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MAINE GOVERNOR'S ENERGY OFFICE

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



October 2021



GOVERNOR'S
Energy Office

www.maine.gov/energy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As required by Title 2, §9, C-1, the GEO shall submit an annual report to the Energy, Utilities and Technologies Committee that '*describes the activities of the office during the previous calendar year*'. This report covers the requirements for calendar year 2020.

The GEO, established within the Executive Department and directly responsible to the Governor, is tasked with myriad activities relating to state energy policies, planning and development. As the lead energy policy office for the state, the GEO works on a wide range of energy issues and is responsible for several activities such as providing policy guidance and technical assistance, monitoring energy markets and reporting on heating fuel prices.

The GEO works in partnership with various state agencies, federal and local officials, Maine tribal representatives, industry, nonprofit interests, and academia on energy issues. The Director also sits on the Board of Efficiency Maine Trust, per statute, and in 2020 was a Board member of the National Association of State Energy Officials.

In 2020, Maine continued to make strides towards meeting Maine's energy and climate-related requirements, goals and initiatives as covered in this document. These initiatives and developments during 2020 are continuing Maine on a path to meeting our ambitious clean energy targets, reducing emissions, supporting energy efficiency, fostering clean energy innovation, all while ensuring affordability and reliability.

INTRODUCTION

The year 2020 was unlike any in recent history. The world experienced the impacts of a global pandemic, the country grappled with racial disparities, climate impacts continued to be felt, and economic downturn had significant impacts on many livelihoods. The Governor's Energy Office (GEO), while balancing the transition to remote work and monitoring COVID-19 pandemic impacts, pushed forward with significant energy initiatives, outlined in this 2020 Annual Report. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the GEO was in regular conversations with a broad set of various stakeholders - including fuel distributors, generators, utilities, municipalities, associations, and the Public Utilities Commission and other agencies – to understand and minimize pandemic-related impacts to Maine's energy supply. Pandemic-related issues varied from safety precautions for energy workers to monitoring fuel and electricity supply impacts.

The GEO was also an active leader and participant in several non-pandemic efforts as described below.

MAINE CLIMATE COUNCIL

Governor Mills and the Legislature in 2019 enacted bipartisan legislation that created the Maine Climate Council (MCC) – an assembly of scientists, industry leaders, bipartisan local and state elected officials, and engaged citizens – to develop a plan to reduce carbon emissions 45% from 1990 levels by 2030 and 80% by 2050, and achieve carbon neutrality in Maine by 2045. The MCC and its various working groups published a four-year climate action plan, *Maine Won't Wait*, in December 2020.¹ Backed by the most comprehensive scientific and economic assessments about the effects of climate change in Maine in a decade, *Maine Won't Wait* calls for decisive steps to achieve that goal, including bolstering the electric vehicle market in Maine, expanding the number of heat pumps installed in Maine homes, and ensuring adequate and affordable electricity from renewable resources to curb harmful greenhouse gas emissions.

GEO staff participated fully in the MCC process throughout 2019 and 2020, both at the council-level and at the working-group level. GEO Director Dan Burgess served as a member of the MCC and as co-chair of the Energy Working Group. The results of the Energy Working Group and a brief exploration of the major energy-related components of *Maine Won't Wait*, are described below. Additionally, GEO staff – in coordination with the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future – released a report as a component of the Climate Action Plan, *Strengthening Maine's Clean Energy Economy*, also described below.

¹ *Maine Won't Wait: A Four-Year Plan for Climate Action*, can be accessed at: https://www.maine.gov/future/sites/maine.gov.future/files/inline-files/MaineWontWait_December2020.pdf

MCC Energy Working Group

The MCC's Energy Working Group was established to develop, analyze, and recommend to the MCC strategies to mitigate emissions from, and adapt to the impacts of climate change in Maine's energy sector. From its establishment, GEO Director Dan Burgess co-chaired the MCC's Energy Working Group and GEO Energy Policy Analyst Melissa Winne provided policy support for the group. The Energy Working Group had 30 members from a wide range of stakeholder groups including the legislature, the Public Utilities Commission, Office of the Public Advocate, Efficiency Maine, University of Maine, and representatives from various private and non-governmental public sectors.

