

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Improve Maine's Energy Security

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 2 MRSA §9, sub-§3, ¶C, as amended by PL 2011, c. 55, §1, is further amended to read:

C. In consultation with the Efficiency Maine Trust Board, established in Title 5, section 12004#G, subsection 10#C, prepare and submit a comprehensive state energy plan to the Governor and the Legislature by January 15, 2009 and submit an updated plan every 2 years thereafter. Within the comprehensive state energy plan, the director shall identify opportunities to lower the total cost of energy to consumers in this State and transmission capacity and infrastructure needs and recommend appropriate actions to lower the total cost of energy to consumers in this State and facilitate the development and integration of new renewable energy generation within the State and support the State's renewable resource portfolio requirements specified in Title 35#A, section 3210 and wind energy development goals specified in Title 35#A, section 3404. The comprehensive state energy plan must include a section that specifies the State's progress in meeting the oil dependence reduction targets in subsection 5. The office shall make recommendations, if needed, for additional legislative and administrative actions to ensure that the State can meet the reduction targets in subsection 5. The recommendations must include a cost and resource estimate for technology development needed to meet the reduction targets;

Sec. 2. 2 MRSA §9, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Oil dependence reduction plan. The office, with input from stakeholders and in consultation with the Efficiency Maine Trust, shall develop a plan to reduce the use of oil in all sectors of the economy in this State. The plan must:

A. Be designed to achieve the targets of reducing the State's consumption of oil by at least 30% from 2007 levels by 2030 and by at least 50% from 2007 levels by 2050;

B. Focus on near-term policies and infrastructure changes that set the State on a reasonable trajectory to meet the 2030 and 2050 targets in paragraph A;

C. Prioritize the improvement of energy efficiency and the transition to the use of alternative energy sources for heating and transportation; and

D. Draw on existing state data and studies rather than new analyses, including, but not limited to, analyses and data from the State's climate action plan pursuant to Title 38, section 577 and the progress updates to the climate action plan under Title 38, section 578, the comprehensive state energy plan pursuant to subsection 3, paragraph C, the Efficiency Maine Trust's triennial plan pursuant to Title 35#A, section 10104, subsection 4 and analyses completed by the Federal Government, nonprofit organizations and other stakeholders.

Sec. 3. Report. The Director of the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security shall submit the report required under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 2, section 9, subsection 5 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy, utilities and technology matters by December 1, 2012 with any suggested legislation. The report must include a cost and resource estimate for technology development needed to meet the oil dependence reduction targets.

Effective 90 days following adjournment of the 125th
Legislature, First Regular Session, unless otherwise indicated.