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STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES AND ENERGY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Margaret Rotundo, Senate Chair
 Honorable Jeremy Fischer, House Chair
 Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

FROM: Philip L. Bartlett, II, Senate Chair *PB*
 Lawrence Bliss, House Chair *LB*
 Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy

DATE: April 8, 2008

RE: Priorities for bills on Appropriations Table

Pursuant to Joint Rule 314(7), we are reporting our committee's priorities for final passage of bills reported out of our committee that are now on or expected to be placed on the Appropriations Table.

Rank Order	LD #, Title & Sponsor	FISCAL NOTE			
		FY 07-08	FY 08-09	FY Projected 09-10	FY Projected 10-11
1	LD 2246 An Act to Extend the ConnectME Authority	\$0	\$0	\$474,000	\$474,000
2	LD 2266, An Act to Promote Municipal Wind Generation Development	\$0	\$39,185	\$40,360	\$41,603

With respect to LD 2246, An Act to Extend the ConnectME Authority, which has an estimated General Fund Revenue loss of \$474,000 beginning in FY09-10 from the sales and use tax reimbursement for advanced communications technology infrastructure investment, we want to register a concern that this is being viewed as a revenue loss to the State. Without the continuation of the ConnectME Authority and this tax incentive for investment in technology infrastructure, the very investments that would qualify for the tax reimbursement would be unlikely to occur. If these investments did not occur, the tax revenue subject to the reimbursement under this provision (which we note is capped at \$500,000 per year), as well as other tax revenues that may be generated by these investments and related activities, would not be realized in the first place.