The Energy Working Group met more than ten times in 2020 to:

- evaluate and recommend short- and long-term mitigation strategies to reduce gross and net annual greenhouse gas emissions from Maine's energy sector;
- quantitatively analyze and report on the technical feasibility and cost-effectiveness of each mitigation strategy;
- evaluate and recommend short- and long-term strategies and actions for adaptation and resiliency to climate change;
- provide input and feedback to the MCC on the clean energy economy transition plan; and
- establish comprehensive and accountable annual work plans for the Energy Working group.

Maine Won't Wait Strategy C: Reduce Carbon Emissions in Maine's Energy and Industrial Sectors through Clean-Energy Innovation

The MCC published a four-year climate action plan, *Maine Won't Wait*, in December 2020, building on recommendations from the working groups. The efforts of the Energy Working Group resulted in Strategy C: Reduce Carbon Emissions in Maine's Energy and Industrial Sectors through Clean-Energy Innovation. An excerpt from this strategy reads:

“Sectors with high greenhouse gas emissions, such as transportation and heating, must shift their energy sources from fossil fuels to electricity and low-carbon fuels to achieve Maine's climate goals. This makes it even more essential to produce and consume electricity that is increasingly clean and from lower-emissions resources. This transition must be managed effectively to ensure affordability and reliability.”²

This strategy, discussed more fully in *Maine Won't Wait*, contains four parts. A brief description of these four parts follows:

*Part 1: Ensure Adequate Affordable Clean Energy Supply*³

² *Maine Won't Wait: A Four-Year Plan for Climate Action*, page 55.

³ *Maine Won't Wait: A Four-Year Plan for Climate Action*, page 58

Maine will need to ensure adequate affordable clean-energy supply to meet our 100% RPS goal and any increased load through the development of centralized generating resources, distributed energy resources, and other measures.

This part set two major goals:

- Achieve by 2030 an electricity grid where 80% of Maine's usage comes from renewable generation, as currently required by statute.
- Set achievable targets for cost-effective deployment of renewable energy technologies such as offshore wind, distributed generation, and energy storage, and outline the policies, including opportunities for pilot initiatives, necessary to achieve these results.

Part 2: Initiate A Stakeholder Process to Transform Maine's Electric Power Sector⁴

To meet Maine's greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets, large portions of the energy used in our economy will need to be converted from higher emitting sources, like fossil fuels, to electricity — a transition referred to as “beneficial electrification” — and this electricity must increasingly come from cleaner generation sources. In addition, the way we manage energy should change; instead of continually adding expensive infrastructure to meet peak loads, we can manage demand more wisely and improve markets to keep electricity affordable.

This part set one major goal: establish a comprehensive stakeholder process in 2021 to examine the transformation of Maine's electric sector and facilitate other recommendations of the Maine Climate Council.

Part 3: Accelerate Emissions Reductions of Individual Uses and Processes⁵

Industrial facilities in Maine have historically participated actively in energy-conservation programs; however, additional cost-effective opportunities remain to be pursued. Expanding programs like the industrial energy-efficiency program offerings through Efficiency Maine Trust will encourage additional investments that will result in more competitive manufacturing businesses and reduced emissions.

Achieving deep emissions reductions in this sector by 2050 will likely require significant shifts away from petroleum-based fuels to cleaner alternatives. Some fuel-switching opportunities can be both cost effective and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as converting from oil to natural gas and increasing efficiencies through combined heat and power (CHP) technologies.

This part set one major goal: launch an Industrial Task Force to collaboratively partner with industry and stakeholders to consider innovations and incentives to manage industrial emissions through 2030 and reduce total emissions by 2050.

⁴ Maine Won't Wait: A Four-Year Plan for Climate Action, page 60

⁵ Maine Won't Wait: A Four-Year Plan for Climate Action, page 61

Part 4: Encourage Highly Efficient Combined Heat and Power Facilities⁶

CHP, sometimes referred to as cogeneration, is the production of both electricity and thermal energy, at the same location of the energy consumption. Where typically the heat produced by electricity generation is lost to the air, CHP facilities utilize the heat byproduct for on-site activities, resulting in increased overall efficiency.

