

SOLAR TAX STOPPED

RO: THU 12 PM 12/13

[SUSAN]

IT'S THE BEGINNING OF THE END FOR FAILED RENEWABLE ENERGY POLICIES IN THE STATE.

MAINE'S P.U.C. HAS AGREED TO SUSPEND "GROSS METERING" FOR MEDIUM AND LARGE CUSTOMERS USING SOLAR POWER.

"GROSS METERING" WAS PUT INTO PLACE TWO YEARS AGO, REPLACING "NET METERING".

THAT REQUIRED INSTALLING EXPENSIVE METERING EQUIPMENT IN ORDER TO CHARGE SOLAR CUSTOMERS THE NEW TAX, OR FEE ON THE POWER THEY PRODUCE AND USE IN THEIR HOME OR BUSINESS.

DYLAN VOORHEES OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL OF MAINE SAYS THIS IS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, BUT MORE WORK STILL NEEDS TO BE DONE

[SOT]

[TIME CUE:/21/]

06:19 - 27:21

[THIS IS A PARTIAL VICTORY, AND IT'S GOING TO SAVE RATE PAYERS A LOT OF MONEY TO NOT HAVE TO PAY FOR THIS EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT THAT'S NEEDED TO TAX THESE BUSINESSES. BUT HOME...HOUSEHOLDS AND SMALL BUSINESSES ARE STILL SUBJECT TO THIS TAX...AND THAT HAS TO GO]

[SUPER:/DYLAN VOORHEES/CLEAN ENERGY DIR., NAT. RESOURCES COUNCIL OF MAINE]

[VO]

VOORHEES SAYS BI-PARTISAN LEGISLATION HAS PASSED TWO YEARS IN A ROW TO REMOVE GROSS METERING, BUT WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR LEPAGE.

GOVERNOR ELECT MILLS HAS VOWED TO FULLY REPEAL "GROSS METERING"

[SUPER:/PARTIAL VICTORY FOR SOLAR USERS/AUGUSTA]



[KAYLA]

LEADERS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS FROM ACROSS THE STATE
GATHERED IN AUGUSTA TODAY TO DISCUSS THE
FUTURE OF MAINE'S ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT.
ALEX BOBBYN HAS OUR STORY.

[PKG]

[TIME CUE:/1:29/]

[WITH A NEW LEGISLATURE, STATE LEADERS ARE FOCUSED ON MAINE'S
FUTURE GROWTH IN AREAS LIKE CLEAN]
[ENERGY.]

[SOT]

[WE REALLY WANTED TO GET A FULL SPECTRUM OF PEOPLE. SO
ADVOCATES AND INDUSTRY AND EVERYONE REALLY COMING TOGETHER
TO WORK ON THESE PRESSING NEEDS THAT MAINE FACES.]
[HOSTED BY THE ACADIA CENTER, THE BUILDING A STRONGER MAINE
FORUM FOCUSED ON A RANGE OF ISSUES.]

[SOT]

[IMPROVING OUR TRANSPORTATION ACCESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE AND
SAFETY. IMPROVING OUR ENERGY RELIANCE, AND SELF RELIANCE AND
RESILIENCY.]
[COMMUNITY LEADERS AND POLICY MAKERS FROM ACROSS DIFFERENT
SECTORS WERE THERE TO VOICE]
[THEIR OWN OPINIONS]

[SOT]

[THERE'S A LOT OF INTEREST IN WORKING AT ALL LEVELS, FROM
MUNICIPAL TO REGIONAL AND INTERSTATE ON ISSUES OF MAINE'S
ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND OUR ECONOMIC AND ENERGY FUTURE.]
[PANEL DISCUSSIONS TOOK PLACE THROUGHOUT THE DAY AND WERE
CENTERED AROUND WAYS TO MEET MAINE'S CHALLENGES.]

[SOT]

[THERE'S MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION, WORK FORCE AND
ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY TO WORK TOGETHER, TO COME TO COMMON
UNDERSTANDING FOR THE BETTERMENT OF ALL.]
[GOVERNOR-ELECT JANET MILLS ENDED THE FORUM WITH A CLOSING
ADDRESS. MEIL SAYS SHE AND OTHERS ARE]
[EXCITED TO SEE WHAT SHE'LL DO IN OFFICE.]

[SOT]

[GOVERNOR-ELECT MILLS CAMPAIGNED AS A CLIMATE CHAMPION AND
SINCE HER ELECTION HAS MADE VERY STRONG STATEMENTS ABOUT HER
INTENTION TO PRIORITIZE CLEAN ENERGY POLICY.]
[THE FORUM ALSO INCLUDED TALKS ABOUT EVOLVING THE ROLE OF
ELECTRIC UTILITIES AND THE CHALLENGES OF]
[RENEWABLE SITING. IN AUGUSTA, ALEX BOBBYN FOR ABC SEVEN AND
FOX TWENTY TWO.]

POWER OUTAGE PREPS

RO: 10PM THURS 12/20

[KAYLA]

EMERA MAINE IS GEARING UP FOR TOMORROW'S STORM.

[VO]

TOMORROW'S FORECAST INCLUDES HEAVY RAINS AND STRONG WINDS - SO EMERA IS PREPARING FOR POWER OUTAGES AND DOWNED POWER LINES.

OFFICIALS SAY TRAVEL MAY BE AFFECTED SO PEOPLE SHOULD PLAN AHEAD.

AND IT'S A GOOD REMINDER TO STAY PREPARED BY KEEPING FLASHLIGHTS, BATTERIES, AND WATER NEARBY.

[SOT]

[TIME CUE:/0:13/]

[SUPER:/JUDY LONG/]

[2:03 "IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT WITH THESE HIGH WINDS...AND CALL US AT EMERA MAINE"]

[VO]

AND IF YOU DO LOSE POWER - YOU CAN VISIT EMERA-MAINE-DOT-COM FOR A LIVE OUTAGE MAP...

WHICH WILL GIVE AN ESTIMATED TIME FOR POWER BEING RESTORED.

SKOWHEGAN BOND VOTE

RO: WED 7 AM 12/12