



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Raised Bill No. 5551

LCO No. 3024



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING PROCEEDINGS OF THE SITING COUNCIL
AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING CERTAIN UTILITY
EXPENDITURES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 16-50j of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
2 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2026*):

4 (a) There is established the Connecticut Siting Council, hereinafter
5 referred to in this chapter as the "council", which shall be within the
6 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for administrative
7 purposes only.

8 (b) (1) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the council
9 shall consist of: [(1)] (A) The Commissioner of Energy and
10 Environmental Protection, or the commissioner's designee; [(2)] (B) the
11 chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, or the
12 chairperson's designee; [(3)] (C) one designee of the speaker of the
13 House [and] of Representatives; (D) one designee of the president pro

14 tempore of the Senate; and [(4)] (E) five public members, to be appointed
15 by the Governor, [at least] two or more of whom shall be experienced in
16 the field of ecology, and all five of whom shall, consistent with the
17 provisions of section 4-9a, have no substantial financial interest in, not
18 be employed in or by, and not be professionally affiliated with any [(A)]
19 (i) utility, [(B)] (ii) facility, [(C)] (iii) hazardous waste facility, as defined
20 in section 22a-115, or [(D)] (iv) ash residue disposal area, and shall have
21 had no professional affiliation with any such utility, facility, hazardous
22 waste facility or ash residue disposal area for three or more years
23 immediately preceding such public member's appointment to the
24 council.

25 (2) The council shall commence no proceeding, including any
26 meeting or public hearing of the council, without the participation of (A)
27 the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or the
28 commissioner's designee, and (B) the chairperson of the Public Utilities
29 Regulatory Authority, or the chairperson's designee.

30 (c) (1) For proceedings under chapter 445, the council shall consist of
31 [(1)] (A) the [Commissioners] Commissioner of Public Health, [and] or
32 the commissioner's designee, (B) the Commissioner of Emergency
33 Services and Public Protection, or [their designated representatives; (2)]
34 the commissioner's designee; (C) the designees of the speaker of the
35 House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate
36 as provided in subsection (b) of this section; [(3)] (D) the five public
37 members as provided in subsection (b) of this section; and [(4)] (E) four
38 ad hoc members, appointed by the chief elected official of the
39 municipality each such member represents, three of whom shall be
40 electors from the municipality in which the proposed facility is to be
41 located and one of whom shall be an elector from a neighboring
42 municipality likely to be most affected by the proposed facility.

43 (2) For all other proceedings, the council shall consist of one
44 additional ad hoc member appointed by the regional council of
45 governments for the planning region, as defined in section 4-124i, in

46 which the proposed facility is to be located.

47 (d) For the appointment of ad hoc members in accordance with
48 subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, the municipality most
49 affected by the proposed facility shall be determined by the permanent
50 members of the council. If any one of the five public members or of the
51 designees of the speaker of the House of Representatives or the
52 president pro tempore of the Senate resides (1) in the municipality in
53 which a hazardous waste facility is proposed to be located for a
54 proceeding concerning a hazardous waste facility or in which a low-
55 level radioactive waste facility is proposed to be located for a proceeding
56 concerning a low-level radioactive waste facility, or (2) in the
57 neighboring municipality likely to be most affected by the proposed
58 facility, the appointing authority shall appoint a substitute member for
59 the proceedings on such proposal. If any [appointee] member appointed
60 to the council is unable to perform such [appointee's] member's duties
61 on the council due to illness, or has a substantial financial or
62 employment interest [which is in conflict] that conflicts with the proper
63 discharge of the [appointee's] member's duties under this chapter, the
64 appointing authority shall appoint a substitute member for proceedings
65 on such proposal. An [appointee] appointed member shall report any
66 substantial financial or employment interest [which] that might conflict
67 with the proper discharge of the [appointee's] member's duties under
68 this chapter to the appointing authority, [who] and the appointing
69 authority shall determine if any such conflict exists. If [any] a state
70 agency is the applicant, an [appointee] appointed member shall not be
71 deemed to have a substantial employment conflict of interest because of
72 employment with the state unless such [appointee] member is directly
73 employed by the state agency making the application. [Ad] Any ad hoc
74 [members] member appointed pursuant to the provisions of this section
75 shall continue their membership until the council issues a letter of
76 completion of the development and management plan to the applicant.

77 (e) The chairperson of the council shall be appointed by the Governor
78 from among the five public members appointed by the Governor, with

79 the advice and consent of the House or Senate, and shall serve as
80 chairperson at the pleasure of the Governor.

81 (f) The public members of the council, including the chairperson, the
82 members appointed by the speaker of the House and president pro
83 tempore of the Senate and the [four] ad hoc members specified in
84 subsection (c) of this section, shall be compensated for their attendance
85 at public hearings, executive sessions, or other council business as may
86 require their attendance at the rate of two hundred dollars, provided in
87 no case shall the daily compensation exceed two hundred dollars.

88 (g) The council shall employ such employees as may be necessary to
89 carry out the provisions of this chapter, and such employees shall, in the
90 aggregate, have sufficient expertise in engineering and financial
91 analysis to carry out the provisions of this chapter, provided the council
92 shall employ at least one employee dedicated to facilitating the
93 engagement of interested parties in a proceeding and providing a plain
94 language summary of proceedings.

