



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
Energy Resources

MAINE ENERGY PLAN KICKOFF WEBINAR



03.27.26



10 AM



Agenda

- Introduction
- Energy Plan requirements
- 2025 Energy Plan Overview
- 2027 Maine Energy Plan and Opportunities to Participate
- Discussion
- Next Steps





Maine Department of Energy Resources (DOER)

- The Maine Department of Energy Resources (DOER) was established September 24, 2025, replacing the Governor's Energy Office per Public Law 2025, ch. 476 (L.D. 1270).
- DOER is the designated state energy office tasked with a wide range of activities relating to state energy policies, planning, and development.
- The office provides policy leadership and technical assistance, develops energy programs, monitors energy markets, and reports on heating fuel and energy prices.
- DOER works in partnership with various state agencies, federal and local officials, industry, nonprofits and academia on energy issues.



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Maine Energy Plan - Background

- Per statute, DOER is required, biennially, to prepare and submit an updated State Energy Plan.
- The Plan is informed by in-depth technical analysis and robust stakeholder input.
- DOER will solicit public comments and information through in-person and virtual meetings, a formal Request for Information, surveys, and on draft documents.
- The Plan addresses a set of questions identified in statute and identifies objectives, strategies, and actions to *ensure affordable, reliable, and increasingly clean energy* for Maine.
- DOER released the latest Energy Plan in January 2025.
- The next Energy Plan update will be delivered to the Governor and the Legislature in January 2027.



Statutory requirements — 35-A M.R.S. §10305

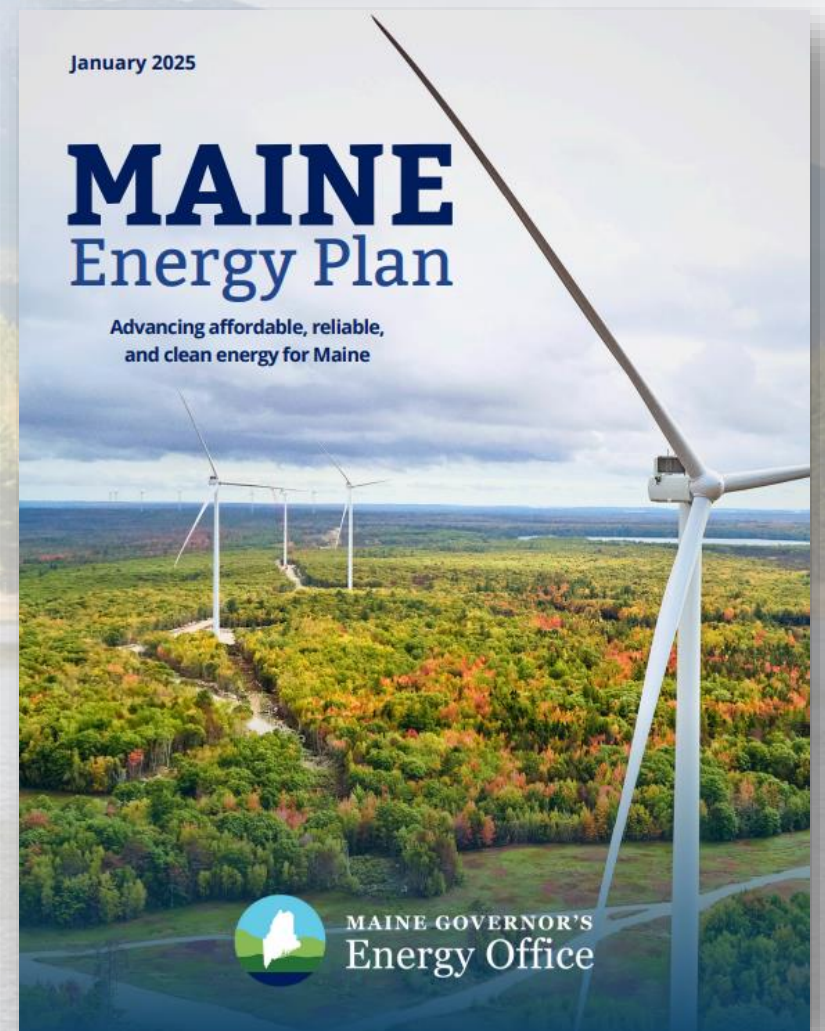
The Energy Plan scope must include, but is not limited to:

