

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

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Legislative Document

No. 842

S.P. 279

In Senate, March 9, 1993

**An Act to Require Public Notice of Unusual Radioactive Emissions.**

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Reference to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator TITCOMB of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Senator: FOSTER of Hancock, Representatives: GEAN of Alfred, HOLT of Bath.

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

4 Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §1451, sub-§23 is enacted to read:

6 23. Unusual radioactive emission. "Unusual radioactive  
8 emission" means the release of at least 100 curies of gaseous  
10 radioactive material to the ambient air within any 24-hour period.

12 Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §1498 is enacted to read:

14 §1498. Public notice of unusual radioactive emissions

16 The following requirements apply to any nuclear power plant  
18 operating in this State, in this section referred to as "plant."

20 1. Prior notice of planned unusual radioactive emission. A  
22 plant shall give public notice in the form of advertisements on  
24 radio and television stations broadcasting to the area  
26 surrounding the plant at least 24 hours in advance of any planned  
28 unusual radioactive emission. The advertisement must include the  
30 telephone number required pursuant to subsection 3.

32 2. Notice of accidental release. A plant shall give  
34 immediate public notice in the form of advertisements on radio  
36 and television stations broadcasting to the area surrounding the  
38 plant in the event of any accidental or unplanned unusual  
40 radioactive emission. The advertisement must include the  
42 telephone number required pursuant to subsection 3.

44 3. Hot line. A plant must provide a toll-free 800  
46 telephone number to answer questions related to unusual  
radioactive emissions.

### STATEMENT OF FACT

38 This bill proposes to require any nuclear power plant  
40 operating in this State to give 24-hour notice of any planned  
42 radioactive releases of at least 100 curies within a 24-hour  
44 period. Immediate notice is required for accidental or unplanned  
46 releases. Public notice must consist of advertisements on radio  
and television stations broadcasting in the vicinity of the  
plant. The nuclear power plant also is required to provide a  
toll-free number to answer questions relating to unusual  
radioactive emissions.