

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Maine Public Utilities Commission
Annual Report on Long-Term Contracts



**Presented to the
Joint Standing Committee on
Energy, Utilities and Technology**

January 2, 2024

I. Introduction

During its 2017 session, the Legislature enacted an Act to Increase Investment and Regulatory Stability in the Electric Industry (2017 Act).¹ Section 2 of the 2017 Act required the Commission submit an annual report regarding long-term contracts. During its 2023 session, the Legislature enacted an Act to Update and Clarify the Public Utilities Commission's Reporting Requirements (2023 Act), which made certain changes to the reporting requirements.² The reporting requirement, codified at 35-A M.R.S. § 3210-C(3), provides in part that:

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 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 include actual ratepayer costs or savings for the previous year associated with any contract executed under the Community-based Renewable Energy Act. 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.

The Commission hereby submits its annual report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology regarding long-term contracts.

II. Competitive Solicitations During 2023

A. Competitive Solicitations pursuant to 35-A M.R.S. §3210-C

The Commission did not conduct a competitive solicitation pursuant to Section 3210-C during 2023. The Commission has not determined whether it will conduct a Section 3210-C solicitation during 2024.

¹ [P.L. 2017, c. 134.](#)

² [P.L. 2023, c. 77.](#)

B. Competitive Solicitations Pursuant to the Deep-water Offshore Wind Energy Pilot Program

The Commission did not conduct any competitive solicitations pursuant to deep-water offshore wind energy program during 2023. The Commission no longer has the authority to award additional contracts governed by this program. Accordingly, no future solicitations are planned.

III. Ratepayer Costs or Savings Associated with Prior Solicitations

The Commission's Annual Report on Long-Term Contracts dated January 1, 2018, included extensive information on the contracts that have been authorized or executed and the historical cost or benefit to ratepayers of contracts authorized pursuant to Section 3210-C, the Community Based Renewable Energy Pilot Program and the Offshore Wind Pilot Program.³

This Report provides updated information regarding the MWh generation, contract costs and wholesale market revenues for each contract facility that has reached commercial operations. As shown in Appendix 1, the above-market costs, i.e., wholesale market revenue net of contract costs, for these contracts for the 12-month period ending November 2023 totals approximately \$11.6 million in costs to ratepayers.

³ <https://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/attach.php?id=775480&an=2>