Highly efficient CHP facilities capture heat from electricity generation to provide steam or hot water for use in space heating and cooling, water heating, and industrial processes, thereby increasing overall facility efficiency and reducing emissions. CHP avoids energy waste, reducing the need for additional energy consumption to accomplish heating and industrial processes. CHP can both reduce Maine's emissions and support existing industrial businesses and large institutions with lower operating costs.

This part set one major goal: Analyze policies, including the potential for long-term contracts, needed to advance new highly efficient combined heat and power production facilities that achieve significant net greenhouse gas reductions.

Clean Energy Economy Report

In November 2020, the GEO – in coordination with the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future – released a report called Strengthening Maine's Clean Energy Economy. This report offers a detailed analysis of the momentum within Maine's clean energy economy, and how the sector is emerging as a source of economic growth and workforce opportunities to help the state's recovery from the economic disruption of COVID-19.

The report, available on the GEO website⁷, includes detailed strategies for expanding Maine's clean economy workforce, supporting innovation, and training opportunities in renewable power generation and energy efficiency. The report builds on findings and analysis from the Maine Economic Development Strategy 2020-2029, a Focus on Talent and Innovation.⁸

⁶ Maine Won't Wait: A Four-Year Plan for Climate Action, page 62

⁷ Strengthening Maine's Clean Energy Economy, November 2020. Available at: https://www.maine.gov/energy/sites/maine.gov.energy/files/inline-files/StrengtheningMainesCleanEnergyEconomy_Nov92020.pdf.

⁸ Maine Economic Development Strategy 2020-2029, a Focus on Talent and Innovation. 2019. <https://www.maine.gov/decd/strategic-plan>

MAINE OFFSHORE WIND INITIATIVE

Through the Maine Offshore Wind Initiative, the state will explore opportunities for thoughtful development of offshore wind energy in the Gulf of Maine and determine how to best position Maine to benefit from an industry expected to generate \$1 trillion in global investment by 2040.

Launched in 2019 by Governor Janet Mills, the Initiative aims to balance this industry development with our state's maritime heritage and existing marine uses to ensure sustainable preservation of the natural resources in the Gulf of Maine.

Several major developments under the Maine Offshore Wind Initiative took place in 2020; each of these developments are discussed below:

- Study of Mack Point Terminal in Searsport to Support Growth of Renewable Energy Industry in Maine in March
- Receipt of an U.S. EDA Grant for Development of Maine Offshore Wind Roadmap in October
- Announcement of Gulf of Maine Floating Offshore Wind Research Array in November; and,
- Signing of a United Kingdom and Maine Agreement to Advance Partnership on Clean Energy, Climate Change in December.

Maine also continues to work with New Hampshire and Massachusetts on BOEM's Gulf of Maine Task Force to evaluate commercial scale renewable energy leasing and development on the Outer Continental Shelf.⁹

Study of Mack Point Terminal in Searsport to Support Growth of Renewable Energy Industry in Maine

In March, Governor Mills identified the Port of Searsport as a leading site in Maine to support the transportation, assembly and fabrication of offshore wind turbines and called for a study to analyze this opportunity.¹⁰ This study, by Moffat and Nichol, will evaluate the port's assets and future needs to support offshore wind, which require assets that exceed most typically available port infrastructure due to their substantial size.

The study, called the Port Infrastructure and Market Potential Assessment, will be led by the Maine Department of Transportation (Maine DOT), the Governor's Energy Office, and the Department of Economic and Community Development. It will use a 2017 Searsport Intermodal Commodity Study as a foundation and identify and assess short-term and long-term port opportunities related to the offshore wind industry.

⁹ More information at: <https://www.maine.gov/energy/initiatives/offshorewind/projects/boemtaskforce>

¹⁰ More information at: <https://www.maine.gov/energy/offshorewind/projects/searsportstudy>

The study, at a minimum, will include a review of current site characteristics, provide an analysis of potential port users and identify structural improvements or capital investments that may be needed. Additional analysis and review will also be undertaken to review offshore wind supply chain opportunities such as foundation and turbine assembly as well as the workforce needed to support these activities in Maine.

