial incentives and low-cost financing options exist to help consumers and businesses improve energy efficiency and reduce energy usage. Learn about incentives for weatherization improvements from Efficiency Main and Maintedbusing.

Heat Pumps Electric heat pumps are a cost-efficient heating source and are proven to work in cold weather. Multiple incentive programs exist to reduce the cost of installing a heat pump for low and moderate-income Maine households. Learn more about heat pump programs from <u>Efficiency Maine</u> and <u>MaineHousing</u>.

Community Action Agencies help low-income households access these energy efficiency programs. Visit <u>MaineHousing</u> to find an agency near you, or click the link below.

Emergency Fuel Assistance

If you are very low on fuel and can't afford to fill your tank, you may qualify for an emergency delivery. Emergency funds are available at non-profits, churches, municipalities, and other organizations. Call 211 or constact the Community Action Agency in your area for more information.

COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES



October 2024

Propane Pricing: A Guide for Maine Consumers

Several factors influence the final price Maine people pay for propane fuel. This fact sheet is designed to help consumers obtain the price and service that best meets individual needs.

Are propane prices regulated?

No. Propane, like heating oil, is referred to as a "delivered fuel," in contrast to electricity and natural gas which are delivered via wires, poles, and pipelines owned by the company transporting the energy. Electricity and natural gas service territories are generally exclusive, so their prices are regulated by the Maine Public Utilities Commission. As in all other states, delivered fuel prices in Maine are not regulated. Several fuel companies may deliver to the same household, creating market forces (e.g. supply, demand, competition, location) that determine the price.

Isn't propane priced the same as heating oil?

No. There are a few circumstances with propane that don't exist with heating oil which affect the retail price. These are listed below in no particular order:

 Propane is a gas under pressure. It is stored in pressurized tanks that require periodic inspections for safety, which is an additional expense.

- 2.Pressurized propane tanks are expensive to purchase, so most households choose to have the propane retailer own the tank. The retailer must recoup the cost of providing the tank, which is factored into the price of the fuel.
- 3.Propane pricing is generally based on volume. Think of propane prices as you would think of any good that you purchase it is generally more expensive to buy anything in a small volume. For example, a single serving of milk from a convenience store is generally more expensive, per ounce, than the perounce cost of a whole gailon of milk. The same principle applies to propane. If you purchase only 50 gailons of propane per year, it will likely cost more for the dealer to provide you with fuel. The dealer has the fixed costs of the tank, delivery truck, and driver, which are the same whether you purchase 50 or 500 gailons. You will likely pay a lower price per gailon if you purchase rouge to propane.

How can I obtain propane at a fair price?

Shop around. There is no correlation between location and price in Maine. Propane dealers operate
under very different business models. Some are one-or-two-person operations with a single delivery
truck, while others are large, publicly-traded companies with obligations to investors. The Governor's
Energy Office tracks Maine propane prices weekly during the heating season, but customers should still
call local dealers to compare prices. Track the latest Maine propane prices <u>here</u>.

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COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES



Mainers' Guide to Climate Incentives

Financial support from state and foderal programs can help you make smart, climate-friendly investments in your home, transportation, business, and more.

naary 2025





Efficiency & Weatherization



GEO staff work in close coordination with EMT and MaineHousing on several efforts to efficiently deploy resources to advance the state's efficiency and weatherization targets relating to existing and new housing units.



Targets: Heat Pumps: 275,000 by 2027 Weatherization: 35,000 homes by 2030

Progress to date:

Year	Heat Pumps Installed	Year	Heat Pump Water Heaters Installed	Year	Dwellings Weatherized
2019	11,420	2019	5,988	2019	2,691
2020	12,765	2020	8,542	2020	1,561
2021	28,247	2021	10,427	2021	1,740
2022	30,258	2022	9,368	2022	2,131
2023	33,170	2023	9,504	2023	3,331
2024	27,996	2024	10,576	2024	3,174
Total	143,857	Total	54,405	Total	14,628



MAINE GOVERNOR'S Energy Office

Energy Efficiency

Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC)