95 (h) The council shall, in addition to its other duties prescribed in this
96 chapter, adopt, amend, or rescind [suitable] regulations, in accordance
97 with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the provisions of this
98 chapter and the policies and practices of the council in connection
99 therewith, and appoint and prescribe the duties of such staff as may be
100 necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter. The chairperson of
101 the council, with the consent of five or more other members of the
102 council, may appoint an executive director, who shall be the chief
103 administrative officer of the Connecticut Siting Council. The executive
104 director shall be exempt from classified service.

105 (i) Prior to commencing any hearing pursuant to section 16-50m, the
106 council shall consult with and solicit written comments from (1) the
107 [Departments] Commissioners of Energy and Environmental
108 Protection, Public Health, Agriculture, Economic and Community
109 Development and Transportation and the Council on Environmental

110 Quality, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, the Secretary of the
111 Office of Policy and Management and the [Office of] Consumer Counsel,
112 and (2) in a hearing pursuant to section 16-50m, for a facility described
113 in subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i, the [Department]
114 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, the
115 [Department] Commissioner of Administrative Services, the Labor
116 [Department] Commissioner and the [Office of] Consumer Counsel.
117 Copies of any such comments submitted pursuant to this subsection
118 shall be made available to all parties to the proceeding prior to the
119 commencement of the hearing. [Subsequent to] After the
120 commencement of the hearing, said [departments] commissioners,
121 [Council on Environmental Quality] council, authority, secretary and
122 [offices] counsel may file additional written comments with the
123 Connecticut Siting Council [within such period of time as the] not later
124 than a date set by the Connecticut Siting Council. [designates. All] Any
125 such written [comments] comment shall be made part of the record for
126 the proceeding, as provided in section 16-50o. Said [departments]
127 commissioners, [Council on Environmental Quality] council, authority,
128 secretary and [offices] counsel shall not enter any contract or agreement
129 with any party to [the proceedings] a proceeding or [hearings] hearing
130 described in this section or section 16-50p, as amended by this act, that
131 requires said [departments] commissioners, [Council on Environmental
132 Quality] council, authority, secretary or [offices] counsel to withhold or
133 retract comments, or refrain from participating in or withdraw from
134 [said proceedings] any such proceeding or [hearings] hearing.

135 Sec. 2. Section 16-50l of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is
136 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
137 *1, 2026*):

138 (a) To initiate a certification proceeding, an applicant for a certificate
139 shall file with the council an application, in such form as the council may
140 prescribe, accompanied by a filing fee of not more than twenty-five
141 thousand dollars, which fee shall be established in accordance with
142 section 16-50t, and a municipal participation fee of forty thousand

143 dollars, or, if the proposed location of the facility is in more than one
144 municipality, eighty thousand dollars, to be deposited in the account
145 established pursuant to section 16-50bb, except that an application for a
146 facility described in subdivision (5) or (6) of subsection (a) of section 16-
147 50i shall [not] pay no such municipal participation fee. An [application
148 shall contain such] applicant shall submit any information [as the
149 applicant may consider] that the applicant deems relevant to the
150 application, [such] any information that the council or any department
151 or agency of the state exercising environmental [controls] regulatory
152 power may by regulation require, and the following information:

153 (1) In the case of [facilities] a facility described in subdivisions (1), (2)
154 and (4) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i: (A) A description, including
155 estimated costs [,] of the proposed transmission line, substation or
156 switchyard, [covering, where applicable underground] and, as
157 applicable: (i) Underground cable sizes and specifications, (ii) overhead
158 tower design, [and] appearance and heights, [if any,] (iii) conductor
159 sizes, and (iv) initial and ultimate voltages and capacities; (B) a
160 statement and full explanation of why the proposed transmission line,
161 substation or switchyard is necessary and how the facility conforms to
162 a long-range plan for expansion of the electric power grid serving the
163 state and interconnected utility systems, that will serve the public need
164 for adequate, reliable and economic service; (C) a map of suitable scale
165 of the proposed routing or site, showing details of the rights-of-way or
166 site in the vicinity of settled areas, parks, recreational areas and scenic
167 areas, residential areas, private or public schools, child care centers, as
168 described in section 19a-77, group child care homes, as described in
169 section 19a-77, family child care homes, as described in section 19a-77,
170 licensed youth camps, and public playgrounds and showing existing
171 transmission lines within one mile of the proposed route or site; (D) a
172 justification for adoption of the route or site selected, including
173 comparison with alternative routes or sites which are environmentally,
174 technically and economically practical, and, in the case of a proposed
175 repair, upgrade, replacement or enhancement, detailed studies of

176 alternative solutions to repairing existing electric transmission lines,
177 with consideration of at least one type of electric grid-enhancing
178 technology; (E) a description of the effect of the proposed transmission
179 line, substation or switchyard on the environment, ecology, and scenic,
180 historic and recreational values; (F) a justification for overhead portions,
181 if any, including life-cycle cost studies comparing overhead alternatives
182 with underground alternatives, and effects described in subparagraph
183 (E) of this subdivision of undergrounding; (G) a schedule of dates
184 showing the proposed program of right-of-way or property acquisition,
185 construction, completion and operation and, in the case of any facility
186 described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i, or any
187 modification of such a facility, (i) any appraisal completed by an
188 independent appraiser on behalf of the applicant concerning fair
189 compensation that is to be provided to an owner of real property in
190 connection with the necessity of entering a right-of-way, including any
191 easements or land acquisition, and (ii) for property that the applicant
192 does not own, lease or otherwise have access to, the applicant shall
193 exercise due diligence to seek permission to gain access to such
194 property. [Evidence] An applicant may provide evidence of due
195 diligence [shall be established by the submission of] by submitting: (I)
196 [Certified mail,] Any certified letter, with return receipt requested,
197 [letters] sent by the applicant to the owner or owners of record of such
198 property requesting access to the property; and (II) an affidavit from the
199 applicant stating that the applicant was not provided access to the
200 property and, in the absence of permission to access the property, the
201 applicant made visual inspections of the property to document existing
202 conditions from public rights-of-way, existing utility rights-of-way or
203 other accessible properties within or surrounding the proposed facility
204 site; (H) an identification of each federal, state, regional, district and
205 municipal agency with which proposed route or site reviews have been
206 undertaken, including a copy of each written agency position on such
207 route or site; [and] (I) an assessment of the impact of any
208 electromagnetic fields to be produced by the proposed transmission
209 line; (J) data for the preceding two years, by quarter, regarding the

