



**Maine's Energy  
Transition  
Maine Public Utilities  
Commission**





## **PUC Purpose under Title 35-A**

Ensure safe, adequate, and reliable utility service at rates reasonable to customers and utilities while also helping achieve reductions in state greenhouse gas emissions.





## PUC regulates

- Transmission & distribution electric utilities
- Natural gas utilities
- Water utilities
- Telephone (provider of last resort)
- 9-1-1 Emergency Services
- Casco Bay Ferry & Water Services



## Maine's Climate Goals

### Renewable

- 80% of retail electricity sales by 2030
- 100% of retail electricity sales by 2050

### Decarbonization

- Carbon neutral by 2045

# Northern Maine Power Sources January 2021 – December 2021

Maine law requires retail electricity providers to periodically provide information to customers on the mix of power sources used to serve their Maine customers' load. New Brunswick Power provided electricity with the following resources to northern Maine customers using the Standard Offer Supply.

## Supplier's Mix    New England Mix

Biomass/Municipal Waste	0.0%	7.2%
Fossil Fuel Cogeneration	0.0%	0.2%
Fuel Cells	0.0%	0.3%
Geothermal	0.0%	0.1%
<b>Hydro</b>	<b>88.0%</b>	7.0%
Solar	0.0%	3.1%
Tidal	0.0%	0.0%
Wind	0.0%	3.2%
Other Choices		
Nuclear	0.0%	28.7%
Gas	0.0%	35.1%
Oil	0.0%	6.0%
<b>Coal</b>	<b>12.0%</b>	9.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>





# Residential/Small Business Standard Offer Supply Power Sources 2021

## Versant-BHD

Electricity Suppliers in Maine must, by law, provide fact sheets, or “uniform disclosure labels” from time to time to educate consumers about their electricity service.

