

SEP 08 2015

Friends of Penobscot Bay

POB 1871, Rockland ME 04841

www.penbay.net

Audra Caler Bell
Community Development Director
City of Rockland
Rockland, Maine 04841

September 4, 2015

Subject: Maine Freedom of Access Act request

Dear Ms. Bell

This letter is a request pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 408, the Maine Freedom of Access statute, to inspect at your office and to copy as necessary the following records: Meeting notes, records, letters, faxes, emails, attachments, phone notes, phone logs, photographs and other written and electronic records **written, received or recorded by you from any source, between July 28, 2015 and September 4, 2015, inclusive, that pertain to the proposed natural gas cogeneration power plant and pipeline proposals being considered in or connecting to Rockland.**

If you choose to deny permission to physically inspect or copy any of the requested records, please state the reason for the denial, including the appropriate legal citation(s). If you need additional information to locate any of the documents requested, please call me at 691-7485 or email me at coastwatch@gmail.com

Friends of Penobscot Bay looks forward to receiving your acknowledgement within five (5) working days of your receipt of this letter, as required by 1 M.R.S.A. 409 (1).

We prefer to inspect, review and copy these requested records at the city office. However digital copies are acceptable provided they are in searchable-text pdf format except where not possible (maps or photo images). Please contact me to set an appointment to review these records. Contact by phone at 691-7485 or by email: coastwatch@gmail.com

Sincerely

Ron Huber

Ron Huber, Executive Director
Friends of Penobscot Bay

cc Brenda L. Kielty, Assistant Attorney General, Public Access

Kevin Beal

From: Larry Pritchett <larry.r.pritchett@outlook.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 1:16 AM
To: Frank Isganitis ; jchaousis@ci.rockland.me.us
Cc: Will Clayton ; Lousie MacLellan-Ruf ; 'Valli Geiger'; 'Audra Bell'
Subject: 8/19 Forum > Comments
Attachments: 2015_08.19_Rockland_Energy_Agenda__Handout_Final.docx

Hi All,

Please get back to me with any comments and thoughts you had on last evening's forum so I can pass them on to the Energy Committee. Obviously there was criticism after the meeting about the decision to use cards for public comment.

But, so far, the majority of the comments I have heard have been positive about that approach - - at least for a forum with the goals this one had. There will be other opportunities for the public to express opinions. The Energy Committee would welcome comments on the substance of the questions and issues the EMI proposal raises.

Brooks and I (and other staff from the Island Institute along with the Vinalhaven Town Manager, who is a former Island Institute staffer) debated the questions raised until pretty late (note the time on this email). Whether you were in the audience, or watching at home, send me an email or give me a call with you take away points.

My take away points are all of the panelist did a pretty good job of their assigned tasks. I think the panel did a good job of laying out the complexity of the questions raised by the EMI proposal. I also think all the panelist did a pretty good job of beginning to establish a lists of point by which the community should judge the proposal.

I probably should have done a little better job of reigning in the panelists' more geeky leanings (until we were all seated, I did not think about how high the geek factor actually was). It is rare for the City to put out that much info on a really challenging and complex topic. I will be interested to see what the press does with that.

I am sure there are some lessons to be gleaned (for equally complex issues like Lindsey Brook, stormwater management, etc.). I have attached the agenda handout for folks who were not in attendance. If anyone wants a copy of the "Panelist Agenda" which contains more info, let me know.

Many Thanks!
Larry
594-8806

Kevin Beal

From: Brooks Winner <bwinner@islandinstitute.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 9:30 AM
To: Larry Pritchett; 'Audra Bell'
Subject: RE: Confirming 1 PM Today At Island Institute
Attachments: 2015_08_19_Energy_Forum_Format_EC_LP_AC_DRAFT_17Aug1201hrs_BW.docx

Hi Larry,

Added a couple questions in here.

