Central Maine Power
An Avangrid company

Update

April 2025

It seems Spring has finally arrived along with a flurry of activity in the Legislature. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns related to the numerous energy-related bills under consideration. I'd be happy to discuss!

Kathleen Newman, Vice President, Government Affairs

P.S. You can find past editions of the newsletter on our **website.**

Lineworker Appreciation Day! (It's EVERY day for us)

Lineworker Appreciation Day was officially celebrated on April 18th. You might think about our Lineworkers when they spring into action during a storm to get power restored to impacted customers as quickly as possible. This hard-working team is appreciated every day for their focus on reliability maintenance and improvements across the regions we serve. This work includes installing the following:

1. **Steel Transmission Poles**: Replacing wooden poles with steel ones to increase durability.
2. **Covered Tree Wire**: Using insulated wires to create a protective barrier between tree hazards and the wire to reduce outages caused by tree branches.
3. **Fiberglass Crossarms**: Installing moisture-resistant crossarms on utility poles.
4. **Enhanced Tree Trimming**: Implementing advanced techniques to protect the grid from tree damage.
5. **Smart Technology**: Deploying technology to monitor and improve system performance.

While all these measures should help ensure a more stable and reliable power supply, let's take a closer look at **smart technology.**

Smart Technology - Why is it important?

Smart technology is indeed crucial for modernizing the grid and ensuring the safe, secure and reaible delivery of power. Here are some key reasons why utilities are investing in smart grid technologies:

Enhanced Reliability: Smart grids can quickly detect and respond to faults and outages, improving overall grid reliability and reducing disruptions.

Faster Response: Devices that detect faults and allow for remote intervention can significantly reduce the impact of outages, both in terms of the number of people affected and the duration of power loss. **See our case study below!**

Growing Demand for Electricity: With more people using electricity for heating and charging electric vehicles, smart grids help manage the increased demand effectively.

Renewable Energy Integration: Smart grids can better handle the intermittent nature of renewable energy sources like solar and wind power, ensuring stable and consistent delivery of power.

Aging Infrastructure: Integrating smart technology into modern substations and infrastructure can maximize the increased capacity and reliability we are bringing to Maine's grid in ongoing and future upgrade projects.

Improved Efficiency: Smart grids optimize electricity demand and distribution, reducing energy losses and enhancing operational efficiency.

Reduced Costs: By improving system efficiency and reducing maintenance needs, smart grids can lead to future cost savings.

Enhanced Security: Robust cybersecurity measures in smart grid technologies protect the grid from cyberattacks and ensure the integrity of the system.

These advancements are essential for meeting the evolving energy needs of Mainers and ensuring a sustainable and clean energy future.

Case Study: Smart Technology and Power Restoration

On Wednesday, February 19 a third-party woodcutter, not working for CMP, cut down a tree that fell into the company's transmission line right-of-way. The line serves 2,800 of our customers in the Norway and Woodstock areas, and all customers lost power. Because of automated technology, CMP staff in the company's Energy Control Center in Augusta identified that the outage had taken place and rerouted power around the affected section of line, remotely activating a "smart device" to restore power to the 2,800 customers in just **two and a half minutes.**

Prior to the installation of this technology (an automatic recloser is pictured to the left) in the Trap Corner area of West Paris, customers would have had to wait for CMP crews to access this remote location and perform the same work manually. That process would likely have taken one hour or more.

Smart grid technology on the transmission system, the backbone of our grid, means customers and repair teams save time and resources with outages reduced to mere minutes.

Smart technology to improve response times in this way is crucial as Maine faces stronger, more frequent storms. As Mainers saw in 2024, extreme storms can bring wind speeds greater than 60 mph and very heavy snow. CMP's goal is to make the grid stronger, increasing reliability so that Maine, as the most forested state in the country, can reduce outages and improve response times.

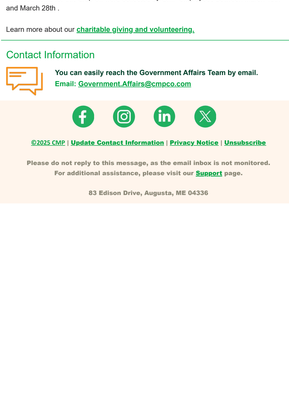
Grid and Climate Planning Update

Our grid planning work that will establish a framework for a smarter, stronger, more resilient grid continues. We invite you to visit our **website** and subscribe to our **Grid Planning Updates** to stay informed throughout the planning process.

Community: CMP Employees Donate to Augusta Food Bank

Dozens of our employees donated more than 330 food items to the **Augusta Food Bank** as part of the non-profit organization's **KidsPak Program**.

This initiative provides shelf stable foods to school-aged children across the Augusta area, delivering essential support to those who may be experiencing food insecurity. Each year, Augusta Food Bank prepares approximately 4,200 "packs," which are a collection of items like granola bars, apple sauce and oatmeal.



"Donations like these are always a highlight for our employees because it's an extension of the work we do every day to serve our communities," said Amy Marston, Director of Community Relations for CMP. "We're proud to continue our partnership with Augusta Food Bank in this way."

The food items for this drop-off were collected by CMP employees between March 13th and March 28th .

Learn more about our **charitable giving and volunteering.**

Contact Information

You can easily reach the Government Affairs Team by email.
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