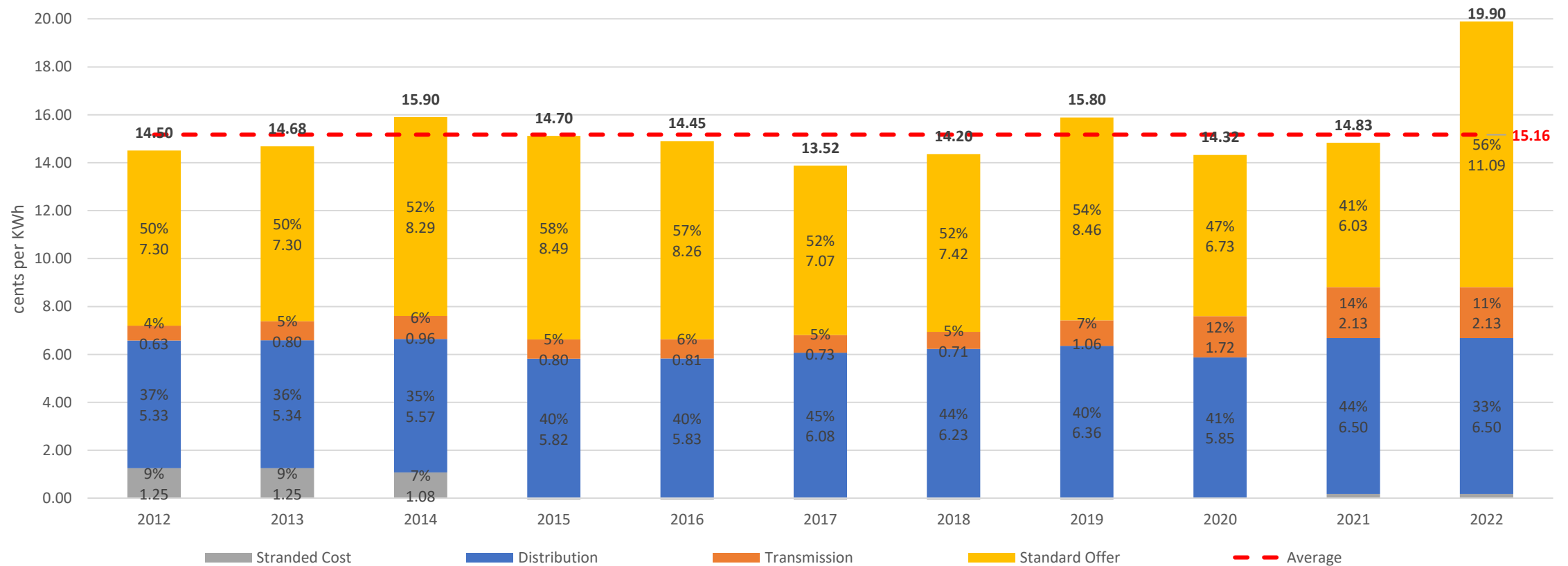
### Supplier's Mix    New England Mix

Biomass	4.4%	7.0% (Biomass & Municipal Waste)
Municipal Waste	3.3%	
Fossil Fuel Cogeneration	0.0%	0.1%
Fuel Cells	0.3%	0.5%
Geothermal	0.0%	7.0%
Hydro	5.3%	5.9%
Solar	4.5%	5.1%
Tidal	0.0%	0.0%
Wind	4.4%	3.4%
Other Choices		
Nuclear	4.1%	24.9%
Gas	65.0%	46.3%
Oil	7.9%	6.1%
Coal	1.0%	.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



# Residential Electricity Prices by Component Versant (MPD)

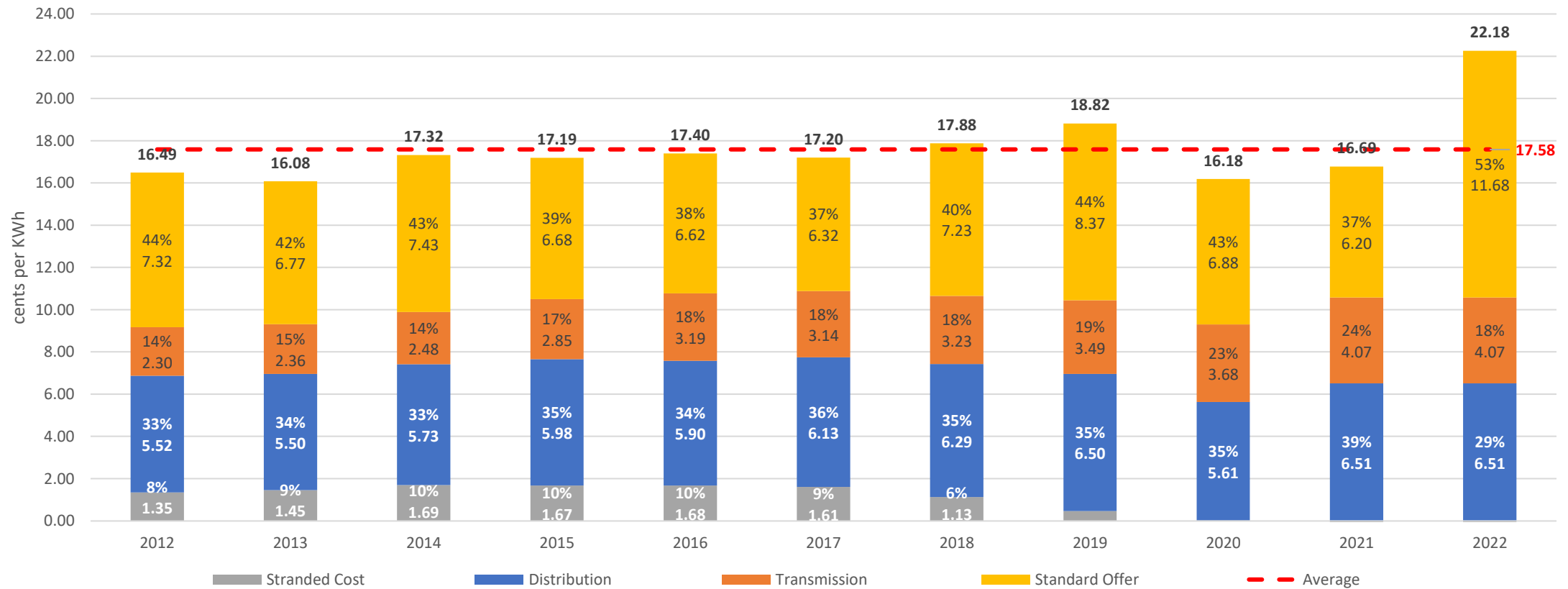
\*chart reflects cents per kWh per component and percentage of total bill per component



Note: Reflects average per kWh rate during each calendar year. 2022 rates reflect 2021 T&D rates and 2022 standard offer rate.

# Residential Electricity Prices by Component Versant (BHD)

\*chart reflects cents per kWh per component and percentage of total bill per component



Note: Reflects average per kWh rate during each calendar year. 2022 rates reflect 2021 T&D rates and 2022 standard offer rate.