Leading By Example

GOPIF's Community Resilience Partnership Program

Federal Funding

- Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEAR): \$35.7 million to be administered by EMT
- Home Energy Rebates (HER): \$35.9 million to be administered by EMT
- Weatherization Assistance Program: \$31 million to MaineHousing
- Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas: \$10 million to EMT
- Energy Efficiency Resolving Loan Fund: \$863k to be administered by EMT
- Training for Contractors, Codes and Auditors





Clean Transportation

The state, through Efficiency Maine, has offered EV rebates to supplement federal incentives to qualifying low-income customers.



Electric Vehicle Rebates

Total Rebates
 Low and Moderate Income (LMI) Rebates
 Source: Efficiency Maine

Deployment Targets:

EVs: 150,000 light-duty battery electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles on the road in Maine by 2030

Charging: 700+ public EV charging ports installed by 2028





Maine has been awarded \$15 million to build its EV charging network along highways and within communities in addition to \$18 million to expand charging on designated alternative fuel corridors, and other states funds.



Electricity

ISO New England is the independent, not-for-profit corporation responsible for keeping electricity flowing across the six New England states and ensuring that the region has reliable, competitively priced wholesale electricity today and into the future. ISO-NE does not own any generation.



New England has nearly 31,000 MW of installed electricity generating capacity.

Wholesale Electricity Generation by Source, ISO-NE

Maine consumes approximately 10% of New England's total electricity consumption.



Electricity Generation by Source, Maine (2023)



Natural Gas and Electricity Prices in New England

Monthly Average Natural Gas and Wholesale Electricity Prices at the New England Hub







Electric Utilities Serving Maine

Maine's transmission and distribution utilities deliver electricity, but do not own generation.

Central Maine Power and Versant are the state's largest utilities. Maine has nine cooperatives and municipally owned utilities.

There are more than 100 active electricity producers or suppliers of electricity that operate Maine.

Transmission and Distribution Map by Utility District Name

Van Buren Light & Power District
 Versant Power - Bangor Hydro District
 Central Maine Power Company
 Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative
 Fox Island Electric Cooperative
 Houlton Water Company

Isle au Haut Electric Power Company Kennebunk Light & Power District Madison Electric Works Versant Power - Maine Public District

Matinicus Plantation Electric

Monhegan Plantation Power District

MAINE GOVERNOR'S Energy Office

Renewable Portfolio Standard

RPS Requirements for Class I Resources



Maine Renewable Electricity 80 Goal: 80% by 2030 60 40 20 51% 55% 45% 48% 2021 2022 2023 2024 (Plan) 2030

Maine's RPS is in line with other New England state policies to require increasing amounts of renewable energy to be sold within the state each year. Maine has a requirement of 80% renewable energy by 2030.

Maine's RPS policy has resulted in significant economic and wholesale price suppression benefits:

- **\$21.5 million** in net annual average benefits to Maine's electric ratepayers between 2011 and 2022.
- \$100 million in direct investments
- \$900 million in operations and maintenance spending
- 1,000 full-time equivalent jobs yielding over \$1 billion in worker income

Procurements in Maine and New England are also enabling project financing, driving investment in new renewable generation, and delivering economic benefits.



Solar for All

The Inflation Reduction Act's \$7 billion Solar for All Competition is administered through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Funds have been awarded for programs that cover all 50 states and will deliver on the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund's objectives to:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollution, deliver cost savings on electric bills for overburdened households, and accelerate the deployment of distributed solar in states and territories that do not have a statewide low-income solar program.
- Create high-quality jobs and mobilize financing to stimulate the deployment of residential solar projects.

