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For Immediate Release

75% of Mainers Support Creating a Consumer-Owned Utility, Governor Mills leads by 7 points over LePage, Support for Blocking CMP Corridor leads by double digits

AUGUSTA, Maine -- Today, as the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee considers L.D. 1708, “An Act To Create the Pine Tree Power Company, a Nonprofit Utility, To Deliver Lower Rates, Reliability and Local Control for Maine Energy Independence,” a new poll shows that 75% of registered voters support replacing CMP and Versant with a local non-profit consumer-owned utility company. In addition, in a race for Maine governor, the poll shows incumbent Governor Mills leading former Governor LePage by a 45% to 38% margin. The 2021 CMP Corridor ballot measure leads with 48% supporting the measure to block the corridor and 32% saying they are opposed.

The poll was conducted by Survey USA and they summarized in a memo that a few of the major reasons Mainers may be so strongly supportive of the Consumer-Owned Utility is that 99% of registered voters say reliability is an important factor when it comes to their utility company. Maine is ranked dead last in reliability in the nation with the most frequent and longest outages. 98% say cost is an important factor and Maine has the 10th highest rates in the nation. In addition, Versant recently asked the Maine Public Utilities Commission for a 25.4% rate increase and earlier this year CMP asked the Maine PUC for another revenue increase of $26.5 million. Another 84% of the registered voters polled say local control of power companies that serve Maine is important. CMP and Versant are both foreign-owned companies.

Our Power is a coalition of Maine ratepayers, business leaders, energy experts, conservationists, and others committed to putting the Pine Tree State’s energy future in the hands of Mainers.

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