Meeting clean energy and carbon reduction goals will require significant investment, including:



Grid scale renewables (solar & wind), storage



Distributed Energy Resources (DERs), including storage



Incentives for beneficial electrification



Modernizing the grid



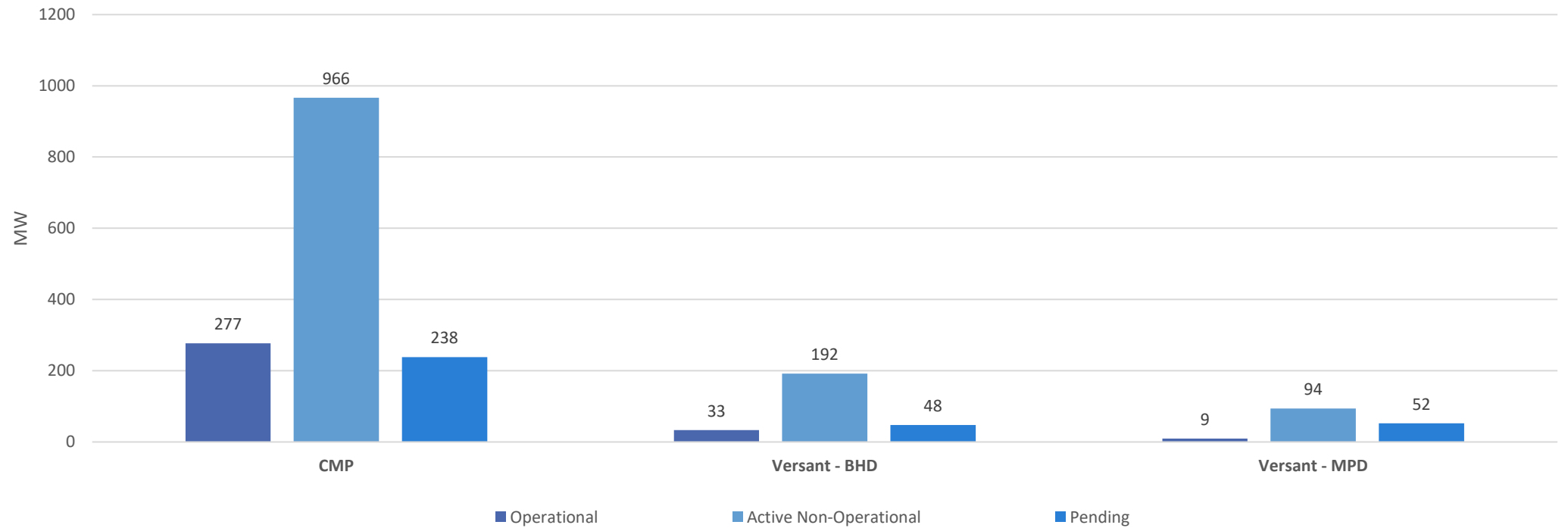
Transmission to unlock more renewables



## Net Energy Billing

- Owners of small generation (like rooftop solar) credit net generation delivered to the grid against consumption
- Generators allowed up to 5 MW; unlimited customers can subscribe
- Explosion of development in small solar sector
- More than 319 MW of projects online; 1,590 MW in development
- Cost of subsidies will be included in rates

## Maine Net Energy Billing Enrollment August 2022



1. Operational projects are approximately 88% solar, 9% hydro and 2% wind. Virtually all non-operational projects are solar.

2. Active Non-Operational projects are projects with an executed NEB agreement but are not yet operational. Pending projects are projects that have filed an application but have not yet executed an NEB agreement.



# Commission Cases impacting northern & eastern Maine

## Electric

- Versant Power Rate Case Filing
- Standard Offer Procurement
- Amendments to T&D Utility Service Standards
- Procurement of T&D & Energy Products per Act to Require Prompt and Effective Use of Renewable Energy Resources of Northern Maine
- Inquiry into Grid Planning Prioritization Process

## Telephone

- Preservation of 207 Area Code
- Statewide Pole Attachment Database
- Abandoned Poles/Pole ownership

## Water Utilities

- Water Utility Consolidation/Interconnection (voluntary)







