

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
UTILITIES
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JUNE 1987

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "COMMITTEE" if it is a committee amendment.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Please let us know if you would prefer a different format or additional information and if the summaries are helpful.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

Sponsor: PRAY, Weymouth, Perkins, Martin J
Committee Report: CARRY OVER

SUMMARY: The bill addresses purchases of Canadian electricity by making legislative findings that such purchases are consistent with the public policies of the State. Special regulatory provisions are included, as follows: If the Public Utilities Commission grants a certificate of public convenience and necessity under 35 MRSA §13-B, the utility would be guaranteed full recovery of costs of the power purchase; the Public Utilities Commission would establish by rule a purchased power cost adjustment clause, which would be similar to the existing fuel clause allowing automatic pass through to the ratepayers; the utility would be guaranteed full recovery of reasonable costs for construction and maintenance of the transmission facilities and a rate of return on the prudent investment in transmission facilities; and action on the Environmental permits for the transmission facilities would be required within 105 days (the same as the present limit for BEP decision under 38 MRSA § 344).

Although the bill is presented in the context of the proposed CMP-Hydro-Quebec purchase, the language is not limited to that proposal. That proposal is for a purchase of 400 Megawatts in 1992, rising to 900 Megawatts by 2000, and extending to 2020. The transmission line would be though western Maine to a DC-AC converter where it would join the existing CMP system at Surowiec, west of Portland.