

Energy Planning – Suggestions, Ideas and Considerations Discussed by the EUT Committee

Member	Suggestions/Ideas/Considerations	Existing Requirements in Law
Rep. Berry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need to find meaningful ways to get to goals. Some have teeth, most do not. ▪ How we measure biomass matters....As we electrify we will need more electricity. ▪ How do we deal with imports (ex. ME ratepayers buying power produced in NH with natural gas – it does not count in ME towards GHG emissions, but it does in NH) Also how is what we purchase measured in terms of GHG emissions? Our approach to GHG emission is too limited – it is a global issue not just something that occurs within state boundaries. ▪ Progress toward benchmarks/goals – Where do we stand? Do we need to adjust strategies or adjust goals and recognize cost does matter? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GEO to recommend appropriate actions to facilitate the development and integration of new renewable energy generation within the State and support portfolio requirements and wind energy development goals ▪ Existing law requires consultation with EMT ▪ Required consultation with DEP in order to address the association between energy planning and meeting the greenhouse gas reduction goals ▪ Law requires the GEO to collaborate with relevant state agencies, coordinate state energy policy and actively foster cooperation with the EMT.
Rep. Foster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As we set these goals we do not specify this is to occur at any cost, but this implied. The GEO is charged currently with reducing the cost of electricity (while meeting these goals). If we are going to edit the energy plan and set goals, costs need to be considered so as to not overburden the ratepayers. ▪ Need to keep in mind our economy -what is the cost as compared to the benefit, especially in instances of where ME is looking to be a leader ▪ Need to have people with an engineering background looking at the plan/having input on the plan too. Need the technical expertise to better look at and understand the whole picture. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GEO to identify opportunities to lower the cost of energy to consumers in the State ▪ Recommend appropriate actions to lower the total cost of energy to consumers in the State ▪ Include cost and resource estimate for technology development needed to meet oil reduction targets

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Sen. Vitelli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Is any one person tracking all these statutory goals to see which goals are/are not being met and what the Legislature may need to do to track/change these goals? ▪ Need to be including other agencies, or direct collaboration with others – for example Department of Labor – green economy (solar goals and jobs created) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ See also -Existing Requirement in Law under Re. Berry for examples
Rep. Grohoski	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do we know if other states are doing more of a holistic job at this that we can use as a model? ▪ Need to foster collaboration and how the work of others help reach goals. ▪ When looking at costs we need to look at both the cost of action and cost of inaction and what is the range of those costs. Some costs may be easier to determine than others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ See also -Existing Requirement in Law under Re. Berry for examples
Rep. Cuddy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Look at how much we save by reducing our need on energy usage by investing in efficiency (insulation, etc.) What is the cost/benefit of spending on things such as insulating buildings/homes? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law requires relationship/collaboration with the EMT
Sen. Lawrence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need to look at/set goals for consumption and generation – include tracking of those goals and establish benchmarks/notification requirements – the Legislature needs to know if benchmarks will/will not be met ▪ Need an overview of the State’s current energy consumption, by type ▪ We currently do not have an overall energy goal– there are climate goals with the GHG emission thresholds, need to understand to meet these goals we need to convert to renewables and at what rate will this need to happen ▪ How do we dovetail all these disparate goals and have an overall strategy and as we do this we need to understand what effect this may have on the grid (what will the impact be on the grid in Maine if we meet these GHG emissions goals) If we shift to more electricity usage what will be the costs of this and where are we at in meeting these GHG emission goals? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plan must specify State’s progress in meeting the oil dependence reduction targets in subsection 5 and make recommendations if needed for additional legislative and administrative actions to ensure the State can meet these targets (reduce consumption of oil by at least 30% from 2007 level by 2030; at least 50% from 2007 levels by 2050 ▪ Require an update on the State’s progress in meeting wind energy development goals – likelihood of reaching those goals and recommended changes to those goals

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Sen. Lawrence continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is the impact of current pricing trends on carbon-based fuels, what is the impact if we do not switch to renewables. ▪ Explore non-electric alternatives (ex. Thermal) to increase demand and move away from oil-based heating ▪ Expand how we look at things – for example packaging – in every purchase there is an energy consideration ▪ What are trends in other states ▪ Report on the loss of in-state renewable generation sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the GEO to collaborate with relevant state agencies, private industry and nonprofit organizations to collect and analyze energy data, including but not limited to, data on energy supply, demand and costs in this State with consideration of all available energy sources