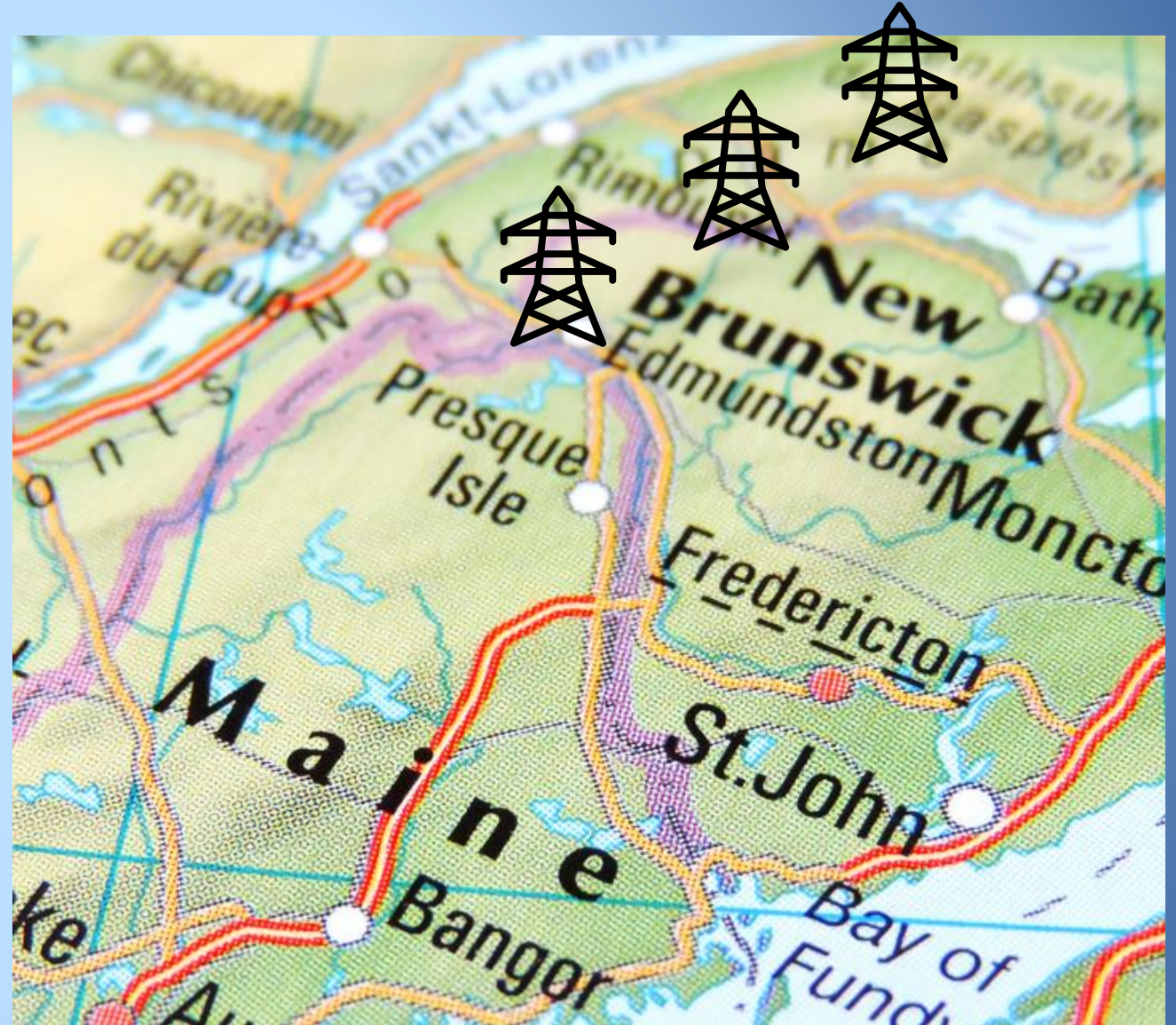
# Grid Modernization

- Commission investigating future design and operation of the electric distribution system.
- Focus on distribution systems investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities-CMP and Versant Power.
- Grant from U.S. Department of Energy to support deployment of novel technologies to reduce emissions, promote efficiency, and drive grid modernization.



# Northern Maine Line & Generation

- Issued RFPs
  - 345 kV generation connection line to connect renewable resources in northern Maine to the ISO-NE grid
  - renewable generation projects in northern Maine
- Transmission bids received March 1
- Generation bids received May 2
- Deadline 11/1/22 for the Commission to finalize contracts





# Holding Utilities Accountable

LD 1959 requires Commission to adopt rules governing the evaluation of investor-owned T&D utility service.

Rulemaking amendments approved in July for electric transmission and distribution utility service standards.

- Power outage frequency and duration
- Storm restoration
- Call-center responsiveness
- Billing errors
- Customer satisfaction
- Customer report card



# Key Policy Considerations

- How much cost can/should ratepayers absorb?
- How should limited ratepayer dollars be allocated?
- How quickly, and where, should we make new investments in renewable generation and the transmission and distribution system?



Questions?

