

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2100

H. P. 2036

House of Representatives, January 24, 1978

Filed by the Joint Standing Committee on Energy under Joint Rule 17.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-EIGHT

AN ACT to Provide for the Sale of Electricity to Public Utilities.

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

35 MRSA § 2314 is enacted to read:

§ 2314. Sale of electricity to public utilities

Corporations organized under Title 13-A for the purpose of generating electricity may sell electricity to any public utility corporation or cooperative authorized to make, generate, sell or distribute electricity. The rate, toll or charge paid to those corporations by any public utility shall be just and reasonable. The Public Utilities Commission may fix such rates as shall safeguard the rights and interests of both the generating corporation and the public utility.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to clarify the authority of private companies to sell wholesale electrical power to public utility companies. The bill would permit the Public Utilities Commission to review the rates which utilities pay for electricity produced by cogeneration or small scale power generation facilities.

The market for the power produced by small generation facilities is limited to the single public utility authorized to distribute electricity in that particular area. By authorizing review by the Public Utilities Commission, this bill would encourage the development of native, renewable sources of electricity, particularly hydroelectric power, by insuring that fees paid for power reflect the value of that power to the utility.