## MAINE BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOTICE OF COMMENT OPPORTUNITY AND HEARING

Pursuant to <u>An Act Regarding Remote Participation in Public Proceedings</u>, P.L. 2021 ch. 290, the Board of Environmental Protection (Board) has posted for public comment and will hold a hearing to receive oral comment on a proposed new policy entitled <u>Policy Regarding Remote</u> <u>Participation in Board Proceedings</u>.

The legal framework before the Covid emergency required Board members to be physically present for public proceedings. The new law authorizes the Board to adopt a written policy to allow its members and the public to participate in a public proceeding using remote methods under certain circumstances in which physical presence for one of more Board members is not practicable.

Written comment on the proposed *Policy Regarding Remote Participation in Board Proceedings* may be submitted to the Board until 5:00 p.m. on **September 27, 2021**. Written comments may be directed to:

William F. Hinkel Board Executive Analyst 17 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333-0017 <u>bill.hinkel@maine.gov</u>

The Board will hold an in-person hearing on **September 28, 2021**, beginning at 9:00 a.m. to receive oral comment on the proposed policy. The hearing will be held at the Augusta Civic Center, 76 Community Drive, Augusta, Maine 04330.

Immediately following the hearing on September 28, 2021, the Board may deliberate and vote on whether to approve the proposed policy, with or without revisions based on public comment.

Questions regarding the hearing location and logistics may be directed to Board Clerk Ruth Ann Burke at <u>ruth.a.burke@maine.gov</u> or 207-287-2811.