



- Who:** Maine Climate Protectors
- What:** Seeking people to testify (or submit written testimony) in support of a petition for rulemaking filed with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection
- When:** May 15, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.
- Where:** DEP Response Training Room, 4 Blossom Lane (AMHI Complex), Augusta, ME
- Why:** To reduce Maine's greenhouse gas emissions 8 percent per year in order to meet a statutory goal established in 2003 by 38 M.R.S.A. § 576(3)
-

On January 24, 2018, a coalition of youth, environmental advocacy organizations (350 Maine, Citizens Climate Lobby, Conservation Law Foundation, and Our Children's Trust), and other concerned citizens filed a petition for rulemaking with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Petitioners brought this action to ensure that the climate remains stable enough to maintain their and their posterity's fundamental and unalienable rights to a livable future in Maine, which includes a healthy atmosphere and stable climate system.

The petition, signed by 696 registered voters of the State of Maine and 50 youth petitioners, asks DEP to adopt new rules and modify existing rules regulating greenhouse gas emissions.

The proposed rules seek greenhouse gas emission reductions of at least 8 percent each year, which correlates to Maine reducing its emissions to approximately 75 percent below 2003 levels by the year 2035 (Maine's greenhouse gas emissions peaked in 2003). This goal is grounded in science¹ and is necessary in order to meet the requirements of **38 M.R.S.A. § 576(3)**, which established a goal of **reducing greenhouse gas emissions "sufficient to eliminate any dangerous threat to the climate."** The statute specifically describes attaining this goal through "reduction to 75% to 80% below 2003 levels."

The proposed rule changes would:

- Establish emissions standards for greenhouse gas emissions from air contaminant sources, including (1) stationary sources, other than power plants, with the potential to emit greenhouse gas emissions (biogenic plus non-biogenic) equal to or above 10,000 tons per year CO₂e and (2) vehicle fleets of automobiles and/or trucks registered in the state of Maine with the potential to emit 5,000 tons per year CO₂e;
- Modify Department of Environmental Protection regulations reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases from other currently regulated sources in compliance with the reduction goals of the Climate Change Act, 38 M.R.S §§ 576-579; and
- Establish emissions standards for sulfur hexafluoride from gas-insulated switchgear operators.

¹ James Hansen et al., *Assessing "Dangerous Climate Change": Required Reduction of Carbon Emissions to Protect Young People, Future Generations and Nature*, PLOS ONE 8:12, 1, 5, 10, 17-18 (2013); James Hansen et al., *Ice Melt, Sea Level Rise and Superstorms; Evidence from Paleoclimate Data, Climate Modeling, and Modern Observations that 2 °C Global Warming Could be Dangerous*, Atmos. Chem. & Phys. 16, 3761, 3801 (2016); James Hansen et al., *Young people's burden: requirement of negative CO₂ emissions*, Earth Syst. Dynam. 8, 577-616 (2017).

PUBLIC HEARING

May 15, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.
Department of Environmental Protection
Response Training Room
4 Blossom Lane (AMHI Complex)
Augusta, ME

In-person testimony

We are seeking individuals to **speak** at the hearing on a broad range of climate change issues, including:

- Impact on youth
- Health implications
- Economic impacts, e.g., on tourism, commercial fisheries, farming, forestry, aquaculture, winter sports
- Economic opportunities, e.g., solar, wind, heat pumps, tidal
- Ecological impacts
- Faith/moral perspective

In general, spoken testimony should be concise. Try to limit testimony to about 5 minutes. Supplemental information can be submitted either at the hearing or afterwards.

If you feel inclined to testify, kindly send an email to bethfullervalentine@gmail.com so we know to expect you.

Written testimony

If you are unable to testify in person, you may email **written comments** to rulecomments.dep@maine.gov. Be sure to include "Comment on Citizen Petition for Rulemaking to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions" in the subject line. Comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on June 29, 2018.

For more information:

- Maine Climate Protectors: www.maine-climate-protectors.org
- Maine Department of Environmental Protection: <http://www.maine.gov/dep/rules/index.html#794983>
- Maine Secretary of State: <http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/notices/2018/042518.html>