-Brooks

Brooks Winner
Community Energy Associate
Island Institute
207.594.9209 x 148
207.358.0219 cell
www.islandinstitute.org
[@brookswinner2](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

From: Larry Pritchett [<mailto:larrypritchett.council@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2015 12:05 PM
To: Brooks Winner <bwinner@islandinstitute.org>; 'Audra Bell' <abell@ci.rockland.me.us>
Subject: RE: Confirming 1 PM Today At Island Institute

I did not get all the way through. But the attached attempts to be an outline/very rough draft agenda that pulls in many of the major points raised. Wanted to get to both of you at least a little ahead of 1 PM.

From: Larry Pritchett [<mailto:larrypritchett.council@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2015 11:20
To: 'Brooks Winner'; 'Audra Bell'
Subject: RE: Confirming 1 PM Today At Island Institute

Kate Everett from SMRT got back from vacation and confirmed this morning.

So, panel will include third party technical expertise on CHP, District Energy, noise, etc.

LP

From: Larry Pritchett [<mailto:larrypritchett.council@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2015 11:17
To: 'Brooks Winner'; 'Audra Bell'
Subject: Confirming 1 PM Today At Island Institute

See you then.

LP

Kevin Beal

From: Frank Isganitis <frankisganitis@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 4:23 PM
To: Larry Pritchett; Audra Bell; James D Chaousis II
Subject: Fwd: Energy Forum

I am going to step out of this as you are the experts. My understanding is that we are having all of Susan's (and the public's) questions addressed. As for scheduling the referendum, it doesn't make sense to do anything until we finish the public participation. It's OK to tell her that. Thanks for your patience and perseverance.

Best,
Frank

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Susan Ware Page <SusanW@maritimeenergy.com>
Date: Tue, Aug 11, 2015 at 3:44 PM
Subject: RE: Energy Forum
To: Larry Pritchett <larrypritchett.council@gmail.com>, Frank Isganitis <frankisganitis@gmail.com>, "jchaousis@ci.rockland.me.us" <jchaousis@ci.rockland.me.us>
Cc: Audra Bell <abell@ci.rockland.me.us>, "louisemaclellanruf@gmail.com" <louisemaclellanruf@gmail.com>, "valli.citycouncil@gmail.com" <valli.citycouncil@gmail.com>, "williamclayton79@gmail.com" <williamclayton79@gmail.com>, Charlie Page <charliep@maritimeenergy.com>, John Ware <JohnW@maritimeenergy.com>

Larry & Frank,

Thank you for sending along the information. Please see my questions below highlighted in yellow that I'm requesting answers to.

Our childcare is closed next week for summer vacation and Wednesday is we had plans to be out of town with the kids. I have now cancelled our hotel reservations, so I can be in attendance at this forum.

I wish we were all given more notice.

Can you let me know about the questions highlighted in yellow?

Thanks,

Susan

From: Larry Pritchett [mailto:larrypritchett.council@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 1:20 PM

To: Susan Ware Page; 'Frank Isganitis'; jchaousis@ci.rockland.me.us

Cc: 'Audra Bell'; louisemaclellanruf@gmail.com; valli.citycouncil@gmail.com; williamclayton79@gmail.com;

Charlie Page; John Ware

Subject: RE: Energy Forum

Hi Susan,

Press release is attached. I have a meeting at 1:30, so I'll answer the simplest question below. I chair the City's Energy Committee and the Committee for years has been focused on energy efficiency and building envelope projects in City government and sharing what the City learns with owners of commercial and historic buildings.

The Energy Committee members are Brooks Winner (who is the Community Energy Associate at the Island Institute), Deb Donnelly (whose husband is a master electrician who works on a range of commercial scale solar projects primarily out of state); Bill Pearce (who was a founding member of the Committee and a member of the Sierra Club's Executive Committee at the time); and Tony Coyne (who was a home energy auditor and installer before retiring).

Suzanne MacDonald who directs the Island Institute's Community Energy program has served on the Committee. A lot of informal info sharing (& some cosponsoring of projects) occurs between the City and the Institute. More info soon.

