



## **Severe Thunderstorms Plunge York and Cumberland County, Maine into Darkness: Over 20,000 Customers Affected**

York County, Maine— Last weekend, thunderstorms wreaked havoc on York and Cumberland County, leaving more than 20,000 electric customers without power. The incident sheds light on the urgent need for comprehensive investment in Maine's energy infrastructure.

Al Cleveland, Campaign Manager of [Pine Tree Power](#) (PTP), asserts that this outage could have been averted if Central Maine Power (CMP) had invested more time and focus on grid maintenance and tree clearance.

"Pine Tree Power is poised to lead the charge in building the infrastructure of tomorrow. Whether it's confronting rising temperatures or weathering damaging storms, Mainers recognize that CMP and Versant are jeopardizing our safety by not investing in maintaining and updating our grids," says Cleveland.

- Maine has the [most frequent power outages in the nation](#) under CMP and Versant.
- Nebraska, entirely served by public power, has some of the [most reliable electricity in the nation](#)
- Frequent outages cost Maine businesses money, discourage new businesses and hurt our economy, while also harming residents and jeopardizing public safety.

Reliable power is a fundamental right for Maine residents. Pine Tree Power commits to a mandate focused on outage reduction and heightened reliability. Unlike CMP and Versant, which tend to disregard smaller-scale projects due to their perceived lack of profitability, PTP will prioritize tree trimming and implement strategies to mitigate storm-related outages.

Maine's future hinges on a power provider that places the needs and safety of its communities at the forefront. Vote Yes on #3 in November for a more resilient and sustainable energy future for our state.

*For more information, questions, or interview requests, please contact deputy campaign manager, Lucy Hochschartner at [lucy@ourpowermaine.org](mailto:lucy@ourpowermaine.org), Marley Lumbard at [marley@sole-strategies.com](mailto:marley@sole-strategies.com), or call (207)-200-4207.*

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*Pine Tree Power is a grassroots coalition with members all the way from the coasts to the County. We are fighting for a utility that is owned and run by Mainers, for Mainers. By voting out CMP and Versant, we will bring back local control, save money, and reduce outages. It's time to build power we can trust.*

