

The York Weekly 9/8/23

Vote no on Pine Tree Power ballot initiative

To the Editor:

My roots run deep here in Maine – my great-grandfather was a commercial fisherman and my great-grandmother ran the Hayes Guest House in Perkins Cove. These strong family bonds led me back to Maine after college.

I previously lived on Long Island, New York, where the electric utility is government-controlled and privately operated, just like Pine Tree Power will be if we allow it to pass in November. Here's just one example of how Long Island's utility failed its customers: in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, when almost a million people lost power, a blue ribbon commission found the utility was dysfunctional and ratepayers were disrespected.

Pine Tree Power's \$10 billion price tag is outrageous enough. On top of that do we really want to subject ourselves to dysfunction and disrespect from a state-owned utility headed up by politicians? I certainly don't.

I'd hate to see Maine make that same mistake. That's why I'll be voting no on Question 3, Pine Tree Power's ballot initiative.

Jared H. Hirshfield, Kennebunk