Larry
594-8806

From: Larry Pritchett [mailto:larrypritchett.council@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 11:01

To: 'Susan Ware Page'; 'Frank Isganitis'; jchaousis@ci.rockland.me.us

Cc: 'Audra Bell'; louisemaclellanruf@gmail.com; valli.citycouncil@gmail.com; williamclayton79@gmail.com; 'Charlie Page'; 'John Ware'

Subject: RE: Energy Forum

Hi Susan,

A press release with more details than in my verbal summary about the public forum at Council meeting last night will go out at lunch time. That should answer some of your questions below. Perhaps Audra as Economic Develop Director and I as Energy Committee Chair could arrange a time to with you about energy questions?

Best,
Larry
594-8806

From: Susan Ware Page [<mailto:SusanW@maritimeenergy.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 09:47
To: 'Larry Pritchett'; 'Frank Isganitis'; 'jchaousis@ci.rockland.me.us'
Cc: 'Audra Bell'; louisemaclellanruf@gmail.com; valli.citycouncil@gmail.com; williamclayton79@gmail.com; Charlie Page; John Ware
Subject: Energy Forum

Hello,

I read last night on BDN that there will be an energy public forum next week. I was not aware of this.

Will anyone be able to ask questions/make comments at this public forum? What is the time allotment?

Who are the members on the energy advisory committee?

Is there a date set for the vote to go to referendum? If not, when is it expected?

Any resolution on where to place City Hall/Public Works and have you nailed down plans & costs that Rockland Energy says they'll pay for?

Has any city official done an analysis study (I suggested this to you Frank) as to the negative economic impact in our communities as well as the potential positive? I think it's important to look at everything.

Larry, Frank, Jim...I'm not sure who is best to answer my questions, so I've copied Audra and the respective Councilors.

Look forward to your response. Please put in writing, so I have for the record.

Thank you,

Susan

The city of Rockland's energy advisory committee and the city's community and economic development committee will be hosting a public forum next Wednesday evening (6:30 p.m. Aug. 19) at city hall related to the proposed natural gas-fired power plant. Speakers will be Tim Schneider, the state's public advocate; Greg Cunningham, vice president and director of Clean Energy and Climate Change program; and Anthony Buxton who is the chair of the Pretu Flaherty law firm's energy and utilities practice group. The public is invited to come and listen to the presentations and ask questions.

Kevin Beal

From: Larry Pritchett <larrypritchett.council@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2015 12:00 PM
To: 'Brooks Winner'; 'Audra Bell'
Subject: FW: Panel Discussion
Attachments: 2015_08.06_Rockland_Energy_Committee_Pritchett_Memo_Forum_Buxton_Preti.pdf;
2015_05.26_Energy_Committee_Brooks_EMI_Public_Forum_Slides_Notes_Merged.pdf

Importance: High

Brooks & Audra,

Preti Flaherty wanted some more info for their Energy Practice team meeting at noon. The email thread is below. There are clearly committed to doing this. I have attached what I sent to them.

Larry

From: O'Neal, Melissa A. [mailto:moneal@preti.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2015 10:31
To: Larry Pritchett
Subject: RE: Panel Discussion
Importance: High

Ok, sounds great. I'd like to get this coordinated and wrapped up by tomorrow as I will be out of the office next week and have limited access to email. I will have access, but only about once a day. If you're from Rockland, you're probably familiar with the ferry terminal, etc.! We leave from the terminal on Saturday morning and head to Creihaven for the week... ☺ My email access is limited to about once a day when we walk ¾ of a mile to our hostess' home where she gets an internet signal.

I will be in touch and thanks again for your patience!

Missy

Melissa A. O'Neal
Special Projects Coordinator
PretiFlaherty

From: Larry Pritchett [mailto:larrypritchett.council@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2015 10:27 AM
To: O'Neal, Melissa A.
Subject: RE: Panel Discussion

Thanks Missy,

First thing tomorrow would be fine. The City needs to get press releases for print media out by noon on Monday (i.e., local weekly papers). Just so long as we can get the 1-2 sentence sound bite for the press (and bio) tomorrow that should work. The City can discuss in more detail what Preti would do at the forum at some point next week.