210 earned and authorized return on equity on related projects subject to the
211 jurisdiction of the council; (K) an estimate of the return on investment
212 for the proposed facility that is the subject of such application; and (L)
213 an estimate of the impact of the proposed transmission line, substation
214 or switchyard on regional network service and local network service
215 rates for electric distribution companies, and accompanying
216 calculations, including any underlying assumptions for such estimate;

217 (2) In the case of [facilities] a facility described in subdivision (3) of
218 subsection (a) of section 16-50i: (A) A description of the proposed
219 electric generating or storage facility; (B) a statement and full
220 explanation of why the proposed facility is necessary; (C) a statement of
221 forecasted loads and resources, as described in section 16-50r; (D) safety
222 and reliability information, including planned provisions for emergency
223 operations, [and] shutdowns, and emergency responses; (E) estimated
224 cost information, including [plant] facility costs, fuel costs, [plant]
225 facility service life and capacity factor, and total generating cost per
226 kilowatt-hour, both at the [plant] facility and related transmission
227 infrastructure, and the comparative costs of [alternatives] generating
228 sources or configurations considered; (F) a schedule showing the
229 program for design, material acquisition, construction and testing, and
230 operating dates; (G) available site information, including maps and
231 description and present and proposed development, and geological,
232 scenic, ecological, seismic, biological, water supply, population and load
233 center data; (H) justification for adoption of the site selected, including
234 a comparison with alternative sites; (I) design information, including a
235 description of facilities, [plant] generating source efficiencies, [electrical]
236 connections to the electrical transmission or distribution system, and
237 control systems; (J) a description of provisions, including devices and
238 operations, for mitigation of the effect of the operation of the facility on
239 air and water quality, for waste disposal, and for noise abatement [,] and
240 information on other environmental aspects of the proposed facility;
241 and (K) a listing of federal, state, regional, district and municipal
242 agencies from which approvals either have been obtained by the

243 applicant or will be sought covering the proposed facility, including
244 copies of approvals received and the planned schedule for obtaining
245 those approvals not yet received; and

246 (3) In addition to the requirements of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this
247 subsection, in the case of [any] a facility described in subdivision (1) of
248 subsection (a) of section 16-50i, or any modification of such a facility: (A)
249 A description of the estimated initial and life-cycle costs for the facility
250 or modification, as applicable, and for each feasible and practical
251 alternative; (B) an estimate of the regionalized and localized costs for the
252 facility or modification, as applicable, and for each feasible and practical
253 alternative, in accordance with the regional independent system
254 operator's procedure for pool-supported pool transmission facilities
255 cost review, or a successor procedure; (C) for any difference between the
256 estimated total costs and estimated localized costs, an analysis of the
257 benefits associated with such cost difference; (D) not later than thirty
258 days after the filing of the application, a detailed analysis from an
259 independent engineer selected by the council, of any nontransmission
260 alternatives, as defined in section 16-50mm, to the proposed facility or
261 proposed modification, as applicable; and (E) (i) for the ten-year period
262 preceding the date of the application, the actual electric loads for
263 existing transmission lines in the area where the proposed [transmission
264 line] facility is to be located, (ii) for the ten-year period following the
265 date of the application, the projected electric load for any proposed
266 transmission line, (iii) for the ten-year period preceding the date of
267 application, the performance of all electric circuits for existing
268 transmission lines in the area where the proposed transmission line is to
269 be located, including a description of all service outages or disruptions,
270 any cause for such outage or disruption and the time required to restore
271 service following such outages or disruptions, and (iv) a statement of
272 electric loads and resources, as described in subsection (a) of section 16-
273 50r, and all planning studies conducted by the regional independent
274 system operator or the applicant associated with the proposed facility.

