

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2017

CHAPTER 134
H.P. 744 - L.D. 1061

**An Act To Increase Investment
and Regulatory Stability in the
Electric Industry**

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3210-C, sub-§1, ¶F-1 is enacted to read:

F-1. "Term sheet" means a preliminary document that outlines the terms of a proposal accepted under a request for proposals that is not binding on the parties but assists the parties in drafting a final agreement based upon the accepted proposal.

Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §3210-C, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2013, c. 424, Pt. A, §20, is further amended to read:

3. Commission authority. The commission may direct investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to enter into long-term contracts for:

- A. Capacity resources;
- B. Any available energy associated with capacity resources contracted under paragraph A:
 - (1) To the extent necessary to fulfill the policy of subsection 2, paragraph A; or
 - (2) If the commission determines appropriate for purposes of supplying or lowering the cost of standard-offer service or otherwise lowering the cost of electricity for the ratepayers in the State. Available energy contracted pursuant to this subparagraph may be sold into the wholesale electricity market in conjunction with solicitations for standard-offer supply bids; ~~and~~

C. Any available renewable energy credits associated with capacity resources contracted under paragraph A. The price paid by the investor-owned transmission and distribution utility for the renewable energy credits must be lower than the price received for those renewable energy credits at the time they are sold by the investor-owned transmission and distribution utility; ~~and~~

D. Transmission capacity, capacity resources, energy or renewable energy credits pursuant to a regional procurement process in conjunction with other states.

The commission may permit, but may not require, investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to enter into contracts for differences that are designed and intended to buffer ratepayers in the State from potential negative impacts from transmission development. To the greatest extent possible, the commis-

sion shall develop procedures for long-term contracts for investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities under this subsection having the same legal and financial effect as the procedures used for standard-offer service pursuant to section 3212 for investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities.

The commission may enter into contracts for interruptible, demand response or energy efficiency capacity resources. These contracts are not subject to the rules of the State Purchasing Agent. In a competitive solicitation conducted pursuant to subsection 6, the commission shall allow transmission and distribution utilities to submit bids for interruptible or demand response capacity resources.

Capacity resources contracted under this subsection may not exceed the amount necessary to ensure the reliability of the electric grid of this State, to meet the energy efficiency program budget allocations articulated in the triennial plan as approved by the commission pursuant to section 10104, subsection 4 or any annual update plan approved by the commission pursuant to section 10104, subsection 6 or to lower customer costs as determined by the commission pursuant to rules adopted under subsection 10.

Unless the commission determines the public interest requires otherwise, a capacity resource may not be contracted under this subsection unless the commission determines that the capacity resource is recognized as a capacity resource for purposes of any regional or federal capacity requirements.

The commission shall ensure that any long-term contract authorized under this subsection is consistent with the State's goals for greenhouse gas reduction under Title 38, section 576 and the regional greenhouse gas initiative as described in the state climate action plan required in Title 38, section 577.

By January 1st of each year, the commission shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utilities matters on the procurement of transmission capacity, capacity resources, energy and renewable energy credits in the preceding 12 months under this subsection, the Community-based Renewable Energy Act and deep-water offshore wind energy pilot projects under Public Law 2009, chapter 615, Part A, section 6, as amended by Public Law 2013, chapter 369, Part H, sections 1 and 2 and chapter 378, sections 4 to 6. The report must contain information including, but not limited to, the number of requests for proposals by the commission for long-term contracts, the number of responses to requests for proposals pursuant to which a contract has been finalized, the number of executed term sheets or contracts resulting from the requests for proposals, the commission's initial estimates of ratepayer costs or savings associated with any approved term sheet, actual ratepayer costs or savings for the previous year associated with any procurement, the

total ratepayer costs or savings at the time of the report and the megawatt-hours, renewable energy credits or capacity produced or procured through contracts. The report must also include a plan for the succeeding 12 months pertaining to the procurement of capacity resources, energy and renewable energy credits, including dates for requests for proposals, and types of resources to be procured.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 135

S.P. 424 - L.D. 1261

An Act To Protect Children from Sex Trafficking

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

Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §259-B is enacted to read:

§259-B. Solicitation of a child to engage in prostitution

1. A person is guilty of soliciting a child to engage in prostitution if the actor knowingly solicits directly or indirectly by any means a person the actor knows or believes is under 18 years of age to engage in prostitution, as defined in section 851.

2. Violation of this section is a Class D crime.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 136

S.P. 505 - L.D. 1459

An Act To Protect the Public from Dangerous Buildings

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

Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §2851, as amended by PL 1997, c. 6, §1, is further amended to read:

§2851. Dangerous buildings

~~Whenever the~~ The municipal officers in the case of a municipality; or the county commissioners in the case of the unorganized or deorganized areas in their county, ~~find that a building or structure or any portion thereof or any wharf, pier, pilings or any portion thereof that is or was located on or extending from land within the boundaries of the municipality or the unorganized or deorganized area, as measured from low water mark, is structurally unsafe; unstable; unsanitary; constitutes a fire hazard; is unsuitable or improper for the use or occupancy to which it is put; con-~~

~~stitutes a hazard to health or safety because of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, obsolescence or abandonment; or is otherwise dangerous to life or property, they may after notice pursuant to section 2857 and hearing on this matter adjudge the same a building to be a nuisance or dangerous, in accordance with subsection 2-A, and may make and record an order, in accordance with subsection 3, prescribing what disposal must be made of that building or structure. The order may allow for delay of disposal if the owner or party in interest has demonstrated the ability and willingness to satisfactorily rehabilitate the building. If an appeal pursuant to section 2852 is not filed or, if an appeal pursuant to section 2852 is filed and the Superior Court does not order, stay or overturn the order to dispose of the building, the municipal officers or the county commissioners shall cause the nuisance to be abated or removed in compliance with the order.~~

For the purposes of this subchapter, "building" means a building or structure or any portion of a building or structure or any wharf, pier, pilings or any portion of a wharf, pier or pilings thereof that is or was located on or extending from land within the boundaries of the municipality or the unorganized or deorganized area, as measured from low water mark, and "parties in interest" has the same meaning as in Title 14, section 6321.

~~**1. Notice.** The notice must be served on the owner and all parties in interest, as defined in Title 14, section 6321, in the same way service of process is made in accordance with the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure.~~

~~**2. Notice; how published.** When the name or address of any owner or co-owner is unknown or is not ascertainable with reasonable diligence, then the notice must be published once a week for 3 successive weeks prior to the date of hearing in a newspaper generally circulated in the county, or if none, in the state paper.~~

2-A. Standard. To adjudge a building to be a nuisance or dangerous, the municipal officers or county commissioners must find that the building is structurally unsafe, unstable or unsanitary; constitutes a fire hazard; is unsuitable or improper for the use or occupancy to which it is put; constitutes a hazard to health or safety because of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, obsolescence or abandonment; or is otherwise dangerous to life or property.

3. Recording of the order. The An order made by the municipal officers or county commissioners under this section must be recorded by the municipal or county clerk, who shall cause an attested copy to be served upon the owner and all parties in interest in the same way service of process is made in accordance with the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure. If the name or address cannot be ascertained, the clerk shall pub-