

## **Action on Climate and Clean Energy Can Help Maine Workers**

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Good afternoon. My name is Milton McBreairty. I am the Director for Renewable Energies at Larkin Enterprises.

Larkin is located in Lincoln, Maine. Since 1994, the business has supplied technical and support personnel on a contract basis to some of the leading U.S. and international companies involved in the power generation and utility industries.

Here in Maine, we have provided contract personnel for a broad range of energy projects, including renewable energy projects. Working with IBEW Local 567, we provided licensed electricians to install turbines for the 132 megawatt Kibby Wind Power Project in Franklin County.

We are pleased to be one of the more than 500 businesses that signed the letter released today to Maine's Senators Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins.

Maine has a big opportunity to be a leader in the development of clean energy, providing jobs for Maine people and strengthening our economy.

We need to take decisive action to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and increase our energy security. As the price of oil increases in the future – as we know it will – Maine will remain highly vulnerable to energy price shocks. That's why we need to shift toward clean, renewable energy and increased energy efficiency.

Passage of federal climate and clean energy legislation would provide the road map we need toward a clean energy future, not just for Maine, but also for the nation as a whole. By some estimates, a comprehensive climate and clean energy bill could result in millions of jobs here in the U.S.

These would be good, high-paying jobs at manufacturing facilities building wind power turbines, solar panels, and renewable energy components. They also would be jobs designing, building, and operating renewable energy projects.

Larkin knows that Maine's senators have been leaders in renewable energy, and we appreciate that leadership. Senators Snowe and Collins understand the climate problems facing Maine, the nation, and the world. That's why they are uniquely qualified to help get a strong, bipartisan climate and clean energy bill done, this year.