U.S. EDA \$2.16M Grant for Development of Maine Offshore Wind Roadmap

In October 2020, the State received a \$2.16M grant from the U.S. Economic Development Agency for the Initiative to support long-term planning for offshore wind with fishery, business, environmental and science representatives, as well as assessing port and infrastructure needs and evaluating the supply chain, manufacturing, and workforce opportunities. This grant to the GEO will help advance the offshore wind industry in Maine through the development of a comprehensive industry “Roadmap.”¹¹

The Roadmap will be developed through a collaborative stakeholder and engagement process and this effort will take a holistic approach to advance the offshore wind industry in the state. This work will include developing strategies to realize potential economic benefits in areas such as ports and infrastructure, manufacturing and supply chain, and workforce development. Importantly, the effort will also focus on planning and data-gathering to support future siting decisions, with the goal of minimizing potential effects on the environment and fisheries.

GEO will lead an open, inclusive process to hear from a variety of public-private leaders and committed partners in industry, academia, coastal communities, fisheries and other ocean users.

Building on Maine’s national leadership on floating offshore wind technology, floating offshore wind will be a focus of the Roadmap. The vast energy potential in the Gulf of Maine is offshore in federal waters on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), where due to water depths, new innovative floating technology will be required to unlock.

The outcome of the Roadmap will be strategies that assert a common vision to stand up a fully integrated offshore wind industry, which utilizes Maine’s assets – such as entrepreneurial small businesses, universities, and skilled labor – and a plan to prepare Maine’s workforce, and attract new talent, to participate in the offshore wind industry.

Gulf of Maine Floating Offshore Wind Research Array

In November, to solidify Maine’s leadership in floating offshore wind energy and collaborate with Maine’s fisheries on the industry’s development, Governor Janet Mills announced the State’s plan to create the country’s first floating offshore wind research array in the Gulf of Maine.¹²

¹¹ More information available at: <https://www.maine.gov/energy/initiatives/offshorewind/roadmap>

¹² More information available at: <https://www.maine.gov/energy/initiatives/offshorewind/researcharray>

With some of the highest sustained wind speeds in the world, the Outer Continental Shelf of the Gulf of Maine has great potential for generating clean energy and economic opportunity for Maine.

Due to its deep waters, generating wind energy in the Gulf of Maine will likely come from floating offshore wind turbines, a technology still under development in the U.S which requires additional scientific study about its potential effects on fisheries and the marine environment. Designating a small-scale research array in the Gulf of Maine represents a measured, deliberative approach that allows the State to engage the fishing industry's expertise to minimize potential harms and maximize the benefits to Maine people from offshore wind.

The state intends to file an application for the research array with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, which oversees renewable energy development in federal waters, which begin more than three miles off the coast.

As envisioned, the research array would be located some 20 to 40 miles offshore into the Gulf of Maine, in an area that would allow a connection to the mainland electric grid in the southern half of the state. The research array is expected to contain a dozen or fewer floating wind turbines over approximately 16 square miles of ocean or less. By comparison, commercial offshore wind lease areas elsewhere along the East Coast are frequently greater than 10 times this size.

Governor Mills has directed the GEO to work closely with Maine's commercial fishing industry, the Department of Marine Resources (DMR), and other interested parties to determine the site for the research array. The State's partners in the research include the University of Maine, whose floating foundations will be utilized in the array, and New England Aqua Ventus - a joint venture of Diamond Offshore Wind, a subsidiary of Mitsubishi Corporation, and RWE Renewables, one of the world's largest offshore wind energy companies - which will lead the array's development.

For more information on the proposed project, FAQs, and an overview of the extensive stakeholder process, please go to: <https://www.maine.gov/energy/initiatives/offshorewind/researcharray>,

Signing of United Kingdom and Maine Agreement to Advance Partnership on Clean Energy, Climate Change

On December 10, Governor Mills and the United Kingdom's Minister of State at the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), the RT Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP, announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") to enhance cooperation between the State of Maine and the UK to pursue ambitious advancement in clean energy technologies and mutually achieve carbon neutrality by mid-century or sooner.

The MoU signed by Governor Mills and Minister Kwarteng will strengthen a bilateral partnership between Maine and the United Kingdom to promote and foster sustainable growth, support innovation, and strengthen the global response to climate change.

As global leaders in low-carbon technologies, Maine and the UK are entering into this agreement to mutually benefit researchers and businesses, as a reflection of the growing need for international collaboration on climate and energy.