GEO awarded **\$62 million to establish the Maine Solar for All Program** which will:

- Align with recommendations from the DG Stakeholder Group report, Maine Energy Plan, and Maine Won't Wait
- Compliment existing energy efficiency, weatherization, and electrification incentives
- Prioritize benefits for disadvantaged and low-income households
- Focus offerings for:
 - Single-family residential lease program
 - Multifamily solar program
 - Energy assistance community solar program
 - Deploying technical Assistance and workforce support



Energy Storage

Technologies that store electricity to be used to meet demand at different times can provide significant benefits to the grid and its resiliency. Energy storage can provide backup power during outages and can help customers and grid operators manage electric load. Energy storage can also help increase the availability of renewable energy from sources like wind and solar by absorbing excess energy when it is being produced, then discharging it later when the energy is needed.

Maine has a goal to deploy at least: **300 MW of energy storage within the state by the end of 2025 and 400 MW by the end of 2030**.

Plant Name	County	Online Date	Capacity (MW)
William F Wyman	Cumberland	12/31/2016	16.7
Madison BESS	Somerset	5/30/2019	4.7
Great Lakes Millinocket Battery	Penobscot 12/31/2020		20.9
Industrial Drive Rumford BESS project	Oxford	7/1/2021	4.8
Bonny Eagle Renewable BES	York	04/20/2023	8
Rumford Renewable BES	Oxford 5/5/2023		8
Total			63.1

Operating Grid-Connected Storage Projects in Maine* (updated Dec. 2024)





This is a photo of shipping units that contain 950 lithium-ion batteries in Madison, Maine. This project has a capacity of just under 5 MW that can help supply power and balance electricity demand daily.



*Behind-the-meter projects only. Source: ISO-NE CELT report.

Advancing Energy Storage in Maine

GEO Files Energy Storage Recommendations with Maine PUC

As directed by the Legislature, GEO evaluated program designs and submitted recommendations to procure up to **200 MW of costeffective utility-scale energy storage** for Maine that increases grid resilience, lowers electricity costs, maximizes federal incentives, and advances the state's clean energy goals and statutory requirements.

GEO recommends two separate **upfront incentive/pay-for performance procurement** programs: one for transmissionlevel projects, and one for distribution-level projects.

U.S. DOE awarded \$147 million grant award to support multi-day energy storage in Lincoln, Maine

Form Energy will deploy an **85 MW** storage project at the Lincoln Technology Park. Utilizing iron-air technology, the battery will be able to **continuously discharge energy for up to 100 hours**.

The project would be the largest longduration energy storage project in the world to date. The award is part of a \$389 million regional grant to New England states funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and supported by Maine's Congressional Delegation to strengthen the regional electric grid and advance the deployment of clean energy. EMT offers performance-based incentives for energy storage systems during summer peak demand conditions

EMT has **demand response programs for behind the meter batteries** at residences and small businesses as well as a program for demand metered customers (commercial, nonprofits, institutions and government).

This program takes advantage of customer-installed storage resources by compensating participants based on their ability to reduce load during summer peak demand hours.



Offshore Wind



Maine Offshore Wind Roadmap

In 2023, GEO published the Roadmap following an 18-month stakeholder-driven process which identifies key actions to realize the economic and climate benefits of an offshore wind industry while supporting coastal communities and industries and protecting the unique Gulf of Maine ecosystem. Maine continues to implement key objectives of the Roadmap, including advancing the Maine Research Array, engaging in regional transmission planning, and continuing to advance efforts for long-term development.



Offshore Wind Research Consortium

The Consortium was established in 2021 through a bipartisan bill to better understand the impacts of floating offshore wind in the Gulf of Maine and is guided by a diverse Advisory Board.

The Consortium's Advisory Board includes representatives from commercial and recreational fisheries, scientists from public and private institutions, Maine-based environmental NGOs, offshore wind industry, coastal communities, State agencies, and Tribal representatives. The Advisory Board work to collectively identify and advance priority research. The first three funded projects including

- 1. Inventorying socioeconomic data and metrics related to Maine's fishing communities (*Complete*)
- 2. Exploring approaches to fisheries and floating offshore wind coexistence (Expected Q1 2025)
- 3. Seafloor mapping in key areas of the Gulf of Maine (*Expected ~Q2 2025*)

In 2024, the Consortium identified three additional projects intended to build on the results of previous Consortium-funded projects, fill key data gaps, and advance best practices and technologies:

- 1. Baseline assessment of social, economic, and cultural impacts of OSW development on Maine's fishing industry
- 2. Baseline secondary entanglement risk assessment and technology feasibility study
- 3. Baseline offshore bat monitoring

GEO is currently leading a competitive solicitation to fund the second round of projects.