Appendix 1

Appendix 1

			Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	12 Months Ended Nov 2023	
Community Based Program																
CMP	Athens Energy Biomass	MWh	3,799	5,229	4,641	5,268	4,120	5,162	4,981	5,130	5,176	4,416	4,942	4,812	57,676	
		Contract Payments	\$ 376,105	\$ 517,666	\$ 459,472	\$ 521,501	\$ 407,879	\$ 511,052	\$ 493,073	\$ 507,887	\$ 512,471	\$ 437,192	\$ 489,265	\$ 476,410	\$ 5,709,973	
		Entitlement Revenue	\$ 601,753	\$ 151,083	\$ 287,931	\$ 157,281	\$ 111,342	\$ 110,234	\$ 170,482	\$ 170,210	\$ 141,164	\$ 134,343	\$ 118,024	\$ 165,809	\$ 2,319,656	
		Net Ratepayer (Cost)/Benefit	\$ 225,648	\$ (366,583)	\$ (171,541)	\$ (364,220)	\$ (296,537)	\$ (400,818)	\$ (322,591)	\$ (337,677)	\$ (371,307)	\$ (302,849)	\$ (371,241)	\$ (310,601)	\$ (3,390,317)	
CMP	Georges River Biomass	MWh	-	1,990	2,996	2,727	3,575	3,195	3,488	1,658	2,644	2,937	5,443	5,016	35,669	
		Contract Payments	\$ -	\$ 196,997	\$ 296,643	\$ 270,010	\$ 353,964	\$ 316,311	\$ 345,292	\$ 164,130	\$ 261,762	\$ 290,803	\$ 538,864	\$ 496,593	\$ 5,331,366	
		Entitlement Revenue	\$ -	\$ 91,811	\$ 207,085	\$ 89,653	\$ 91,338	\$ 57,664	\$ 116,711	\$ 72,044	\$ 72,504	\$ 109,995	\$ 136,878	\$ 184,678	\$ 1,230,361	
		Net Ratepayer (Cost)/Benefit	\$ -	\$ (105,186)	\$ (89,558)	\$ (180,357)	\$ (262,626)	\$ (258,647)	\$ (228,581)	\$ (92,086)	\$ (189,258)	\$ (180,808)	\$ (401,986)	\$ (311,915)	\$ (2,301,008)	
CMP	Pittsfield Solar Solar PV	MWh	694	552	1,007	1,363	1,518	2,116	1,425	1,624	1,573	1,582	991	1,180	15,625	
		Contract Payments	\$ 58,626	\$ 50,405	\$ 81,363	\$ 115,174	\$ 128,290	\$ 178,812	\$ 120,418	\$ 137,211	\$ 132,946	\$ 133,686	\$ 83,771	\$ 99,712	\$ 1,320,414	
		Entitlement Revenue	\$ 86,004	\$ 8,522	\$ 47,999	\$ 32,132	\$ 32,894	\$ 36,382	\$ 45,024	\$ 65,657	\$ 35,378	\$ 52,124	\$ 20,757	\$ 33,923	\$ 496,796	
		Net Ratepayer (Cost)/Benefit	\$ 27,378	\$ (41,883)	\$ (33,364)	\$ (83,042)	\$ (95,396)	\$ (142,430)	\$ (75,394)	\$ (71,554)	\$ (97,568)	\$ (81,562)	\$ (63,014)	\$ (65,789)	\$ (823,618)	
Versant Power	Pisgah Mountain Wind	MWh	3,095	2,461	2,055	2,894	2,268	2,793	1,236	556	1,921	1,103	1,536	2,565	24,484	
		Contract Payments	\$ 287,856	\$ 228,899	\$ 191,123	\$ 269,123	\$ 210,932	\$ 259,762	\$ 121,959	\$ 54,580	\$ 187,928	\$ 108,766	\$ 150,956	\$ 250,099	\$ 2,321,982	
		Entitlement Revenue	\$ 230,045	\$ 117,945	\$ 32,184	\$ (8,538)	\$ 29,353	\$ (6,939)	\$ 10,577	\$ 2,456	\$ 16,148	\$ 13,988	\$ 14,665	\$ 18,428	\$ 470,310	
		Net Ratepayer (Cost)/Benefit	\$ (57,811)	\$ (110,954)	\$ (158,939)	\$ (277,661)	\$ (181,579)	\$ (266,702)	\$ (111,382)	\$ (52,123)	\$ (171,780)	\$ (94,779)	\$ (136,291)	\$ (231,672)	\$ (1,851,672)	
Versant Power	Exeter Agri-Energy Anaerobic digester	MWh	1,175	1,172	1,053	1,803	1,714	1,795	1,698	1,693	1,731	1,601	1,760	1,855	19,050	
		Contract Payments	\$ 110,641	\$ 110,393	\$ 99,333	\$ 113,118	\$ 112,596	\$ 112,798	\$ 109,268	\$ 113,441	\$ 111,129	\$ 107,082	\$ 116,424	\$ 122,863	\$ 1,390,087	
		Entitlement Revenue	\$ 119,168	\$ 186,600	\$ 57,282	\$ 21,435	\$ 30,224	\$ 35,306	\$ 72,167	\$ 116,569	\$ 86,635	\$ 91,027	\$ 85,064	\$ 54,122	\$ 955,600	
		Net Ratepayer (Cost)/Benefit	\$ 8,528	\$ 76,207	\$ (42,051)	\$ (91,683)	\$ (82,372)	\$ (77,492)	\$ (37,101)	\$ 3,128	\$ (24,495)	\$ (16,055)	\$ (31,360)	\$ (68,741)	\$ (383,487)	
35-A M.R.S. §3210-C																
CMP	Rollins Wind Wind	MWh	14,215	10,816	9,170	10,686	8,867	12,079	8,314	2,652	6,809	6,215	7,213	11,743	108,779	
		Contract Payments	\$ 1,126,789	\$ 697,510	\$ 657,937	\$ 623,979	\$ 513,082	\$ 742,609	\$ 527,105	\$ 145,534	\$ 412,730	\$ 378,954	\$ 442,039	\$ 749,581	\$ 7,017,849	
