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I work at a non-profit agency that offers assistance to Maine residents with their utility bills. I do not offer this testimony as a representative of this agency, and for that reason I will refrain from naming it. I have had countless conversations with residents who feel stiff-armed by Central Maine Power. I see first hand the exploitation the state's poorest endure at the hands of Central Maine Power. Just today, in fact, a resident living in subsidized housing told me that she she has received a shut-off notice from CMP over an outstanding \$200 balance. Why in the world should a corporation be allowed to not only have a regional monopoly over a utility that is as essential to 21st century life as food at water, but be able to decide independently the amount of money a person needs to have to have access to it? While residents are protected from shutoffs during the winter, the dates November 15 to April 15 are not magical barriers that keep the cold away, and shutting off the electricity at any time of year could prevent access to the internet, which has implications that further exacerbate the ability of those in financial distress. Imagine the frustration a victim of CMP experiences when, halfway through completing an application for a job that could lift him out of his financial situation and finally get the weight of his electric bill off his shoulders when his power goes out, his internet shuts off, and he loses the ability to complete his application. This is a very specific hypothetical example, but it represents the ways that allowing CMP to continue to exist -- or at least face no competition from a public option -- is to allow the exploitation of our state's poorest for no reason. Thank you.