

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 26, 2023 Contact: Al Cleveland, Pine Tree Power Campaign Manager, 207-233-8363 <u>al@ourpowermaine.org</u>

Republican Senator Rick Bennett Endorses Pine Tree Power for a Stronger, Locally-Owned Maine Energy Future

Maine — In a significant show of bipartisan support, Pine Tree Power's **new ad** shows Republican Maine State Senator Rick Bennett has publicly endorsed the Pine Tree Power campaign and affirmed his commitment to vote "yes" on Question 3.

In PTP's newest ad, Senator Bennett, a business owner for over three decades, underscores the significance of keeping financial resources within the state. Expressing concerns about foreign ownership of the electric grid, he drives home the importance of maintaining control over a crucial aspect of Maine's infrastructure.

This pivotal initiative that aims to establish the Pine Tree Power Company

as the leading power company in Maine, replacing CMP (Spanish-Owned) and Versant (Canadian-Owned), will do just that: give Mainers control over their energy.

Pine Tree Power's unique approach promises a transformative shift in the state's energy landscape. Unlike its predecessors, it will be locally owned, with governance entrusted to a board elected by Maine residents. Additionally, the company will operate as a non-profit entity, funneling revenues back into essential grid modernization efforts. This will give Mainers savings on their energy bills and increase the reliability of the grid.

For years, both CMP and Versant have imposed escalating rates on Maine residents, coupled with declining service quality. Senator Bennett's endorsement of Pine Tree Power stems from a firm belief in the potential to reverse this trend. He emphasizes that Pine Tree Power is poised to save Mainers an estimated 9 billion dollars over the next three decades. That's 367 dollars a year for every Maine household.

"It's time to bring our power back home," Senator Bennett urges.

#

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.