Specifically, the MoU commits Maine and the UK to collaborate and share resources to reduce emissions from heating and transportation and advance innovative offshore wind and green hydrogen technology. Additionally, the MoU calls for cooperation on evaluating impacts of offshore wind on fisheries and the marine environment, workforce development, and port infrastructure.

The genesis for this agreement came in early 2020, following Governor Mills' visit to Scotland as part of a U.S. delegation of state and federal officials invited by the UK government to learn more about offshore wind energy.

OTHER GEO INITIATIVES

New Rebates for High Performance Heat Pumps

In January, Governor Mills announced a doubling of Maine's high-performance heat pump rebates. The new, aggressive incentives are the next step in advancing the Governor's 100,000 heat pump initiative, which the Governor proposed and signed into law last year, and which establishes the goal of installing 100,000 heat pumps in Maine homes and businesses by 2025. The initiative, which does not use state taxpayer funds, will maintain the state's trajectory as a national leader in beneficial electrification – replacing high-carbon fossil fuels with cleaner electricity – while lowering heating bills and creating quality jobs.

The new suite of rebates, which took effect on January 1, 2020, is aimed at helping Maine people and businesses install high-performance heat pumps. The so-called Tier 2 rebate, which applies to the most advanced high-performance heat pump installations meeting new Efficiency Maine requirements, is doubling from \$500 to \$1,000 for the first indoor unit installed and from \$250 to \$500 for the second unit. Heat pumps meeting the so-called Tier 1 rebate standards will continue to be eligible for a \$500 rebate for the first indoor unit and \$250 for a second indoor or outdoor unit, as in prior years. Additionally, enhanced \$2,000 rebates are also now available to homeowners who receive heating assistance through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Governor Mills, New England Governors Call for Modernization of Regional Electricity System

In October, Governor Mills and four other New England governors issued a joint statement calling for reforms needed to achieve their states' respective goals for clean, affordable, and reliable electricity.¹³

The statement, signed by Maine Governor Mills, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker, Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo, and Vermont Governor Phil Scott calls for reform of the regional electricity market design, transmission planning process, and the governance of the ISO-New England, the independent system operator for the New England power system. A vision document outlining specific areas for reform was released in mid-October through the New England States Committee on Electricity (NESCOE), a non-profit entity that represents the collective perspective of the New England states in regional electricity matters.¹⁴

Commitment for Discounted Electricity for Maine from Hydro-Québec

In July, Governor Janet Mills announced that Hydro-Québec signed a formal binding commitment to sell electricity directly into Maine at a discounted price via the New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC)¹⁵. A Maine buyer, or buyers, are to be identified by the end of 2021. The commitment will result in enough clean energy to power approximately 70,000 homes or 10,000 businesses in Maine. Additionally, as part of the commitment, Hydro-Québec will accelerate \$170 million in benefits negotiated last year, including rate relief for Maine consumers and incentives for broadband, electric vehicle charging stations, and heat pumps.

Renewable Energy Goals Market Assessment

In the fall of 2020, the GEO began preparing a ten-year renewable energy market assessment, to provide important information to inform how the state meets its clean energy requirements. This study, as required by statute, is an assessment of the renewable energy market and its ability to meet the State's 2030 Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) goals.¹⁶ This includes analysis and review of the opportunities, potential and challenges facing the state in reaching Maine's 80% RPS by 2030. The GEO retained Energy & Environmental Economics (E3) and Applied Economics Clinic (AEC) to conduct this assessment.

The GEO and study consultants held a public webinar in November 2020 to present an overview of the study plan and solicit feedback from stakeholders and the public to inform the study's scenario modeling. The webinar was 1.5 hours long and included an overview of the study purpose, key

¹³ More information at: <https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/governor-mills-new-england-governors-call-modernization-regional-electricity-system-2020-10-14>

¹⁴ More information at: <http://nescoe.com/resource-center/vision-stmt-oct2020/>

¹⁵ <https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/governor-mills-secures-discounted-electricity-maine-hydro-quebec-2020-07-10>

¹⁶ More information at: <https://www.maine.gov/energy/studies-reports-working-groups/current-studies-working-groups/renewable-energy-market-assessment>

considerations, and request for input for the purposes of the scenario modeling. Following the presentation, there was time for Q&A and discussion with stakeholders. The report was completed in early 2021 and can be found on the GEO's webpage.