- A. Opportunities to lower and maintain reasonable total energy costs for Maine consumers;
- B. Evaluate energy data, including energy supply, demand and cost data considering all available energy sources;
- C. Track progress toward goals for renewable generation, energy storage, and distributed energy resources;
- D. Evaluate progress toward meeting the oil dependence reduction targets in section 10309;
- E. Identify resource, transmission, distribution and infrastructure needs to facilitate new renewable energy generation and support renewable resource portfolio requirements in section 3210 in coordination with ISO-NE, and the PUC's integrated grid planning under section 3147, and utilities;
- F. Address how energy planning supports emissions reduction goals under Title 38, section 577;
- G. Include cost and resource estimates for technology development needed to meet plan goals;
- H. Include energy supply and demand forecasts to be considered in other planning efforts including updates to the state climate action plan and the Efficiency Maine Trust's triennial plan;
- I. Estimate total project award targets for the next 3 competitive solicitations to be conducted by DOER pursuant to section 10313; and
- J. Identify and assess emerging energy technologies for application in the State consistent with the department's policy and program goals prioritizing carbon-free and lowest-emission technologies.

Maine's Energy Plan advances affordable, reliable, and cleaner energy for Maine

Objectives

- Deliver Affordable Energy for Maine People and Businesses
- Ensure Maine's Energy Systems are Reliable and Resilient in the Face of Growing Challenges
- Responsibly Advance Clean Energy
- Deploy Efficient Technologies to Reduce Energy Costs
- Expand Clean Energy Career Opportunities for Maine People and Advance Innovation



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Objective A:

Deliver affordable energy for Maine people and businesses

Strategies include:

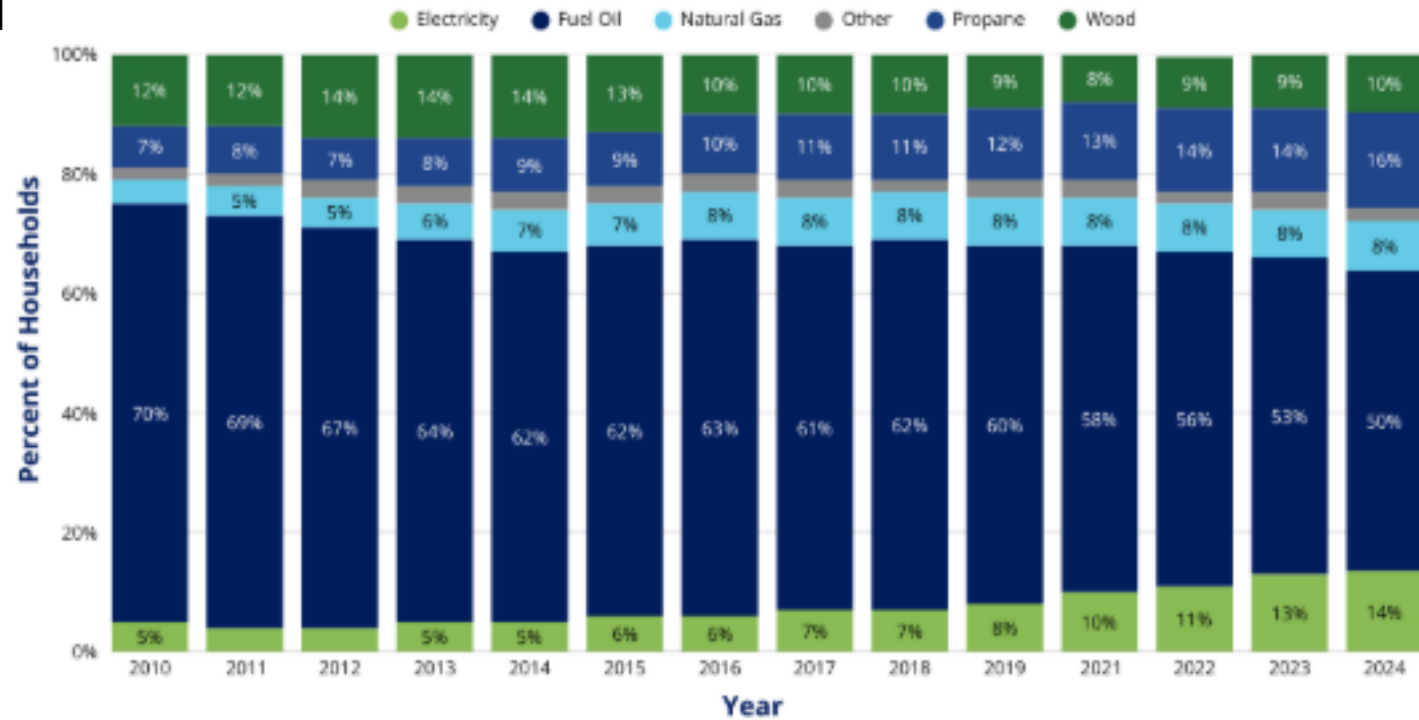
- Reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels especially for heating and electricity generation
- Reducing energy burden especially for low- and moderate-income households
- Identifying additional electricity cost control opportunities

