



An Avangrid company

April 16, 2025

**Testimony on behalf of Central Maine Power Company in Support
LD 1592: An Act to Reduce Energy Costs by Permitting the Ownership of Generation by
Investor-owned Transmission and Distribution Utilities**

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology, my name is Kathleen Newman, Vice President of Government Affairs for Central Maine Power Company, submitting testimony in support of LD 1592: An Act to Reduce Energy Costs by Permitting the Ownership of Generation by Investor-owned Transmission and Distribution Utilities.

This legislation would reverse the portion of Maine's electric utility restructuring law that restricted an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility from owning, having a financial interest in or otherwise controlling generation or generation-related assets. The forced divestiture of utilities' generation assets during restructuring was intended to lower supply prices by introducing competition to Maine's energy market. We believe that was a failed experiment.

Unregulated supply prices are both high and volatile and there is no insight into the returns of energy suppliers in Maine. Unfortunately, ratepayers receiving bills from CMP that include both the delivery cost and supply cost – frustrated by the high cost – often accuse our company of making "windfall profits." When that happens, we're frustrated, too, because we have no control over those energy supply costs.

Deregulation of our electricity industry has limited Maine regulators' ability to control supply costs. Directing the MPUC to bring back to this committee major substantive rules to facilitate the implementation of an investor-owned utility's (or its subsidiary's) ownership of generation offers the possibility to once again control—under a strong regulatory framework that is missing today—the price of the electricity supply that we deliver to our customers.

Thank you for your consideration.