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## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 31, 2024

ARMED SERVICES
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CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL PARKS
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COMMITTEES

The Honorable Michael S. Regan, Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Regan,

I am writing to convey my strong support for the application submitted by the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) to the Clean Ports Program: Climate and Air Quality Planning Competition. This \$1 million funding request is vital for advancing Maine's initiative to implement port electrification for zero emissions vehicles and shore power, which will significantly benefit both the Maine and national economies and contribute to a climate-friendly and modern marine transportation system.

MaineDOT has collaborated with the Maine Port Authority (MPA), the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), and CruiseMaine to assess the feasibility of electrification and shore power deployment at various ports throughout the state. This includes cruise ports that regularly accommodate small passenger vessels and have shown interest in shore power connections. The project aims to transition from diesel power to electrification for docked vessels at both cargo and cruise ports in Maine, as well as explore the requirements for electrifying port operations equipment. The project, entitled the *Maine Port Electrification Clean Energy Planning Project*, is crucial for establishing the infrastructure needed to provide shore power at our three primary commercial ports.

The project will involve extensive community engagement as MaineDOT, MPA, and CruiseMaine assess the feasibility and benefits of installing shore power at three deepwater ports and a selection of smaller ports in coastal communities throughout state. This collaborative effort will focus on understanding the potential for electrification and shore power across the state's marine transportation system. Additionally, it will address community and stakeholder collaboration, ensuring meaningful engagement throughout the design, construction, and post-construction phases.

Thank you for your time and efforts on behalf of Maine DOT's application. I urge your careful consideration, in accordance with all laws and regulations, and ask that you please notify Adam Lachman in my office at (202) 224-5344 when a final decision has been made.

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United States Senator