		Entitlement Revenue	\$ 969,217	\$ 128,171	\$ 439,762	\$ 140,783	\$ 183,545	\$ 152,017	\$ 170,787	\$ 81,795	\$ 179,451	\$ 133,130	\$ 111,772	\$ 377,512	\$ 3,067,942	
		Net Ratepayer (Cost)/Benefit	\$ (157,572)	\$ (569,339)	\$ (218,175)	\$ (483,196)	\$ (329,537)	\$ (590,592)	\$ (356,318)	\$ (63,739)	\$ (233,279)	\$ (245,824)	\$ (330,267)	\$ (372,069)	\$ (3,949,907)	
CMP	Dirigo Solar Projects Solar PV	MWh	2,147	1,404	2,226	4,574	5,060	7,537	3,612	4,388	4,797	4,502	2,574	2,858	45,679	
		Contract Payments	\$ 78,911	\$ 48,862	\$ 78,445	\$ 158,119	\$ 174,745	\$ 253,260	\$ 124,263	\$ 151,034	\$ 174,209	\$ 159,523	\$ 89,478	\$ 100,903	\$ 1,591,752	
		Entitlement Revenue	\$ 267,594	\$ 25,268	\$ 118,401	\$ 103,519	\$ 116,869	\$ 132,898	\$ 110,887	\$ 179,528	\$ 111,878	\$ 152,499	\$ 54,054	\$ 83,552	\$ 1,456,947	
		Net Ratepayer (Cost)/Benefit	\$ 188,683	\$ (23,594)	\$ 39,956	\$ (54,600)	\$ (57,876)	\$ (120,362)	\$ (13,376)	\$ 28,494	\$ (62,331)	\$ (7,024)	\$ (35,424)	\$ (17,351)	\$ (134,805)	
Versant Power	Dirigo Solar Projects Solar PV	MWh	1,936	1,332	2,637	2,142	1,631	4,067	2,795	3,583	3,197	3,030	1,892	1,962	30,205	
		Contract Payments	\$ 66,730	\$ 45,280	\$ 90,254	\$ 73,858	\$ 56,477	\$ 139,662	\$ 98,499	\$ 124,197	\$ 114,306	\$ 108,529	\$ 69,526	\$ 69,944	\$ 1,057,262	
		Entitlement Revenue	\$ 202,906	\$ 655,895	\$ 121,761	\$ 33,639	\$ 38,250	\$ 15,065	\$ 56,606	\$ 91,948	\$ 67,758	\$ 70,911	\$ 61,945	\$ 43,804	\$ 1,460,486	
		Net Ratepayer (Cost)/Benefit	\$ 136,175	\$ 610,615	\$ 31,507	\$ (40,219)	\$ (18,227)	\$ (124,597)	\$ (41,893)	\$ (32,249)	\$ (46,548)	\$ (37,618)	\$ (7,581)	\$ (26,139)	\$ 403,224	
Versant Power	Rollins Wind Wind	MWh	3,579	2,511	2,530	2,742	2,385	2,922	1,588	906	1,539	1,401	1,799	2,701	26,603	
		Contract Payments	\$ 282,895	\$ 161,274	\$ 176,252	\$ 164,925	\$ 141,973	\$ 176,357	\$ 99,295	\$ 62,610	\$ 98,196	\$ 90,294	\$ 116,325	\$ 179,952	\$ 1,750,350	
		Entitlement Revenue	\$ 209,515	\$ 464,067	\$ 127,601	\$ 32,718	\$ 62,930	\$ (5,512)	\$ 36,721	\$ 40,507	\$ 42,446	\$ 46,423	\$ 59,767	\$ 60,539	\$ 1,177,723	
		Net Ratepayer (Cost)/Benefit	\$ (73,380)	\$ 302,792	\$ (48,651)	\$ (132,207)	\$ (79,043)	\$ (181,869)	\$ (62,574)	\$ (22,102)	\$ (55,751)	\$ (43,872)	\$ (56,558)	\$ (119,412)	\$ (572,627)	
Versant Power	Weaver Wind Wind	MWh	28,375	21,008	19,731	24,439	16,763	22,731	10,527	6,209	12,585	9,304	12,309	20,334	204,316	
		Contract Payments	\$ 1,054,789	\$ 772,448	\$ 690,595	\$ 933,564	\$ 616,389	\$ 835,822	\$ 407,157	\$ 237,741	\$ 484,673	\$ 360,066	\$ 476,745	\$ 782,324	\$ 7,652,306	
		Entitlement Revenue	\$ 1,950,292	\$ 2,447,852	\$ 1,352,682	\$ 545,791	\$ 463,066	\$ 42,868	\$ 307,433	\$ 289,009	\$ 350,230	\$ 360,874	\$ 435,514	\$ 461,059	\$ 9,006,668	
		Net Ratepayer (Cost)/Benefit	\$ 895,504	\$ 1,675,404	\$ 662,087	\$ (387,774)	\$ (153,323)	\$ (792,955)	\$ (99,724)	\$ 51,267	\$ (134,443)	\$ 814	\$ (41,231)	\$ (321,265)	\$ 1,354,362	
Offshore Wind Pilot Program																
Versant Power	ORPC Tidal	MWh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Contract Payments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
		Entitlement Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
		Net Ratepayer (Cost)/Benefit	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total All Contracts			Net Ratepayer (Cost)/Benefit	\$ 1,193,154	\$ 1,447,479	\$ (28,729)	\$ (2,094,959)	\$ (1,556,516)	\$ (2,956,464)	\$ (1,348,935)	\$ (588,642)	\$ (1,386,759)	\$ (1,009,577)	\$ (1,474,953)	\$ (1,844,955)	\$ (11,649,856)
Notes:																
This summary includes only facilities which have reached commercial operations.																
Rollins Wind contract payments are shown net of capacity credit.																
Resettlement delays may affect the statement of entitlement revenues.																