



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 273

S.P. 85

In Senate, January 22, 2019

**An Act To Require Transmission and Distribution Utilities To
Purchase Electricity from Renewable Resources at Certain Prices**

Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DOUDERA of Camden, EVANGELOS of Friendship,
HUBBELL of Bar Harbor, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, PLUECKER of Warren, RISEMAN of
Harrison.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3210-G** is enacted to read:

3 **§3210-G. Purchase of renewable energy**

4 A transmission and distribution utility shall, in accordance with this section, at the
5 request of the owner of a renewable resource, purchase the electricity generated by that
6 renewable resource at a price per kilowatt-hour that is 50% of the average cost per
7 kilowatt-hour to generate electricity using a fossil fuel in this State. For the purposes of
8 this section, "renewable resource" has the same meaning as in section 3210, subsection 2,
9 paragraph C, except that "renewable resource" does not include hydroelectric generators.

10 **1. Standards and procedures.** The commission by rule or order shall:

11 A. Establish reasonable terms and conditions governing the purchase of electricity
12 under this section;

13 B. Annually determine the average cost per kilowatt-hour to generate electricity
14 using a fossil fuel in this State; and

15 C. Require an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to resell
16 electricity purchased under this section.

17 **2. Cost recovery.** Reasonable costs incurred by a transmission and distribution
18 utility under this section are just and reasonable expenses for rate-making purposes.

19 **3. Rules.** The commission may adopt rules to implement this section. Rules adopted
20 pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined by Title 5, chapter 375,
21 subchapter 2-A.

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This bill requires a transmission and distribution utility, at the request of the owner of
24 a renewable resource, to purchase the electricity generated by that renewable resource at a
25 price per kilowatt-hour that is 50% of the average cost per kilowatt-hour to generate
26 electricity using a fossil fuel in this State.