

Testimony of William H. Dunn, Jr. in Support of the Sponsor's Amendment to  
**LD 1963: An Act to Protect and Compensate Public Utility Whistleblowers**  
May 15, 2025

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, and honorable members of the Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee. My name is Bill Dunn and I live in Yarmouth. I recently retired after over 50 years of working in the electric utility industry, the last 30+ years consulting throughout the US and in over 25 countries. Thank you for providing me with this opportunity to present testimony in support of the sponsor's amendment to **LD 1963: An Act to Protect and Compensate Public Utility Whistleblowers**.

Prior to my consulting career referenced earlier I worked for utilities in New England for almost 20 years: Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO) and the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC). While working with both of these companies I became very familiar with the workings of the New England Power Pool (NEPOOL) and the NEPOOL Operations Committee (NOC). I even chaired the NOC, which was charged with overseeing the electricity markets and system operations for all of New England, for two years in the late '80s.

During this time I worked closely with colleagues at both Central Maine Power (CMP) and Bangor Hydro-Electric (BHE). In fact, I bought power from CMP's Wyman #4 station and wheeled power through Maine from the Pt. Lepreau plant in New Brunswick. I got to know some of the executives at both CMP and BHE and recognized both companies as well-run organizations who looked out for their customers. Both companies had good reputations.

Now, however, these companies have given Maine the worst reliability and lowest customer satisfaction in the country, as you've heard from me previously. How has this change come to pass? One suspects the purchase of both companies by foreign entities has had something to do with it. But what happened internally for the customer focus of both companies to deteriorate so significantly? The passage of LD 1963 may provide the necessary incentive for recent or current employees to come forward with the internal details. What orders were given and decisions taken? Or, it might simply encourage all of our utilities to do their job as well as regulators expect and as their customers deserve. If the companies have nothing to hide, they shouldn't fear this legislation.

Please support the passage of the sponsor's amendment to LD 1963. I am happy to answer any questions.

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