Engagement with Maine Public Utilities Commission

The Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC) regulates electric, natural gas, telecommunications and water utilities to ensure that Maine consumers enjoy safe, adequate and reliable services at rates that are just and reasonable for both consumers and utilities. Throughout 2020, GEO monitored and engaged with the PUC and other stakeholders on several major matters, including renewable portfolio standards, grid interconnections, and distributed generation programs.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

On June 15, Governor Mills filed a letter in opposition to a petition filed by the New England Ratepayers Association asking the Commission to assert jurisdiction over state net metering programs.¹⁷

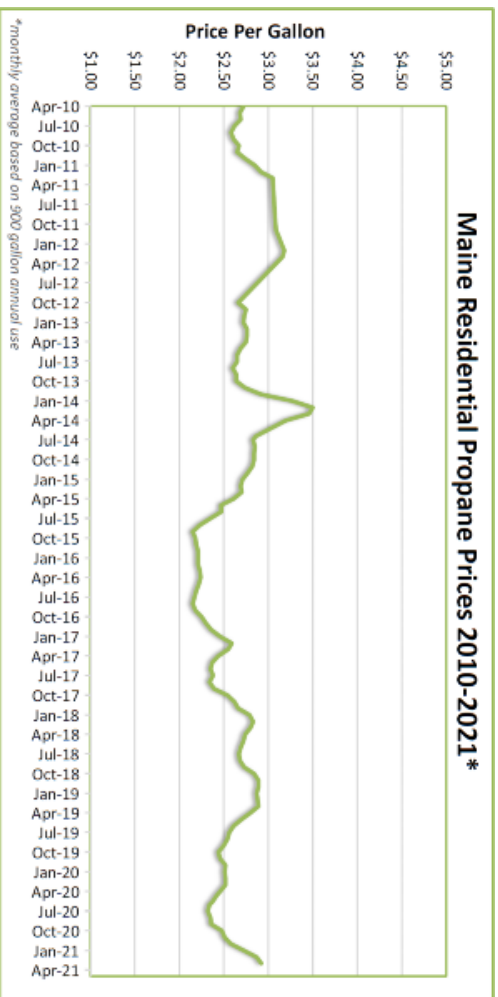
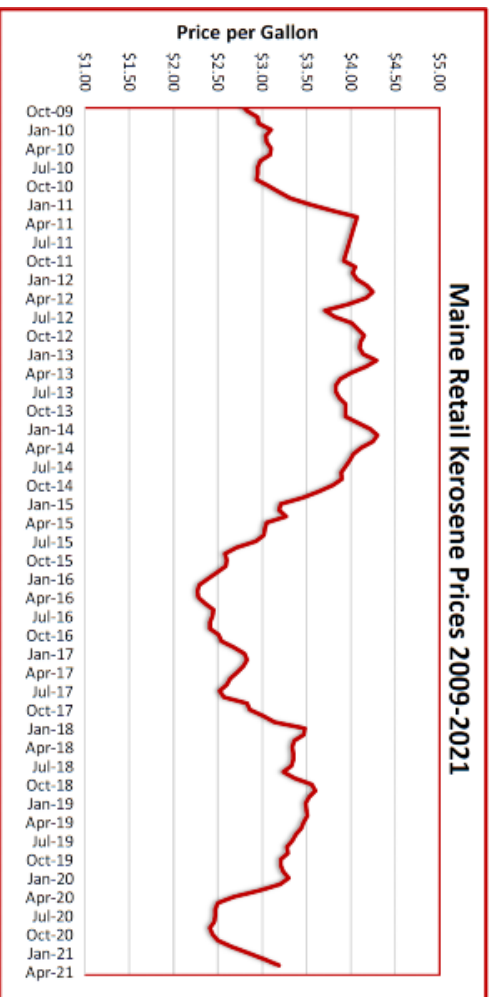
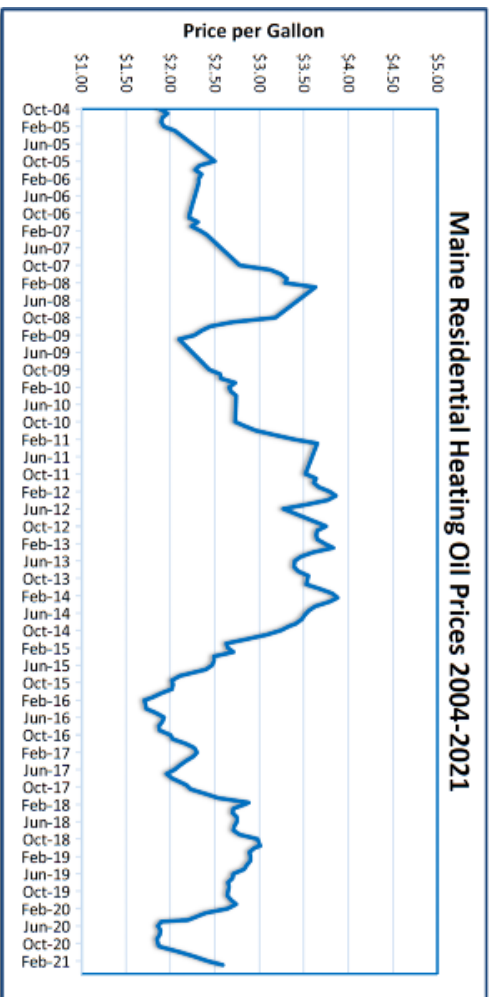
Heating Fuel Survey

