

## Maine State Nurses Association Prioritizes Public Health, Endorses Pine Tree Power for a Safer, Healthier Maine

Portland – The Maine State Nurses Association (MSNA) of National Nurses United and Pine Tree Power will hold a press conference outside Maine Medical Center TODAY at 10:00 AM to announce their endorsement of Yes on Question 3 for Pine Tree Power. MSNA is standing with the workers at CMP and Versant who will maintain all their jobs, union contracts, the right to strike, and every other benefit they fought for and won as a union under Pine Tree Power.

Access to clean, reliable energy is undeniably a public health concern. Pine Tree Power stands in contrast to Maine's corporate utilities' historical failures in providing essential services, which have often resulted in unaffordable rates and service disconnections.

It's been proven that unreliable power truly hurts communities. Power loss has been linked to <u>higher mortality rates</u>, especially for our elders, due to a myriad of reasons. And Maine currently leads the nation in power outages. That's dangerous for our communities.

Pine Tree Power pledges to safeguard the health of Mainers by ensuring

they have access to reliable, affordable, and clean energy. This commitment carries profound implications for public health:

- Reliable Service: Unlike CMP and Versant, Pine Tree Power promises a resilient grid, minimizing service disruptions even under extreme conditions.
- Affordable Bills: As a non-profit, Pine Tree Power aims to alleviate the financial strain on Maine families by saving Maine \$9 billion over 30 years.
- Climate-Ready Grid: Recognizing the urgent threat of the climate crisis, Pine Tree Power is committed to expediting the transition to renewable energy and fortifying the grid against extreme weather events.

Public Health is on the line this November and **The Maine State Nurses Association** plans to support Mainers where it matters. The choice is clear: a utility that prioritizes people's well-being or one that prioritizes profits. Corporate utilities CMP and Versant have demonstrated their inadequacy for this critical responsibility.

"How are Mainers supposed to afford housing, food, healthcare, and medicine, when they can't even afford to keep their lights on or their refrigerators running at home? What about those who need C-PAP machines at night or kids that need home nebulizers to breathe." - Amy Strum, RN and union steward at Maine Medical Center

Join us at the Western Prom (across the street from 265 Western Prom) outside Maine Medical Center today at 10:00 AM as we listen to leaders of MSNA publicly announce their endorsement of Pine Tree Power and take questions from the press. Maine ratepayers who have health needs that require affordable and reliable power will be there to speak.

Any questions or to set up future interviews, feel free to email Marley Lumbard at <a href="mailto:press@sole-strategies.com">press@sole-strategies.com</a> or text 207-671-2693

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.