

AUGUSTA, Maine : A week following the initiation of a recount for [Maine Oxford Casino Initiative, Question 1](#)

opponents announced that they

are dropping their efforts. [\[1\]](#)

According to reports, about a fifth of the ballots had been re-tallied when challengers called off the recount. Dennis Bailey, executive director of *Casinos No!*, said, "We decided we had seen enough. We just were not seeing any big changes. But if we hadn't done the recount, we would have always wondered. After all, it was one of the closest voting margins in state history."

[\[2\]](#)

The recount was initiated by opponents of the measure shortly following the [November 2 general election](#)

According to reports, if a recount had not been pursued a legal challenge would have been filed by opponents.

[\[3\]](#)

However, the end of the recount does not mark the end of future challenges for Question 1. On Monday, December 13, opponents announced that they plan to focus their efforts on a possible legal challenge. The group argues that portions of the legislation appear unconstitutional. [\[4\]](#)

In the mean time, Black Bear Entertainment is moving forward. The company said they expect to start construction in June 2011 and have the first phase of the casino running in 2012. [\[2\]](#)

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