Key Progress:

- Nearly **20%** decline in oil reliance for home heating
- Oil consumption cut by **30%** from 2007, on track to cut by **50%** by 2050
- **16,484** heat pumps installed in low-income households in recent years
- Targeted **funding opportunities for affordable housing and manufactured homes** available

Share of Energy Sources Consumed for Residential Heating, Maine

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey



Objective B:

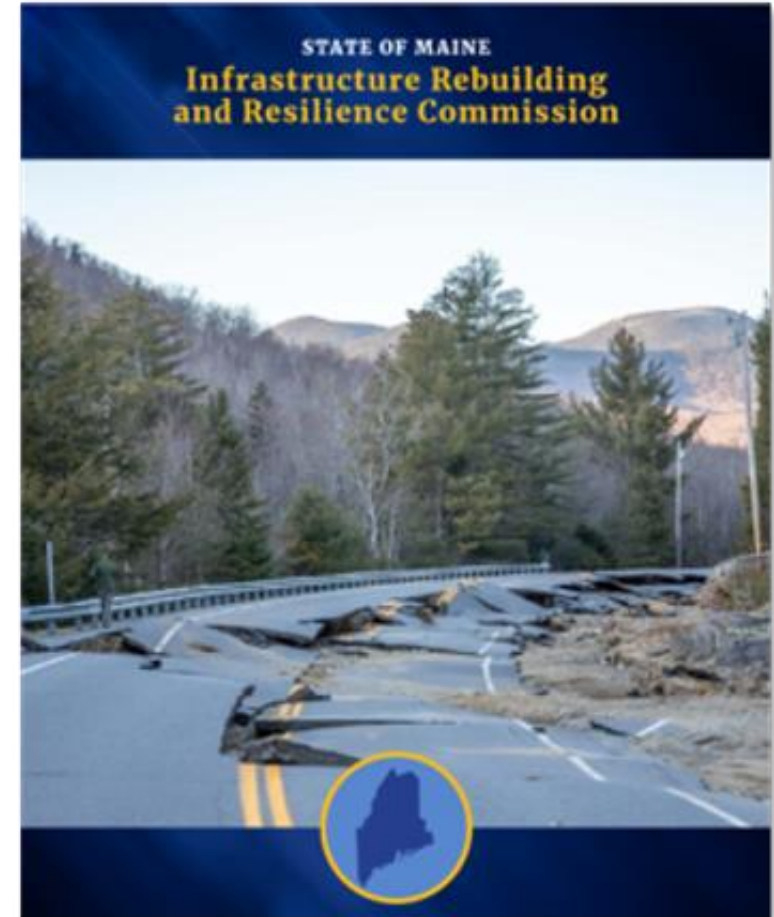
Ensure Maine's energy systems are reliable and resilient in the face of growing challenges