Larry

From: O'Neal, Melissa A. [mailto:moneal@preti.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2015 10:18
To: Larry Pritchett

Subject: RE: Panel Discussion
Importance: High

Larry – thanks very much for this information. I've passed it on to Tony for him to go over with our Energy Practice Group team today at their meeting.

I will be back in touch by tomorrow morning. I'm sure we will be able to work something out. If you need to know prior to tomorrow, please let me know as soon as possible.

Thanks!
Missy

Melissa A. O'Neal
Special Projects Coordinator
PretiFlaherty

From: Larry Pritchett [<mailto:larrypritchett.council@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2015 9:45 AM
To: O'Neal, Melissa A.
Subject: RE: Panel Discussion

Morning Missy,

Attached is a two page memo that hopefully covers Tony's questions. As additional info I attached a PDF that includes both EMI's project slides and the Energy Committee's summary of public questions from a May 26th Forum on the proposed combined heat and power project in Rockland.

Thanks!
Larry

From: O'Neal, Melissa A. [<mailto:moneal@preti.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, August 05, 2015 16:04
To: Larry Pritchett
Subject: RE: Panel Discussion

Yes, that would be fine. Thanks, Larry. Tony's meeting starts at 12 noon.

Missy

Melissa A. O'Neal
Special Projects Coordinator
PretiFlaherty

From: Larry Pritchett [<mailto:larrypritchett.council@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, August 05, 2015 3:56 PM
To: O'Neal, Melissa A.
Subject: RE: Panel Discussion

Hi Missy,

I just saw these two emails and am about to head out to a meeting. If the City gets something to you by 9 AM Thursday is that soon enough?

Thanks!
Larry

From: O'Neal, Melissa A. [<mailto:moneal@preti.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, August 05, 2015 12:46

To: larrypritchett.council@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Panel Discussion

In addition, Larry, would you also let me know who else is participating on the panel? Many thanks!!

Missy

Melissa A. O'Neal
Special Projects Coordinator
PretiFlaherty

From: O'Neal, Melissa A.
Sent: Wednesday, August 05, 2015 12:44 PM
To: 'larrypritchett.council@gmail.com'
Subject: Panel Discussion
Importance: High

Larry:

Tony has asked that you please send a synopsis of the event and what exactly you'd like Preti to discuss and how long they will have to discuss it. He's meeting with the members of his practice group tomorrow and will add this speaking engagement to the agenda. Any other information you could share would be very much appreciated.

Best,
Missy

Melissa A. O'Neal
Special Projects Coordinator
207.791.3198 Tel
207.649.7252 Cell
moneal@preti.com
[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [preti.com](#)

PretiFlaherty
45 Memorial Circle
P.O. Box 1058
Augusta, ME 04332-1058

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communication, and have received it in error, please do not distribute it and notify me immediately by E-mail at moneal@preti.com or via telephone at 207.791.3000 and delete the original message. Unless expressly stated in this e-mail, nothing in this message or any attachment should be construed as a digital or electronic signature or as a legal opinion.

Kevin Beal

From: Buxton, Anthony W. <ABuxton@preti.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2015 2:58 PM
To: Audra Bell; O'Neal, Melissa A.
Cc: Borowski, R. Benjamin; Simon, Cathryn M.
Subject: Re: Participation in panel discussion in Rockland

Thanks for the invitation. Let me look at my schedule tomorrow to see if either date would work. If I am unavailable, we might offer others from Preti who are knowledgeable about the usefulness of gas as a foundation for renewable and other energy sources.

The concerns your residents have are natural and well worth discussing. Fortunately, there is a lot of useful information available on all sides. I would refer you to the Web site of the Coalition to Lower Energy Costs at energycostcrisis.com as one good source.

I will respond tomorrow.

