

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330

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NEWS RELEASE

Today, an Executive Order issued by Governor James B. Longley, promulgated the State of Maine Energy POLICY Statement. The Governor said, "The timely readiness of this document is a tribute to Mrs. Abbie Page, former Director of the State Office of Energy Resources and her staff, who in January, 1977, completed the State Comprehensive Energy PLAN. That plan was a necessary prerequisite to the POLICY released today. This document was drafted by Mr. Gary Linton, Deputy Director of the State Office of Energy Resources and his staff. Both the PLAN and the POLICY were critically assisted by knowledgeable members of the Maine public and the State Energy Resources Advisory Board."

"I believe that it is imperative that our State POLICY set forth the interests of our people first and, that is the concept we have used to design the State of Maine Energy Policy," said the Governor.

"We fully realize that the Nation must lead the way in the development of a uniform energy policy, and we pledge support to President Carter and the policy he has articulated. However, the State would be remiss if it let the Nation do planning which may not always reflect the best interests of the State of Maine," said Governor Longley.

A major consideration in developing State Energy POLICY was to ensure that maximum compatibility is maintained between National and State objectives, but at the same time relying on a "Maine Game Plan" to accomplish the tasks assigned.

"The next decade will be a critical period in the lives of all Americans," Longley said. "Maine citizens have long known the meaning of long, hard winters and the importance of a stable energy supply."

"We do not have to turn back the hands of time very far to realize the

impact of energy shortages on Maine's citizenry," stated the Governor. "Prompt action is now urgent. The 'ignore it and it will go away' attitude is no longer acceptable."

Highlights of the POLICY Statement are policies relating to energy conservation, in-State energy resource development, adequate supply and energy diversification.