State & Federal Floating OSW Leases





• Gulf of Maine Lease Sale - October 29, 2024

- First floating auction in Atlantic, second in U.S.
- Largest (fixed or floating) in area (439,000 acres) and clean energy potential (6.8 GW, 2.3 million homes)
- Two major U.S. OSW developers awarded
- One lease area with >1 GW potential proximate to Maine (Invenergy \$4.89 M)
- \$5.4 million in bidding credits

• State of Maine Research Lease Executed September 1, 2024

- Nation's first floating offshore wind energy research lease
- ~15,000 acres, 28 nautical miles offshore
- Up to 12 turbines capable of generating 144 MW of renewable energy
- Data and information will be shared
- Coordination with Maine OSW Research Consortium

OSW has generated \$40B in investments and thousands of jobs in the U.S. to date.



Grid Planning & Resilience

GEO is actively engaged in state, regional, and national transmission and grid planning initiatives including:

- Supporting the development of **grid planning and climate vulnerability studies** through the grid planning docket at the Commission initiated following passage of the Governor's 2022 utility accountability legislation (LD 1959);
- Participating in the Governor's Infrastructure Rebuilding and Resilience Commission;
- Engaging ISO-New England, both directly and through NESCOE, to improve transparency and accountability in addition to grid operator reforms, long-term transmission planning, and asset condition process improvements;
- Joining 10 Northeast states to form the Northeast States Collaborative on Interregional Transmission to explore
 mutually beneficial opportunities to increase the flow of electricity between the three Northeast planning regions;
- Joining 20 other states to form the **Federal State Modern Grid Deployment Initiative** which priorities efforts that support the adoption of modern solutions to expand grid capacity on both new and existing T&D infrastructure;
- Participating in National Renewable Energy Lab's (NREL) Onsite Energy Systems at Critical Facilities Technology Action Group, a pilot opportunity for states to coordinate to develop plans for powering critical facilities during grid outages; and
- Seeking significant **federal funding** to advance strategic investments in Maine's utility infrastructure to improve reliability and resilience.



Grid Resilience Grant Program

Program Goals

- Increase resilience of the electric grid and decrease the frequency and duration of outages, including within disadvantaged communities and areas experiencing a high frequency and/or long durations of outages;
- Improve community and economic resilience and empower electric customers and communities to be resilient to disruptive events;
- Increase clean energy workforce opportunities and ensure alignment with existing state initiatives; and
- Align with ongoing electric grid modernization and state policy climate goals while mitigating disproportionate energy burdens.
- 6 initial program awards totaling \$6.6 million; anticipate another \$2,686,345 in allocated funds for FY2025.



Maine Community Energy Redevelopment Program (MECERP)

- Launched in early 2024
- Funded through MJRP, administered jointly by GEO and DECD
- Provides technical assistance to communities to support locally-determined revitalization projects at former mill sites, power stations, and other facilities with underutilized energy assets or excess electrical capacity to create jobs, drive local economic development, and meet state carbon reduction and clean energy goals
- Six communities now receiving technical assistance from the state's consultant, HR&A Advisors





State Energy Security Planning + ESF 12

As directed by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, State Energy Offices lead the update of State Energy Security Plans (SESP) under Section 40108. GEO is responsible for developing Maine's Energy Security Plan. The SESP is used for situational awareness and provides a communications blueprint in the event of energy emergencies in addition to a description of mitigation strategies to enhance resilience of the energy sector.

The federally required format for energy security plans includes a state energy profile; identification of energy related threats and vulnerabilities; risk assessment of energy infrastructure, including cross sector interdependencies; energy security roles and responsibilities; development of an energy resiliency and hazard mitigation strategy; and regional & tribal coordination.