275 (b) Each application for a certificate pursuant to this section shall be

276 accompanied by proof of service of a copy of such application on: (1)
277 Each municipality in which any portion of such facility is to be located,
278 both as primarily proposed and in the alternative locations listed, and
279 any adjoining municipality having a boundary not more than two
280 thousand five hundred feet from such facility, [which copy] provided
281 such copy shall (A) be served on the chief executive officer of each such
282 municipality, and [shall] (B) include notice of the date on or about which
283 the application [is to] will be filed; [, and] (2) the zoning [commissions]
284 commission, planning [commissions,] commission, or combined
285 planning and zoning [commissions] commission, conservation
286 [commissions] commission and inland wetlands [agencies] agency of
287 each such municipality; [, and] (3) the regional [councils] council of
288 governments [which encompass] for the planning region in which each
289 such municipality is located; [(2)] (4) the Attorney General; [(3)] (5) each
290 member of the legislature in whose assembly or senate district the
291 facility or any alternative location listed in the application is to be
292 located; [(4)] (6) any agency, department or instrumentality of the
293 federal government that has jurisdiction, whether concurrent with the
294 state or otherwise, over any matter that would be affected by such
295 facility; [(5)] (7) each state department and agency named in subsection
296 (i) of section 16-50j, as amended by this act; and [(6)] (8) such other state
297 and municipal bodies as the council may by regulation designate. A
298 notice of such application shall be given to the general public, in
299 [municipalities] any municipality entitled to receive notice under
300 subdivision (1) of this subsection, by the publication of a summary of
301 such application and the date on or about which [it] such application
302 will be filed. Such notice shall be published [under] in compliance with
303 the regulations [to be promulgated] adopted by the council, in such
304 form and in such newspapers as will serve substantially to inform the
305 public of such application and to afford interested persons sufficient
306 time to prepare for and to be heard at the hearing prescribed in section
307 16-50m. Such notice shall be published in not less than ten-point type. A
308 notice of such an application for a certificate for a facility described in
309 subdivision (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i shall also

310 be sent, by certified or registered mail, to each person appearing of
311 record as an owner of property which abuts the proposed primary or
312 alternative sites on which the facility would be located. Such notice shall
313 be sent at the same time that notice of such application is given to the
314 general public. The council shall take no action on an application made
315 pursuant to this section unless the applicant has strictly complied with
316 the requirements of this subsection and subsections (c) and (d) of this
317 section, as applicable.

318 [Notice] (c) In addition to the requirements of subsection (b) of this
319 section, notice of an application for a certificate for a facility described
320 in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i shall [also] be
321 provided to each customer of an electric distribution company
322 [customer] who resides in the municipality where the facility is
323 proposed to be placed. Such notice shall [(A)] (1) be provided on a
324 separate enclosure with each customer's monthly bill for one or more
325 months, [(B)] (2) be provided by the electric distribution company not
326 earlier than sixty days prior to filing the application with the council,
327 but not later than the date that the application is filed with the council,
328 and [(C)] (3) include: A brief description of the project, including its
329 location relative to the affected municipality and adjacent streets; a brief
330 technical description of the project including its proposed length,
331 voltage, and type and range of heights of support structures or
332 underground configuration; the reason for the project; the address and
333 a toll-free telephone number of the applicant by which additional
334 information about the project can be obtained; and a statement in print
335 no smaller than twenty-four-point type size stating "NOTICE OF
336 PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE ELECTRIC
337 TRANSMISSION LINE".

338 [(c)] (d) For a facility described in subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of
339 section 16-50i that is a solar photovoltaic facility, the applicant shall also
340 provide notice by certified or registered mail of each proposed site
341 configuration change that occurs after the filing of the application but
342 prior to the granting of a certificate for such facility, that is a material

343 change, as determined by the council, to each person appearing of
344 record as an owner of property that abuts the proposed primary or
345 alternative sites on which the facility would be located.

346 [(d)] (e) An application for a certificate shall contain information on
347 the extent to which the proposed facility has been identified in, and is
348 consistent with, the annual forecast reports and life-cycle cost analysis
349 required by section 16-50r and other advance planning that has been
350 carried out, and shall include an explanation for any failure of the
351 facility to conform with such information.

352 [(e) An amendment proceeding may be initiated by an application]
353 (f) The holder of a certificate issued pursuant to this section may apply
354 for an amendment of [a] such certificate, [filed with the council by the
355 holder of the certificate] or such certificate may be amended by [a]
356 resolution of the council. An amendment application by a certificate
357 holder shall be in such form and contain such information as the council
358 shall prescribe. The council may, by resolution, amend a certificate
359 issued pursuant to this section if the council finds the existence of
360 conditions or events that could not have been reasonably known or
361 foreseen at the time such certificate was issued. A resolution for
362 amendment by the council shall identify the design, location or [route
363 of] address of the facility, or the portion of [a certificated] the facility,
364 described in subdivisions (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i, for
365 which a certificate was issued that is subject to [modification on the basis
366 of stated conditions or events which could not reasonably have been
367 known or foreseen prior to the issuance of the certificate] amendment.
368 No such resolution for amendment of a certificate shall be adopted after
369 the commencement of site preparation or construction of the
370 [certificated] facility for which a certificate was issued or, in the case of
371 a facility for which approval by the council of a right-of-way
372 development and management plan or other detailed construction plan
373 is a condition of the certificate, after approval of that part of the plan
374 which includes the portion of the facility proposed for modification. A
375 copy and notice of each amendment application shall be given by the

376 holder of the certificate in the manner set forth in subsection (b) of this
377 section. A copy and notice of each resolution for amendment shall be
378 given by the council in the manner set forth in subsection (b) of this
379 section. The council shall also provide the certificate holder with a copy
380 of such resolution. The certificate holder and the council shall not be
381 required to give such copy and notice to municipalities and the
382 commissions and agencies of such municipalities other than those in
383 which the modified portion of the facility would be located.