Strategies include:

- Establishing data-driven targets for energy resilience
- Increasing coordination and information sharing across emergency management/resilience entities
- Deploying resources to advance innovative resilience solutions, like microgrids and energy storage
- Strengthening planning and engagement by utilities to address climate and resilience threats cost-effectively

Key Progress:

- Awarded **\$6.6 million to Maine communities** to increase grid resilience and decrease outages
- First statutorily required **10-year Integrated Grid Plans** and **Climate Change Protection Plans** filed at PUC
- **238 MW** of grid-connected energy storage resources operational in Maine
- Increased coordination through the implementation of the **State Energy Security Plan** and monitoring fuel supply and delivery activities



Objective C:

Responsibly advance clean energy

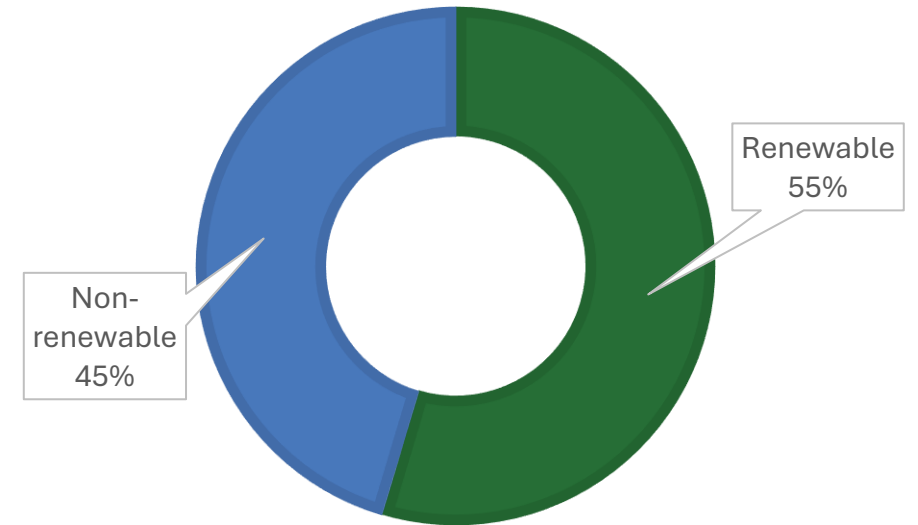
Strategies include:

- Establish a Clean Energy Standard to ensure 100% clean energy by 2040
- Establish a regular schedule of energy procurements
- Responsibly advance offshore wind
- Advance infrastructure to modernize Maine's grid
- Coordinate and collaborate regionally

Key Progress:

- **Clean Energy Standard adopted** to complement RPS
- **Launch of DOER competitive procurements**
- **N. Maine transmission/generation procurement** announced
- **2 GW** of new or upgraded generation added to the grid
 - **128 MW** new wind farm in Washington County
 - **1,700 MW** solar capacity installed (rooftop, community, and utility scale)
- Offshore wind **research grants** announced
- Continued engagement on **long-term transmission planning** and related activities

MORE THAN HALF OF ELECTRICITY USED IN MAINE IS RENEWABLE



Data for 2024 from Maine Public Utilities Commission



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Objective D:

Deploy efficient technologies to reduce energy costs

Strategies include:

- Advance beneficial electrification/weatherization to increase grid efficiency and lower costs
- Unlock grid benefits through electrified tech
- Expand Maine's EV charging network

Key Progress:

- **200,000** heat pumps installed and counting
- Over **700 housing units** to be heated entirely by heat pumps supported by Maine's Home Energy Rebates program awards in 2025
- More than **21,000 buildings** weatherized
- **21,000 EVs** on the road in Maine with access to over **1,400** public charging ports
- **Top 10** states for energy efficiency policies since 2022 according to ACEEE



Objective E:

Expand clean energy career opportunities for Maine people and advance innovation

Strategies include:

- Raise awareness of clean energy careers and connect employers to local workforce through Clean Energy Partnership
- Expand curricula development, technical training, and experiential learning & coordinate with those in the industry to promote pathways
- Expand technical assistance to support clean energy innovation and research in the private sector