The SESP aligns with other state and federal emergency response, mitigation, and resilience plans and activities, including the Maine State Emergency Operations Plan; the State Hazard Mitigation Plan; the Maine Climate Council; the Maine Infrastructure Resilience and Rebuilding Commission; and other federal resiliency programs.

Emergency Support Function #12





Growing Maine's Clean Energy Workforce

Since 2022, the Governor's Energy Office has awarded more than \$10 million to advance partnerships and initiatives to grow the workforce and increase innovation in Maine's clean energy sector via the Clean Energy Partnership (CEP).



In 2024, CEP reached over 3,500 participants and 40 businesses and community organizations.

- Attracting new workers to the clean energy sector
- Providing career training and upskilling opportunities
- Increasing diversity and representation in the workforce
- Facilitating entry into rewarding and highpaying jobs



Maine Clean Energy Job Growth



Goal: 30,000 clean energy jobs in Maine by 2030

- Contributes \$2.3+ billion to Maine's economy annually
- Employs 15,000+ workers
- Fastest-growing clean energy economy in New England by employment growth
- Energy efficiency sector employs 50% of Maine's clean energy workers



Incubator and Accelerator Programs







- Location: Waterville
- Prioritizing companies engaging in sub sectors such as renewable energy, cleantech aerospace, environmental monitoring technologies, and innovation-enabling clean energy infrastructure.
- Location: Brunswick
- Created the Weatherization Business Lab, a 7-week business advising program aimed at growing and scaling contractor businesses that deliver home weatherization and energy efficiency services in rural and low-income communities.
- Location: Portland
- Developed a clean energy incubator program to create a hub for clean energy innovation and cultivate community, connections, and increased knowledge of the sector





www.mainecleanenergyjobs.com



Maine Energy Plan







Brattle

Maine Energy Plan Objectives



A: Deliver Affordable Energy for Maine People and Businesses



B: Ensure Maine's Energy Systems are Reliable and Resilient in the Face of Growing Challenges

C: Responsibly Advance Clean Energy

D: Deploy Efficient Technologies to Reduce Energy Costs

E: Expand Clean Energy Career Opportunities for Maine people and Advance Innovation

The Plan outlines strategies to reduce energy costs, ensure reliability and resilience, and increase the diversity of energy resources to meet the Governor's goal of 100 percent clean electricity by 2040, which will reduce energy costs and volatility over time. While Maine's electricity demand is expected to more than double between now and 2050 as heating and transportation are electrified, total energy use will decrease as Maine shifts away from traditional combustion technologies and toward high efficiency electric technologies such as heat pumps and electric vehicles.

The Maine Energy Plan offers a pathway to reach the state's goals consistent with the objectives of Maine Won't Wait, the Maine Infrastructure Rebuilding and Resilience Commission Interim Report, and Maine's 10-Year Economic Development Plan. The Plan outlines key actions to be led by GEO in collaboration with other state agencies, community organizations, and private sector partners.

Maine Department of Energy Resources

Recognizing the critical need to ensure affordable, reliable energy for all Maine people and businesses, Governor Mills has proposed through her biennial budget proposal, elevating the Governor's Energy Office to a cabinet-level department. Maine is one of only a handful of states that has an energy office operating directly within the Governor's office and more than 40 states have cabinet-level leadership. This proposal is budget neutral.

Establishing the Maine Department of Energy Resources outside the Governor's Office would allow for a more integrated, comprehensive, and consistent approach to the long-term planning and management of Maine's energy system.

The Maine Legislature has significantly increased the responsibilities of the GEO in recent years. This proposal would support the ability of the state to retain highly qualified professional staff who are dedicated to public service and ensure the responsible long-term administrative and policy management of multi-year contracts to deploy federal funds.

The proposal directs the department to continue to execute the existing duties of the GEO to advance the state's statutory energy requirements and allocates additional procurement authority to ensure the state is on track to meet those requirements as load grows.





Thank You

Visit us at www.maine.gov/energy Sign up for the GEO email newsletter