384 [(f) At least] (g) Not more than sixty days, or, in the case of a facility
385 described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i, ninety
386 days prior to the filing of an application with the council, the applicant
387 shall consult with the municipality in which the facility may be located
388 and with any other municipality required to be served with a copy of
389 the application under subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section
390 concerning the proposed and alternative sites of the facility. Such
391 consultation with the municipality shall include, but not be limited to,
392 good faith efforts to meet with the chief elected official of the
393 municipality, or such official's designee, the legislative body of the
394 municipality and each member of the legislature in whose assembly or
395 senate district the facility or any alternative location listed in the
396 application is to be located. At the time of the consultation, the applicant
397 shall provide the chief elected official, or such official's designee, the
398 legislative body of the municipality and each member of the legislature
399 in whose assembly or senate district the facility or any alternative
400 location listed in the application is to be located with any technical
401 reports concerning the public need, the site selection process and the
402 environmental effects of the proposed facility. In the case of a proposed
403 transmission line, at the time of the consultation, the applicant shall
404 provide the chief elected official, or such official's designee, the
405 legislative body of the municipality and each member of the legislature
406 in whose assembly or senate district the facility or any alternative
407 location listed in the application is to be located with a report that
408 includes a summary of the status of any negotiation with the owners of

409 real property concerning any required right-of-way access, easements
410 or land acquisition. Any such summary shall not include any
411 confidential or proprietary information. The municipality may conduct
412 public hearings and meetings as it deems necessary [for it] to advise the
413 applicant of [its] the municipality's recommendations concerning the
414 proposed facility. Not later than sixty days after the initial consultation,
415 the municipality shall issue its recommendations to the applicant. Not
416 later than fifteen days after submitting an application to the council, the
417 applicant shall provide to the council all materials provided to such
418 chief elected official of the municipality, such official's designee, such
419 legislative body of the municipality or any such member of the
420 legislature, a summary of the consultations with the municipality,
421 including any meetings with such chief elected official, such official's
422 designee, such legislative body of the municipality and any such
423 member of the legislature and any recommendations issued by the
424 municipality.

425 [(g)] (h) (1) For a facility described in subdivision (6) of subsection (a)
426 of section 16-50i, at least ninety days before filing an application with
427 the council, the applicant shall consult with the municipality in which
428 the facility is proposed to be located and with any other municipality
429 required to be served with a copy of the application under subdivision
430 (1) of subsection (b) of this section. Consultation with such municipality
431 shall include, but not be limited to, good-faith efforts to meet with the
432 chief elected official of the municipality or such official's designee. At
433 the time of the consultation, the applicant shall provide the municipality
434 with any technical reports concerning the need for the facility, including
435 a map indicating the area of need, the location of existing surrounding
436 facilities, a detailed description of the proposed and any alternate sites
437 under consideration, a listing of other sites or areas considered and
438 rejected, the location of all schools near the proposed facility, an analysis
439 of the potential aesthetic impacts of the facility on said schools, as well
440 as a discussion of efforts or measures to be taken to mitigate such
441 aesthetic impacts, a description of the site selection process undertaken

442 by the prospective applicant and the potential environmental effects of
443 the proposed facility. The applicant shall also provide copies of such
444 technical reports to such municipality's planning commission, zoning
445 commission or combined planning and zoning commission and inland
446 wetland agency.

447 (2) Not later than sixty days after the initial municipal consultation
448 meeting, the municipality, in cooperation with the applicant, [may] shall
449 hold a public information meeting. [If the municipality decides to hold
450 a public information meeting] Not less than fifteen days before such
451 public information meeting, the applicant shall [be responsible for
452 sending] send notice of such meeting to each person appearing of record
453 as an owner of property which abuts the proposed or alternate facility
454 locations and [for publishing] publish notice of such meeting in a
455 newspaper of general circulation in the municipality. [at least fifteen
456 days before the date of the public information meeting.] Such applicant
457 shall pay [all] any administrative expenses associated with such public
458 information meeting.

459 (3) [The] Not later than thirty days after the initial consultation
460 meeting, the municipality shall present the applicant with any
461 [proposed] alternative sites [, which may include municipal parcels]
462 proposed by the municipality, including any land owned by the
463 municipality, for [its] the applicant's consideration. [not later than thirty
464 days after the initial consultation meeting.] The applicant shall evaluate
465 [these] such alternate sites [presented as part of the municipal
466 consultation process] proposed by the municipality and include the
467 results of [its evaluations] the applicant's evaluation of such sites in its
468 application to the council. The applicant may present any such
469 [alternatives] alternate sites to the council [in its application] for formal
470 consideration by the council.

471 [(h)] (i) Any applicant who submits an initial application under this
472 section for a facility described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of
473 section 16-50i where the applicant intends to submit one or more

474 additional applications under this section within five years of the date
475 of the initial application for additional facilities described in said
476 subdivision that will either be physically connected to the facility
477 included in the initial application or located within five miles of such
478 facility shall indicate any such intention that is foreseeable in the initial
479 application, and provide any information regarding such additional
480 facilities required by the council.

481 (j) For any application concerning a facility located on prime
482 farmland, as described in 7 CFR 657, as amended from time to time, or
483 land that is a core forest, as defined in section 16a-3k, the Commissioner
484 of Energy and Environmental Protection shall submit a written opinion
485 concerning the impacts of such facility on such land. The council shall
486 issue no certificate or approve any application to amend a certificate
487 pursuant to this section without considering such written opinion.

488 (k) Any applicant that submits an initial application under this
489 section for a facility described in subsection (a) of section 16-50i that
490 retains a communicator lobbyist, as defined in section 1-91, for purposes
491 of influencing the public or interested parties concerning such
492 application, shall immediately provide electronic notice of such retainer
493 to (1) the council; (2) the Attorney General; (3) each member of the
494 legislature in whose assembly or senate district the facility or any
495 alternative location listed in the application is to be located; and (4) the
496 chief elected official of the municipality in which any portion of such
497 facility is to be located, both as primarily proposed and in the alternative
498 locations listed, and any adjoining municipality having a boundary not
499 more than two thousand five hundred feet from such facility.

