

SOLAR SUBSIDIES

How Net Energy Billing Forces YOU to Subsidize Solar Developers

\$220 MILLION in extra costs to ratepayers per year

3.2 BILLION paid over 20-year contracts to solar developers

Maine passed a law in 2019 that requires utilities to purchase solar power at **inflated rates**... far more than it actually costs to produce the energy. This is called Net Energy Billing (NEB), and **all ratepayers pay the difference as "stranded costs."**

While NEB was originally designed for household rooftop panels, the 2019 law quickly made it appealing to massive out-of-state commercial solar farms, **creating a solar gold rush in Maine.** That's why we've seen the number of solar panels across the state increase by 700% over that time.

Finally, in 2025, lawmakers passed LD 1777, stopping new NEB contracts, which will save an estimated \$1.2 billion over 16 years. But unfortunately, **\$3.2 billion of existing 20-year contracts remain in force, and will continue to drain ratepayers' wallets.**

The Bottom Line:

WE SHOULDN'T BE PAYING FOR THIS

State subsidies force Maine ratepayers to pay \$275 on average per household so solar developers can profit from government-mandated contracts

The Solution:

- 1.** Renegotiate existing solar contracts to save ratepayers billions.
- 2.** Lower costs by repealing Net Energy Billing subsidies.
- 3.** Repeal the goal for 100% "clean energy" by 2040.