Throughout 2020, GEO continued its weekly heating fuel price survey. This survey collects data from fuel retailers statewide on average cash prices for heating oil, kerosene, and propane. Prices through early 2021 are provided in the charts on the following page and are also published on the GEO website on a regular basis.¹⁸

¹⁷ <https://www.maine.gov/energy/sites/maine.gov.energy/files/inline-files/200612%20-%20Gov%20Mills%20to%20Chairman%20Chatterjee%20%28FERC%29.pdf>

¹⁸ More information at: https://www.maine.gov/energy/fuel_prices/index.shtml

Figures: Average cash prices for heating oil, kerosene, and propane.



U.S. Climate Alliance

The United States Climate Alliance (USCA) is a bipartisan coalition of governors committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement. The Alliance believes that smart, coordinated state action can ensure that the United States continues to contribute to the global effort to address climate change. The three core principles of the alliance are that: states are continuing to lead on climate change; state-level climate action is benefiting our economies and strengthening our communities; and states are showing the nation and world that ambitious climate action is achievable.

In 2020, Maine continues to be a member of the U.S. Climate Alliance. The GEO benefits from this participation in a number of ways, including updates from the USCA on national clean energy policy, reports and research including clean energy jobs analysis, and participation in a number of subgroups including the power sector and just transition groups.

OFFICE RESOURCES

At the end of 2020 GEO operated with a staff of six individuals, each of whom helped meet the office's responsibilities as outlined above. These positions were funded through a variety of sources including grant funding, state budget and federal funds. Additionally, the GEO had valuable assistance provided by various interns. Throughout the year, GEO staff worked with Efficiency Maine Trust to coordinate initiatives and legislation, stakeholder engagement, and program development with the Efficiency Maine Trust. Additionally, the GEO Director Dan Burgess served as a member of the Efficiency Maine Trust Board of Directors. GEO also worked very closely with multiple state agencies and departments, including the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

A list of links to public announcements made by the Governor or the Governor's Energy Office from 2020 are below.

Dec. 10, 2020: [Maine and United Kingdom Sign Agreement to Advance Partnership on Clean Energy, Climate Change](#)

Dec. 4, 2020: [Floating Offshore Wind Research Array Initial Stakeholder Webinar Dates Announced and Open for Registration](#)

Nov. 20, 2020: [Governor Mills Announces Intent to Expand Research and Development of Floating Offshore Wind in Maine](#)

November 9, 2020: [Mills Administration Releases Report on Strengthening Maine's Clean Energy Economy](#)

October 1, 2020: [U.S. Department of Commerce Invests \\$2.166 Million to Support Development of Offshore Wind Power Industry in Maine](#)