500 Sec. 3. Section 16-50n of the general statutes is repealed and the
501 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

502 (a) The parties to a certification or amendment proceeding or to a
503 declaratory ruling proceeding shall include: (1) The applicant, certificate
504 holder, or petitioner; (2) each person entitled to receive a copy of the

505 application or resolution under section 16-50l, as amended by this act, if
506 such person has filed with the council a notice of intent to be a party; (3)
507 any domestic or qualified nonprofit corporation or association formed
508 in whole or in part to promote conservation or natural beauty, to protect
509 the environment, personal health or biological values, to preserve
510 historical sites, to promote consumer interests, to represent commercial
511 and industrial groups or to promote the orderly development of the
512 areas in which the facility is to be located, if it has filed with the council
513 a notice of intent to be a party; [and] (4) such other persons as the council
514 may at any time deem appropriate; and (5) the Consumer Counsel, as
515 provided in subsection (b) of this section.

516 (b) The council may permit any person to participate as an intervenor,
517 in accordance with the provisions of section 4-177a, in a certification or
518 amendment proceeding or a declaratory ruling proceeding.
519 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-177a, for any proceeding
520 pursuant to section 16-50k, as amended by this act, concerning a facility
521 described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i, the
522 council shall grant any person status as an intervenor in such
523 proceeding if such person: (1) Submits a written petition to the council;
524 and (2) is the owner of any property that abuts the proposed facility, or
525 that abuts a right-of-way in which the proposed facility is to be located.
526 The council shall grant party status to the Consumer Counsel in any
527 proceeding of the council that the Consumer Counsel has determined
528 may significantly impact electric rates, upon the request of the
529 Consumer Counsel to participate.

530 (c) The council in its discretion may provide for the grouping of
531 parties and intervenors with the same interests. If such a group does not
532 designate an agent for the service of notice and documents, the council
533 shall designate such an agent, and notice and documents need be served
534 only on the designated agent. Notwithstanding the provisions of this
535 subsection, any party or intervenor who has been included in a group
536 may, at any time by oral or written notice to the council, elect not to be
537 a member of the group to the extent specified in such notice.

538 (d) The Attorney General shall appoint an assistant attorney general
539 or a special assistant attorney general to act as counsel for the
540 Connecticut Siting Council.

541 (e) Upon receipt of the application, the council may employ one or
542 more independent consultants, at the applicant's expense, to study and
543 measure the consequences of the proposed facility on the environment.
544 The council shall direct such consultant or consultants to study any
545 matter that the council deems important to an adequate appraisal of the
546 application. Any such study and any report issued as a result thereof
547 shall be part of the record of the proceeding.

548 (f) Any person may make a limited appearance at a hearing held
549 pursuant to the provisions of section 16-50m, prior thereto or within
550 thirty days thereafter, entitling such person to file a statement in writing.
551 At the discretion of the council any person may make a limited
552 appearance at any such hearing to present an oral statement under oath.
553 All papers and matters filed by a person making a limited appearance
554 shall become part of the record. No person making a limited
555 appearance, and not otherwise entitled to be a party, shall be a party or
556 shall have the right to cross-examine witnesses, parties or intervenors.

557 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 16-2a of the 2026 supplement to the
558 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
559 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

560 (a) There shall be an independent Office of Consumer Counsel,
561 within the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for
562 administrative purposes only, to act as the advocate for consumer
563 interests in all matters which may affect consumers in the state with
564 respect to public service companies, electric suppliers and certified
565 telecommunications providers, including, but not limited to, rates and
566 related issues, ratepayer-funded programs and matters concerning the
567 reliability, maintenance, operations, infrastructure and quality of
568 service of such companies, suppliers and providers. The Office of

569 Consumer Counsel is authorized to appear in and participate in any
570 regulatory or judicial proceedings, federal or state, in which such
571 interests of consumers in the state may be involved, or in which matters
572 affecting utility services rendered or to be rendered in this state may be
573 involved. The Office of Consumer Counsel shall be a party to each
574 contested case before the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority and any
575 proceeding of the Connecticut Siting Council, as described in subsection
576 (b) of section 16-50n, as amended by this act, and shall participate in any
577 such contested case to the extent the Office of Consumer Counsel deems
578 necessary. The Office of Consumer Counsel may appeal from a decision,
579 order or authorization in any such state regulatory proceeding
580 regardless of whether the Office of Consumer Counsel appeared or
581 participated in such proceeding.

582 Sec. 5. Section 16-19d of the general statutes is repealed and the
583 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

584 (a) As used in this section:

585 (1) "Advertising" means the commercial use of any media including,
586 but not limited to, newspaper and all other forms of print, radio, [and]
587 television and Internet, in order to transmit a message to a substantial
588 number of members of the public or customers of a public service
589 company;

590 (2) "Political advertising" means any advertising for the purpose of
591 influencing public opinion with respect to any legislative,
592 administrative or electoral decision or with respect to any controversial
593 issue of public importance;

594 (3) "Institutional advertising" means any advertising which is
595 designed to create, enhance or sustain a public service company's image
596 or good will with regard to the general public or its customers;

597 (4) "Promotional advertising" means any advertising that has the
598 purpose of inducing the public to select or use the service or additional

599 service of a public service company or select or install any appliance or
600 equipment designed to use such service, provided such advertising
601 shall not include advertising authorized by order or regulation of the
602 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority.