Best, Tony

Anthony W. Buxton
Chair, Energy Group | Co-Chair, Climate Strategy Group
207.623.5300 Tel
abuxton@preti.com
Bio | LinkedIn | Twitter | preti.com

PretiFlaherty
45 Memorial Circle
P.O. Box 1058
Augusta, ME 04332-1058

From: Audra Bell
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2015 2:14 PM
To: Buxton, Anthony W.
Subject: Participation in panel discussion in Rockland

Hello Mr. Buxton,

I'm writing to ask if you would consider taking part in a panel discussion sponsored by the City of Rockland and the Penbay Chamber of Commerce regarding energy needs in the Midcoast – specifically natural gas.

Recently the City of Rockland was approached by a developer with a proposal to build a 69 MW natural gas fired combined heat and power plant just off route 1 on the outskirts of town. This has sparked a lot of debate within the community – particularly regarding natural gas taking resources away from renewable energy projects, safety, etc.

The intent of the panel discussion is to talk about these issues in more general terms as a way to provide the community with more context around energy needs, particularly for the Midcoast region. Because Rockland is the center for industry for the region I thought you would be an excellent panelist.

We are hoping to have the workshop on either August 18th or 19th.

Please let me know if you're interested/available.

Kind regards,

Audra Caler-Bell
Community & Economic Development Director
Rockland, Maine
207-594-0306

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Kevin Beal

From: Greg Cunningham <GCunningham@clf.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2015 1:58 PM
To: Audra Bell
Subject: RE: [FWD: Introduction - Rockland]

Audra-unfortunately I will be on vacation that week in NH. It is possible that someone else from CLF could attend that second week of August, but not I.

Greg Cunningham

Conservation Law Foundation
P: 207-210-6439
C: 207-329-9161
E: gcunningham@clf.org

For a thriving New England

From: Audra Bell [<mailto:abell@ci.rockland.me.us>]
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2015 1:54 PM
To: Greg Cunningham
Subject: RE: [FWD: Introduction - Rockland]

Hello Greg,

Do you have any availability August 10th through the 13th to come to Rockland? We couldn't find a time the first week of August that worked for the other panelists so we thought going for a later date might work better.

Thank you,
Audra

From: Greg Cunningham [<mailto:GCunningham@clf.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2015 2:59 PM
To: Audra Bell
Subject: RE: [FWD: Introduction - Rockland]

Hello Audra and thanks for your email. I would be happy to participate in your panel discussion. I am planning to be on vacation the last week in July, but would be available the first week in August. Thanks for the invitation to participate.

Greg Cunningham

Conservation Law Foundation
P: 207-210-6439
C: 207-329-9161
E: gcunningham@clf.org

For a thriving New England

From: Audra Bell [<mailto:abell@ci.rockland.me.us>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2015 2:41 PM
To: Greg Cunningham
Subject: RE: [FWD: Introduction - Rockland]

Hello Greg,

Thank you so much for your offering to be a resource for Rockland.

I was hoping you may be interested in taking part in a panel discussion the City is hoping to organize with our chamber of commerce. We'd like to have an independent panel with expertise in energy to talk generally about energy needs, natural gas and cogeneration facilities. Since we have no formal proposal for a cogeneration facility yet we thought a discussion that provides context for an energy development would be the best way to educate/inform the community.

At this stage we are hoping we can get something together for late July or early August. Please let me know if you have any availability around this time.

Kind regards,
Audra

Audra Caler-Bell
Community & Economic Development Director
Rockland, Maine
207-594-0306

From: Greg Cunningham [<mailto:GCunningham@clf.org>]
Sent: Monday, July 06, 2015 5:34 PM
To: Evan Coleman
Cc: Audra Bell
Subject: RE: [FWD: Introduction - Rockland]

Hello Evan and nice to meet you Audra. I would be happy to discuss the Rockland project with you anytime Audra. Please don't hesitate to contact me.

Greg Cunningham

Conservation Law Foundation
P: 207-210-6439
C: 207-329-9161
E: gcunningham@clf.org

For a thriving New England

From: Evan Coleman [<mailto:ecoleman@clear-energy.us>]
Sent: Monday, July 06, 2015 4:47 PM
To: Greg Cunningham
Cc: Audra Bell
Subject: [FWD: Introduction - Rockland]

Forgot to cc Audra. See below and her email.