Key Progress:

- **>16,000** people employed in clean energy and counting
- **\$3 billion** contributed to Maine's economy each year
- **Fastest-growing** clean energy sector in New England (2020-2024)
- **>\$9 million** in funding to support workforce and innovation
- Program reach growing: **5,000+ participants and 75+ businesses**



**Energy efficiency
and construction are
the biggest drivers
of clean energy
employment in Maine**



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Maine's Next Energy Plan

Advancing Affordable, Reliable, Cleaner Energy for All Maine People



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Maine's Next Energy Plan

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Priorities



Affordable



Reliable



Secure



Clean



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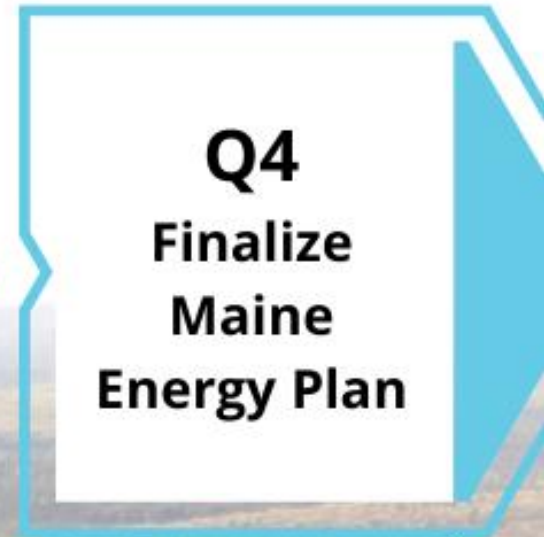
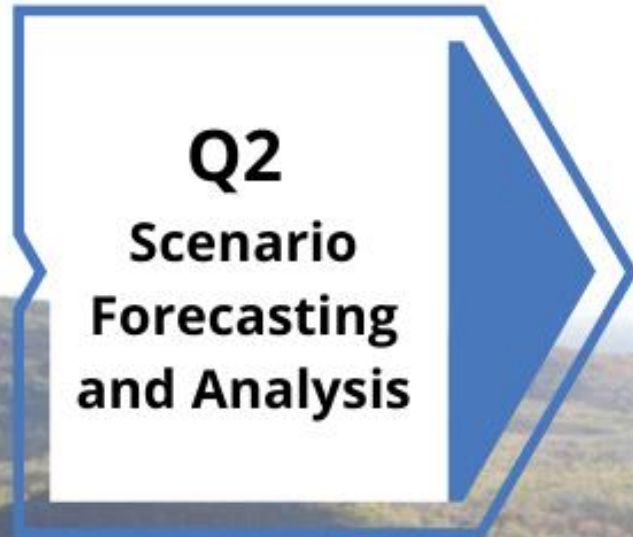
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Maine's Next Energy Plan

Advancing Affordable, Reliable, and Cleaner Energy for All Maine People



2026 Timeline



How to Participate

Public Meetings and Webinars

Today is the first of several public meetings.

Future opportunities will be virtual and in-person



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How to Participate

Request for Information

Open now!

*Please respond by
April 27, 2026*



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How to Participate

Stakeholder Survey

Open now!

*Please join us in
spreading the word*



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How to Participate

Meetings with DOER

*Fill out this [short form](#)
to request a meeting
with your group or
organization*



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Clarifying Questions?



Menti Poll & Discussion





Next Steps

Request for Information response deadline
April 27, 2026

- *DOER will review responses and use them to inform development of the Energy Plan*

Share your feedback using the **online survey**

- *DOER will continuously review responses and use them to inform development of the Energy Plan*

Request a meeting or a presentation with DOER staff

- *DOER will endeavor to reach as many interested groups as possible*

Sign up for email updates to stay informed about the 2027 Energy Plan

- *Future public meetings to provide updates, share draft information, and obtain additional feedback will be announced by email*



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Thank You

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www.maine.gov/energy

**Sign up for the
DOER email
newsletter to
receive
updates on the
Maine Energy
Plan**