603 (b) The cost of political, institutional or promotional advertising of
604 any gas company or electric distribution company and the cost of
605 political or institutional advertising of any telephone company shall not
606 be deemed to be an operating expense in any rate schedule proceedings
607 held pursuant to section 16-19. For the purposes of this section, political,
608 institutional or promotional advertising shall not be deemed to include
609 reasonable expenditures for (1) the publication or distribution of
610 existing or proposed tariffs or rate schedules; (2) notices required by law
611 or regulation; (3) public information regarding service interruptions,
612 safety measures, emergency conditions, employment opportunities or
613 the means by which customers can conserve energy or make efficient
614 and economical use of service; (4) the promotion or marketing of
615 efficient gas and electric equipment which the Public Utilities
616 Regulatory Authority determines: (A) Is consistent with the state's
617 energy policy; (B) is consistent with integrated resource planning
618 principles; (C) provides net economic benefit to such company's
619 customers; and (D) shall not have the primary purpose of promoting
620 one fuel over another; or (5) advertising by a gas company that is
621 necessary as a result of competition created by actions and decisions of
622 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Public Utilities
623 Regulatory Authority. Such advertising shall be limited to the express
624 purpose of promoting gas companies in competition with other
625 providers and marketers of natural gas. Such advertising shall not
626 include any promotions, cash, equipment, installation or service
627 subsidies for the conversion to natural gas from any other energy
628 source.

629 (c) A public service company shall [make application] apply to the
630 authority for determination that equipment meets the requirements of
631 subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of this section. The authority shall, to

632 the extent practicable, make such determination within one hundred
633 twenty days of such filing. All reasonable and proper expenses, required
634 by the authority and the Office of Consumer Counsel, including, but not
635 limited to, the costs associated with analysis, testing, evaluation and
636 testimony at a public hearing or other proceeding, shall be borne by the
637 company and shall be paid by the company at such times and in such
638 manner as the authority directs.

639 (d) The authority shall not allocate any expenditures made by a gas
640 company pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection (b) of this section to
641 residential customers in any rate schedule proceedings held pursuant to
642 section 16-19 unless the authority finds that effective competition in the
643 residential gas market already exists.

644 (e) The authority shall adopt regulations to carry out the purposes of
645 subsections (a) and (b) of this section.

646 (f) Each gas or electric distribution company shall conspicuously
647 indicate in all of its advertising whether the costs of the advertising are
648 being paid for by the company's shareholders, its customers or both.

649 Sec. 6. Section 16-243gg of the general statutes is repealed and the
650 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

651 (a) No electric distribution company, gas company, pipeline
652 company or water company [, as such terms are defined in section 16-
653 1,] shall recover through rates any direct or indirect cost associated with
654 membership, dues, sponsorships or contributions to a business or
655 industry trade association, group or related entity incorporated under
656 Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent
657 corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended
658 from time to time.

659 (b) No electric distribution company, gas company, pipeline
660 company or water company [, as such terms are defined in section 16-
661 1,] shall recover through rates any direct or indirect cost associated with

662 lobbying or legislative action, as such terms are defined in section 1-91.

663 (c) No electric distribution company, gas company, pipeline
664 company or water company [, as such terms are defined in section 16-
665 1,] shall recover through rates any direct or indirect cost associated with
666 advertising, marketing, communications that seek to influence public
667 opinion or any other related costs identified by the authority, unless
668 such marketing, advertising, communications or related costs are
669 specifically approved or ordered by the authority or the Department of
670 Energy and Environmental Protection.

671 (d) No electric distribution company, gas company, pipeline
672 company or water company [, as such terms are defined in section 16-
673 1,] shall recover through rates any direct or indirect cost associated with
674 (1) travel, lodging or food and beverage expenses for such company's
675 board of directors and officers or the board of directors and officers of
676 such company's parent company; (2) entertainment or gifts; (3) any
677 owned, leased or chartered aircraft for such company's board of
678 directors and officers or the board of directors and officers of such
679 company's parent company; or (4) investor relations.

680 (e) No electric distribution company shall recover through rates any
681 direct or indirect cost associated with (1) promoting the company's
682 application before the Connecticut Siting Council, including, but not
683 limited to, consulting, data and analytics, franking, fundraising, market
684 research, community engagement and Internet web site development,
685 or (2) preparing for a proceeding before the Connecticut Siting Council,
686 including any appeal from a proceeding of the council.

687 [(e)] (f) On or before January 15, 2024, and annually thereafter, each
688 electric distribution company, gas company, pipeline company or water
689 company [, as such terms are defined in section 16-1,] with more than
690 seventy-five thousand customers shall report to the authority an
691 itemized list of costs associated with the activities described in this
692 section and subsection (b) of section 16-243p in a form prescribed by the

693 authority. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) Any
694 costs spent by the parent company or affiliates of the public service
695 company directly billed or allocated to the public service company; (2)
696 a list of the title, job description and salary of any employees of the
697 public service company who performed work associated with the
698 activities described in this section or in subsection (b) of section 16-243p
699 and the hours attributed to such work; (3) a list of the title, job
700 description and salary of any employees of the parent company or
701 affiliate who performed work associated with the activities described in
702 this section or in subsection (b) of section 16-243p and the hours
703 attributed to such work that were directly billed or allocated to the
704 public service company; (4) an itemized list of costs that the public
705 service company made to all third-party vendors for any expenses
706 associated with the activities described in this section or in subsection
707 (b) of section 16-243p including unredacted billing amounts, billing
708 dates, payees and explanation of the expenditure in detail sufficient to
709 describe the purpose of the cost; and (5) any other itemized information
710 deemed relevant by the authority. No electric distribution company, gas
711 company, pipeline company or water company [, as such terms are
712 defined in section 16-1,] shall recover through rates any costs associated
713 with the preparation of such report.