--

Evan Coleman

CLE^R
241 Boston Post Rd W.
Marlborough, MA 01752
207.217.8908
ecoleman@clear-energy.us

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Introduction - Rockland

From: "Evan Coleman" <ecoleman@clear-energy.us>

Date: Mon, July 06, 2015 4:41 pm

To: "Greg Cunningham" <GCunningham@clf.org>

Hi Greg,

I wanted to provide an introduction to Audra Caler-Bell at the City of Rockland. They are actively evaluating our cogeneration project in Rockland and we thought that CLF would be great independent resource for them to speak with. She is cc'd on this email and phone number is 207-594-0306.

Please feel free to communicate directly.

Best,

Evan

--

Evan Coleman

CLE^R
241 Boston Post Rd W.
Marlborough, MA 01752
207.217.8908
ecoleman@clear-energy.us

Kevin Beal

From: Tom Tietenberg <thtieten@colby.edu>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2015 10:59 AM
To: Audra Bell
Subject: Re: Participation in panel discussion

Audra:

I apologize for the delay in answering your email. I have been doing some family traveling and just got back.

My expertise is in the design of climate change policy (carbon taxes and cap-and trade systems) rather than in the topic of your panel. I am serving on the Waterville energy committee, but I mainly learned rather than contributed during that experience.

To be honest since my retirement seven years ago my public speaking skills are not what they used to be, and, as a result, I am doing some writing, but little to no public speaking.

For those reasons I must decline your invitation. Thank you for thinking of me, I wish you the best.

Tom

On Wed, Jul 8, 2015 at 3:02 PM, Audra Bell <abell@ci.rockland.me.us> wrote:

Hello Professor Tietenberg,

I'm writing to ask if you would consider participating in a panel discussion the City of Rockland is organizing for late July/early August?

The City has been approached by a developer with a concept of building a 70 MW natural gas cogeneration facility which will anchor a spur from Belfast to Wiscasset of the Maritimes and Northeast pipeline. While the City has not yet received a formal proposal we would still like to have educational sessions for the community on what this development will mean for Rockland and Midcoast Maine by holding a number of forums. We were hoping to have a panel of people with energy expertise have a general discussion regarding energy needs, natural gas and cogeneration facilities.

Please let me know if this would be of interest to you.

Kind regards,

Audra Caler-Bell

Community & Economic Development Director

Rockland, Maine

207-594-0306

Kevin Beal

From: Scott Dunning <dunning@maine.edu>
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2015 6:14 PM
To: Audra Bell
Subject: Re: Panel discussion on energy needs in the midcoast

Hello Audra,

Thank you so much for considering me for participation in your panel discussion. Unfortunately, I recently stepped down from the Efficiency Maine Board as I am going on sabbatical and am in the process of moving down to Virginia for next year. I wish you the best with your discussion!

Best Regards,

Scott

Scott Dunning

Sent from my iPad

On Jul 6, 2015, at 10:02 AM, Audra Bell <abell@ci.rockland.me.us> wrote:

Hello Professor Dunning,

I'm writing to ask if you would consider taking part in a panel discussion sponsored by the City of Rockland and the Penbay Chamber of Commerce regarding energy needs in the midcoast – specifically natural gas.

Recently the City of Rockland was approached by a developer with a proposal to build a 69 MW natural gas fired combined heat and power plant just off route 1 on the outskirts of town. This has sparked a lot of debate within the community – particularly around the use of fossil fuels and the argument that Rockland should only consider supporting renewable energy developments vs. natural gas being an important part of transitioning away from dependence on oil.

The intent of the panel discussion is to talk about these issues in more general terms as a way to provide the community with more context around energy needs, particularly for the midcoast region. I thought you would be an excellent panelist given your work at the University of Maine and as a Board member at Efficiency Maine.

We are aiming to hold the panel discussion in late July/early August.

Please let me know if you're interested/available.

Kind regards,
Audra

Audra Caler-Bell
Community & Economic Development Director
Rockland, Maine
207-594-0306