



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CMP Attempts To Buy Statewide Election

Thursday, September 14 — Central Maine Power is using money that should be going to ratepayer relief to try to buy the statewide election for Question 3 instead. The utility sponsored the Portland Regional Chamber of Commerce's monthly Eggs & Issues breakfast. In return, they were able to have a one-sided presentation where only their political front group, Maine Affordable Energy, was invited to present. At least one attendee showed up thinking that they were going to learn by hearing from both sides and left when they learned that Pine Tree Power was not given a chance to make their case.

Supporters of Pine Tree Power held a demonstration outside the breakfast in the early hours. Volunteers handed out fact sheets about the economic benefits of Pine Tree Power to attendees. Central Maine Power has ranked dead last in business customer satisfaction for the last four years. Pine Tree Power will save Mainers \$9 billion over 30 years, offering relief to

local businesses dealing with skyrocketing electricity costs. Existing consumer-owned utilities in Maine already have rates 52% lower than CMP and Versant in places like Kennebunk and Houlton.

Wil Thieme, small business owner who attended the Chamber meeting said: "As a small business owner, reliable power is the cornerstone of my ability to serve my customers. Random and frequent power outages hurt my business and hurt Maine's economy. I'm voting yes on Question 3 because consumer-owned utilities save businesses money and keep our lights on."

The investor-owned utility front groups have poured over \$27 million into misleading Maine voters about the upcoming election. CMP is sponsoring events like this one across the state that offer biased, one-sided information using funds that are fueled by Maine ratepayers.

Mark Reads said: "I'm a landlord in Portland and CMP's rising electric rates hurt my tenants and my business. Pine Tree Power will save Maine people billions because we won't be sending profits to foreign shareholders."

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For more information, questions, or interview requests, please contact deputy campaign manager, Al Cleveland at al@ourpowermaine.org or call (207)-233-8363.







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.