



Between the Lines of CMP and Versant's Voter Manipulation

Some may be aware, but over the past several months, it's been clear that CMP and Versant's front groups have been directly working to influence voters by sharing misinformation and outright lies. While it's an unfortunate truth that many elections are not as transparent as the public deserves, Pine Tree Power believes it's important to call out misinformation and manipulation where it sees it.

During a debate between PTP's Lucy Hochschartner, Maine Affordable Energy (MAE) Jim Cohen, and Charlotte Warren, Hochschartner said it's unfortunate that both Cohen and Warren have deep financial ties to utilities. Hochschartner was called an outright liar by Warren (see here at [1:22:44](#), code *K%8NN&1).

But the denial was a flat-out lie. MAE and MEP are funded by Avangrid and Enmax, the parent companies of CMP and Versant which stand in firm opposition to the Pine Tree Power proposal. Cohen and Warren are in the

pockets of the utilities. Portland Press Herald, [The Guardian](#), and [The Lever](#) all reported about Warren being paid by the utilities. Billy Kobin reports in the [Bangor Daily News](#) that Warren's consulting firm is working for a group that has taken hundreds of thousands of dollars from Avangrid's front group. For those who want to look at the campaign finance reports to corroborate this fact, see [HERE](#).

This manipulation and wordplay intentionally misleads voters and presents big questions about transparency and accountability in the public discourse surrounding the opposition to Pine Tree Power. If the opposition can lie about who they're working for in order to look like "concerned citizens," it begs the question, what else are they doing that is not easily disproved?

In any election, but especially one that decides the future of Maine's energy control, it's critically important to ensure that voters have access to accurate and unbiased information. Pine Tree Power will continue to fight for Mainers and be transparent with our voters.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or requests for interviews.

For information, questions, or interview requests, visit pinetreepower.org or email Pine Tree Power's Campaign Manager Al Cleveland at al@ourpowermaine.org

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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.

