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## **Our Power Statement on CMP-backed Maine Affordable Energy Ballot Question**

"CMP's thieves will pay millions of dollars to dupe Maine people while they're stealing billions from us, and Versant is along for the ride," said Rep. Nicole Grohoski (D-Ellsworth), a member of the Legislature's Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee. Grohoski was a cosponsor of the [popular bipartisan](#) bill [LD 1708](#), "An Act to Create the Pine Tree Power Company."

Stephanie Clifford, campaign manager for [Our Power](#), a coalition of Maine ratepayers, businesses, energy experts, conservationists, and dozens of grassroots organizations said, "Let's be clear, CMP and Versant are the worst utilities in the country at delivering reliable service at reasonable cost. It's appalling that, in the end, Mainer's hard-earned money is being used to fund these political stunts that do nothing to fix our poor service and high rates."

The nonprofit group [Our Power](#) formally began the Citizen Initiative process in August in order to ask Maine voters whether to replace Maine's two investor-owned utilities, Central Maine Power and Versant, with a nonprofit consumer-owned utility.

Maine's investor-owned electric utilities have the [worst outages](#) and [customer satisfaction](#) and the [10th highest rates in the nation](#). CMP and Versant [charge their customers 58% more on average than Maine's current consumer-owned utilities](#) charge while providing some of the most unreliable service in the nation.

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*Our Power is a group of Maine ratepayers, business leaders, energy experts, conservationists, and others committed to putting the Pine Tree State's energy future in the hands of Mainer's*

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