New England Restructuring Roundtable

Philip L. Bartlett II, Chair Maine Public Utilities Commission September 29, 2023



Maine's Renewable Energy Goals: (Signed into law 6/26/19) 80% of retail electricity sales by 2030 100% of retail electricity sales by 2050*

*Gov. Mills has directed development of plan to move this date up to 2040

Decarbonization Goal:

(Exec. Order 9/23/19)

Maine to be carbon neutral by 2045

Offshore Wind Goal:

(Signed into law 6/22/21)

3,000 MW by 2040

First Procurement Round 2026 (600+ MW)

Recent Transmission in Maine

NECEC:

- MA project, Canadian Hydro
- Opposition delayed project
- Led to new law requiring high impact transmission lines to obtain legislative approval

Northern Maine:

- Transmission line paired with in-state renewables
- Collaboration with MA
- Strong support in Legislature
- Local opposition/concern as details rolled out

Regional Collaboration

2050 Study

- Developed based on state policies/pathways
- Identifies significant transmission needs
- Opportunity to develop cost effective approach
- Project selection criteria and cost allocation are key

Multi-State Coordination

- Modular OSW Integration Plan (MOWIP) focus on POIs
- Northeast States Collaborative with DOE
- Grid Innovation Program state collaboration to pursue federal funding

Challenges/Opportunities

- Achieving state policy goals will require significant investments in transmission
- Transmission is expensive and easily bogged down in permitting/local opposition
- Longer term, regional view can help demonstrate wider range of benefits for transmission investments
- OSW network could help lower costs while improving reliability
- Right-sizing investments in near-term may reduce overall costs