July 10, 2020: [Governor Mills Secures Discounted Electricity for Maine from Hydro-Quebec | HQ – GEO Commitment \(PDF\)](#)

June 15, 2020: [Governor Mills Files Letter to FERC Opposing Petition to Alter Net Metering \(PDF\)](#)

March 11, 2020: [Governor Mills Announces Assessment of Mack Point Terminal in Searsport to Support Growth of Renewable Energy Industry](#)

January 14, 2020: [Governor Mills Announces New Rebates for Maine People & Businesses to Install High Performance Heat Pumps](#)

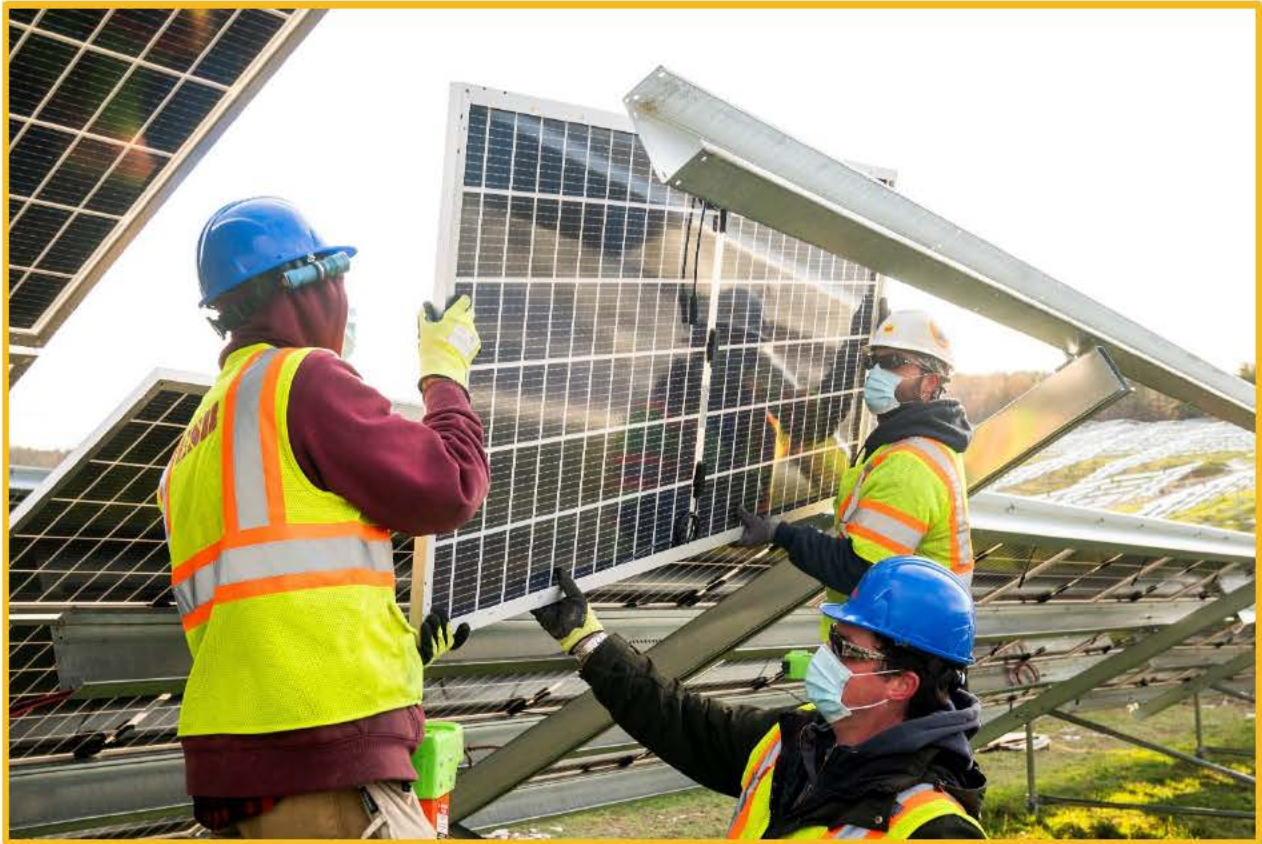


Photo: BNRG/Dirigo Solar Array in Augusta (Credit: Gabe Souza Photography)

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