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Maine prides itself on being independent. It is a core facet of our states identity. I our independent identity is what sets so much of our state apart and makes it great. Compared to other states, we have a robust local economy of various trades and businesses. The fact that our energy is an out of state company is horrifying. Companies can say they will put our priorities first all they want, but unless they are from here, live here, and put their heart and soul into this community, they can't be trusted to act in ways that we would want. Our utilities are just that - OURS. We're the customers. We're the citizens. We should have an electric company that truly represents us. A company that IS us. The longer we allow out of staters to run our electricity, the longer we lose tax money, representation in how we want our utilities run, and ultimately a lose of our independence as we become dependent on outsiders who will use us.