

September 8, 2021

From: Maine elected officials, businesses, and non-profit organizations

To: The Honorable Angus King
United States Senator
133 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Subject: Maine Leaders Voice Strong Support for Clean Electricity Payment Program

Dear Senator King,

On behalf of our organizations and your constituents who we represent, we urge you to ensure the [Clean Electricity Payment Program](#) receives the full funding of \$150 billion dollars in funding as part of the infrastructure reconciliation package.

The Clean Electricity Payment Program is an essential component of President Biden's build back better agenda. By ensuring that 80% of our electricity is powered by clean energy sources by 2030, this payment program will save 317,000 lives, create more than 500,000 new jobs, not increase electricity costs, and maintain the reliability of the grid according to a [meta-analysis of 7 independent models](#). The Clean Electricity Payment Program should also couple high-road labor standards and domestic content utilization with payments to utilities, showing we do not have to choose between good jobs and a clean economy.

Fully funding the Clean Electricity Payment Program is essential for it to function effectively and equitably. Congress must ensure there is enough funding to ensure utilities can retire dirty fossil fuel power plants that they have not finished paying off, without passing those costs on to ratepayers.

Maine's abundant wind, solar, water, and forestry resources are economic drivers, and the Clean Electricity Payment Program can further elevate the State as a leader in renewable energy. With full funding of the CEPP, the State can rapidly deploy affordable wind, solar, other clean energy, and battery storage while focusing on rural and other areas where economic development is most needed.

To ensure the Clean Electricity Payment Program and all the other priorities such as the \$300 billion clean energy tax incentives in the reconciliation package can be fully funded, it is important to ensure the topline number of \$3.5 trillion remains constant. We urge you to oppose any attempt to decrease the overall spending level of the reconciliation package.

We cannot meet President Biden's greenhouse gas reduction goal of 50-52% by 2030 without rapidly decarbonizing the electricity sector, and providing the full \$150 billion for the Clean Electricity Payment Program is crucial to clean up the electric sector.

Thank you for representing Maine in the US Senate and on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Sincerely,

Maine Elected Officials:

- Maine House of Representatives Grayson Lookner
- Maine State Senator Chloe Maxmin
- Maine House of Representatives Rebecca Millett
- Maine House of Representatives Laurie Osher
- Maine House of Representatives Maggie O'Neil

Maine Businesses and Organizations:

- 350 Maine
- A Climate to Thrive
- Acadia Center
- Agilitas Energy
- BioEnergy Revisioning, LLC
- Cleantech Adoption LLC
- Coastal Youth Climate Coalition
- Enel North America
- Energy Solutions
- Environment Maine
- Fork Food Lab
- Independent Power and RenewableEnergy LLC
- Kennebunkport Climate Initiative
- Lee International Business Development
- Maine Audubon
- Maine Composites Alliance
- Maine Conservation Voters
- Maine People's Alliance
- Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network
- Midcoast Conservancy
- MidCoast Solar LLC
- Natural Resources Council of Maine
- Northeast Clean Energy Council
- Nyle Water Heating Systems
- ReVision Energy
- Sierra Club Maine Chapter
- Sol Systems, LLC
- Spark Applied Efficiency
- Union of Concerned Scientists