

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**TOWN OF STONINGTON**

**CONTACT: Linda Nelson**

**Economic & Community Development Director**

**207.217.7364**

[econdev@stoningtonmaine.org](mailto:econdev@stoningtonmaine.org)

**PUBLIC INVITED TO PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON ETIPP:**

**DEER ISLE-STONINGTON'S JOINT ENERGY TRANSITIONS PROJECT**

*Including presentations by Versant on grid reliability work, and the  
National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) on specific local options for integrating  
more resilient and renewable energy sources*

STONINGTON, ME, SEPTEMBER 9, 2024 –The Towns of Deer Isle and Stonington will jointly host a free, in-person workshop on **Wednesday, September 25 from 4 - 6:30 pm** on the second floor of the Stonington Town Hall to learn about and provide input on research to date and energy options as part of the two towns' efforts to create a more resilient and reliable energy grid. Light food will be provided and there will be plenty of time for questions and discussion. The Towns will be joined by staff from Versant, who will present on their grid reliability efforts, as well as from the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) in Boulder, CO. Both organizations, along with the Island Institute, are partners with the towns in their participation in the national Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project(ETIPP).

Deer Isle and Stonington officials will introduce the project's scope and purpose. The first half of the meeting will focus on the towns' ETIPP project to date, including presentations by Versant on the island's consumption, a description of the island distribution system, and outage data and causes. NREL will provide an overview of some resilient energy options, including tidal power. The whole group will also use this opportunity to describe the two pilot "microgrid" projects being installed at Deer Isle and Stonington town-owned properties as part of a grant jointly received from the Governor's Office on Policy Innovation and the Future's Energy Efficiency Priorities program.

Starting at 6 pm, Versant will be detailing their grid and climate planning efforts.

The ETIPP program is made possible in Maine thanks to technical assistance from the Island Institute.

Accessible parking and entrance are available at the rear of the building, accessed by the drive to the left of the Town Hall. For more information reach out to either the Town of Stonington ([www.stoningtonmaine.org](http://www.stoningtonmaine.org), 207-367-2351) or the Town of Deer Isle ([www.townofdeerisle.org](http://www.townofdeerisle.org), 207-348-2324).