



AGC MAINE
THE CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Janet T. Mills
Governor
1 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Governor,

We, the undersigned, urge you to stand with more than 90% of Maine's skilled workers and veto LD 1847, "An Act to Modify the Visual Impact Standards for Offshore Wind Port Development and Establish Labor Standards for Wind Power Projects" which is currently on your desk and LD 1895, "An Act Regarding the Procurement of Energy from Offshore Wind Resources" if that legislation arrives on your desk as currently drafted.

Both bills as currently drafted will raise the consumer energy price and create an unfair advantage for out-of-state skilled workers. The drafting of both bills excluded input from developers and contractors after years of open discussions that were inclusive of all parties and interests.

Maine's construction industry has a strong record of building our state's infrastructure under pre-qualification standards, permitting, and licensing standards that result in quality projects built by Maine people, including 100% of land-based wind energy.

The complicated construction of offshore wind requires experienced incumbent skilled workers and the recruitment of additional new skilled workers. By adopting a project labor agreement for construction, trucking, and manufacturing the financial and workforce pressure accelerates costs by the workforce demographics of our state. At a minimum, the State Energy Office estimates 5,000 workers will be required to meet the demands of offshore wind procurement and this policy immediately removes ~29,000 of the ~32,200 existing construction workers. This policy is not about the companies, it is most impactful to the existing workers who have the experience and skills on day one to build our ports and generation facilities.

We are also skeptical that other state construction markets will have the ability to mobilize enough workers to Midcoast Maine for the duration of the projects while their own construction economies remain strong. After a decade of discussions and your agencies' most recent due diligence to create thoughtful and meaningful planning, we are dismayed that legislators would ignore the facts and expect the cost-added conditions will benefit workers and Maine ratepayers. Around the country offshore wind costs are facing supply and material cost inflation and Maine's proposed policy increases those risks and reduces benefits for the citizens of Maine. For those reasons, we urge you to reject both bills.

Thank you for your consideration,

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