

August 2, 1999

TO: INTERESTED POWER SUPPLIERS AND MARKETERS

Re: REQUEST FOR BIDS -- MAINE STANDARD OFFER SERVICE

Maine is seeking companies to provide electric standard offer service for the year March, 2000 through February, 2001. All retail customers in Maine that do not obtain service from a competitive supplier will default to the standard offer. The prices bid in this solicitation will determine which companies will provide standard offer service in Maine, and at what prices.

There are two key distinctions between Maine's standard offer and similar services in other states. First, Maine's standard offer has no administratively set price or price cap. Second, the incumbent utilities will not provide standard offer service at all, and service provided by a utility's affiliates is governed by strict codes of conduct and, for the two largest utilities, capped at 20% of the market share.

Maine's standard offer is an opportunity for your company to secure an attractive customer base in the developing New England marketplace. The enclosed Request for Bids provides additional information about Maine's standard offer and how your company can participate in this competitive bid process.

For further information, please contact:

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