

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Determination of the Validity of a Petition for Initiated Legislation Entitled:

“An Act To Create the Pine Tree Power Company, a Nonprofit, Customer-owned Utility”

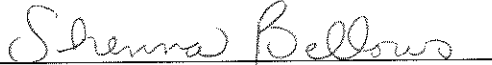
1. On October 31, 2022, 10,279 petitions containing 80,154 signatures were submitted to the Secretary of State pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IV, Part Third, Section 18 on behalf of the above-entitled initiated legislation.¹
2. Following a review of these 10,279 petitions I find the following signatures to be invalid for the following reasons:
 - A. 4,820 signatures are invalid because they are duplicates of signatures already counted. (DUP)
 - B. 4,158 signatures are invalid because they were not certified by the registrar as belonging to a registered voter in that municipality. (REG)
 - C. 355 signatures are invalid because the voter’s signature was crossed out on the petition form. (WD)
 - D. 276 signatures are invalid because the circulator’s oath was not completed prior to submitting the petition to the registrar for certification. (PRIOR)
 - E. 230 signatures are invalid because the voter failed to provide a signature. (SIG)
 - F. 216 signatures are invalid because the circulator did not file a circulator’s affidavit at the time the petitions were filed with the Secretary of State. (AFF)
 - G. 69 signatures are invalid because the voter’s signature was dated more than year prior to the date that the petition was filed in the office of the Secretary of State. (FILED)
 - H. 68 signatures are invalid because of material alterations to the petition. (ALT)
 - I. 66 signatures are invalid because the registered voter’s signature was made by another. (ANO)
 - J. 65 signatures are invalid because they were dated after the date that the circulator’s oath was completed in the presence of the notary or the voter’s signature was not dated and it could not be determined that the voter signed the petition before the circulator took the oath. (DATE)

¹ An additional 1,077 petitions that were submitted contained only signatures that were certified as invalid by municipal registrars. The Secretary of State did not complete a full review of signatures included on these 1,077 petition forms and these signatures were not included in the final tally of signatures that culminated in this Determination of Validity.

- K. 52 signatures are invalid because the notary was related to the circulator. (OWN)
- L. 42 signatures are invalid because the circulator's oath was not complete or not administered properly. (OATH)
- M. 2 signatures are invalid because the certification of the registrar was not completed. (CERT)

3. For the reasons set forth above, on the 10, 279 petition forms filed with the Secretary of State, I find that 10,419 signatures are invalid and 69,735 signatures are valid. The number of signatures required to determine the petition to be valid is 63,067. Because the number of valid signatures exceeds the required number by 6,668 signatures, I find the petition to be valid.

Dated: November 30, 2022


Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State