



For Immediate Release, 11/2/21

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Voter Response to Citizen’s Petition to Create Nonprofit Consumer-Owned Utility Overwhelmingly Supportive

Our Power, the campaign to replace CMP and Versant with a consumer-owned utility, fanned out across the state with over 200 energized volunteers collecting signatures at hundreds of polling locations today.

Campaign manager Stephanie Clifford said, “Our signature collecting results exceeded expectations. Mainers are excited about this proposal because we know we can do better. It’s time to replace CMP and Versant with a consumer-owned utility that is locally-owned, lower cost, more reliable and looking out for us, not foreign shareholders.”

Field Director Andrew Blunt said, “Our team is reporting enthusiastic responses from voters in every corner of Maine. This is truly a grassroots effort. We had hundreds of volunteers all over the state. Voters are eager to sign this petition so that we can get on the ballot in 2002. It’s been a great day.”

Some voters said they signed due to CMP’s poor service, while others were motivated by the benefits of a Maine-based power system at a time when the grid will be more important than ever.

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.

[Our Power](#) is a coalition of Maine ratepayers, businesses, energy experts, environmentalists, and dozens of grassroots organizations.

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