714 Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 16-245l of the general statutes is
715 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
716 *1, 2026*):

717 (a) (1) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall establish, and
718 each electric distribution company shall collect, a systems benefits
719 charge to be imposed against all end use customers of each electric
720 distribution company beginning January 1, 2000. The authority shall
721 hold a hearing that shall be conducted as a contested case in accordance
722 with chapter 54 to establish the amount of the systems benefits charge.
723 The authority may revise the systems benefits charge or any element of
724 said charge as the need arises. Commencing on July 1, 2015, and
725 annually thereafter, the sum of two million one hundred thousand

726 dollars shall be transferred from the systems benefits charge to
727 Operation Fuel, Incorporated, for energy assistance, provided two
728 hundred thousand dollars of such sum may be used for administrative
729 purposes.

730 (2) The systems benefits charge shall also be used to fund [(1)] (A) the
731 expenses of the public education outreach program developed under
732 section 16-244d other than expenses for authority staff, [(2)] (B) the cost
733 of hardship protection measures under sections 16-262c and 16-262d
734 and other hardship protections, including, but not limited to, electric
735 service bill payment programs, funding and technical support for
736 energy assistance, fuel bank and weatherization programs and
737 weatherization services, [(3)] (C) the payment program to offset tax
738 losses described in section 12-94d, [(4)] (D) any sums paid to a resource
739 recovery authority pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16-243e, [(5)] (E)
740 low income conservation programs approved by the Public Utilities
741 Regulatory Authority, [(6)] (F) displaced worker protection costs, [(7)]
742 (G) unfunded storage and disposal costs for spent nuclear fuel
743 generated before January 1, 2000, approved by the appropriate
744 regulatory agencies, [(8)] (H) postretirement safe shutdown and site
745 protection costs that are incurred in preparation for decommissioning,
746 [(9)] (I) decommissioning fund contributions, [(10)] (J) costs associated
747 with the Connecticut electric efficiency partner program established
748 pursuant to section 16-243v, [(11)] (K) reinvestments and investments in
749 energy efficiency programs and technologies pursuant to section 16a-
750 38l, costs associated with the electricity conservation incentive program
751 established pursuant to section 119 of public act 07-242, [(12)] (L) legal,
752 appraisal and purchase costs of a conservation or land use restriction
753 and other related costs as the authority in its discretion deems
754 appropriate, incurred by a municipality on or before January 1, 2000, to
755 ensure the environmental, recreational and scenic preservation of any
756 reservoir located within this state created by a pump storage
757 hydroelectric generating facility, [and (13)] (M) the residential furnace
758 and boiler replacement program pursuant to subsection (k) of section

759 16-243v, and (N) costs associated with hiring employees for the Office
760 of the Consumer Counsel to enable the office to participate in
761 proceedings of the Connecticut Siting Council that the Consumer
762 Counsel has determined may significantly impact electric rates.

763 (3) As used in this subsection, "displaced worker protection costs"
764 means the reasonable costs incurred, prior to January 1, 2008, (A) by an
765 electric supplier, exempt wholesale generator, electric company, an
766 operator of a nuclear power generating facility in this state or a
767 generation entity or affiliate arising from the dislocation of any
768 employee other than an officer, provided such dislocation is a result of
769 (i) restructuring of the electric generation market and such dislocation
770 occurs on or after July 1, 1998, or (ii) the closing of a Title IV source or
771 an exempt wholesale generator, as defined in 15 USC 79z-5a, on or after
772 January 1, 2004, as a result of such source's failure to meet requirements
773 imposed as a result of sections 22a-197 and 22a-198 and this section or
774 those Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies adopted by the
775 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, as amended from
776 time to time, in accordance with Executive Order Number 19, issued on
777 May 17, 2000, and provided further such costs result from either the
778 execution of agreements reached through collective bargaining for
779 union employees or from the company's or entity's or affiliate's
780 programs and policies for nonunion employees, and (B) by an electric
781 distribution company or an exempt wholesale generator arising from
782 the retraining of a former employee of an unaffiliated exempt wholesale
783 generator, which employee was involuntarily dislocated on or after
784 January 1, 2004, from such wholesale generator, except for cause.
785 "Displaced worker protection costs" includes costs incurred or projected
786 for severance, retraining, early retirement, outplacement, coverage for
787 surviving spouse insurance benefits and related expenses.

788 Sec. 8. Subsection (e) of section 16-2a of the 2026 supplement to the
789 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
790 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

791 (e) The Consumer Counsel shall hire such staff as necessary to
792 perform the duties of the Office of Consumer Counsel and may retain
793 from time to time outside consultants knowledgeable in utilities
794 regulation, including, but not limited to, economists, capital cost
795 experts, rate design experts, [and] engineers, a public utilities examiner,
796 a staff attorney and a communications and outreach associate. Any staff
797 hired or consultant employed to perform the duties associated with the
798 Consumer Counsel's party status to certain proceedings of the
799 Connecticut Siting Council shall be funded by the systems benefits
800 charge imposed under section 16-245l, as amended by this act. The
801 salaries and qualifications of the staff so hired shall be determined by
802 the Commissioner of Administrative Services pursuant to section 4-40.

803 Sec. 9. Section 16-50p of the general statutes is amended by adding
804 subsection (k) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

805 (NEW) (k) In deciding whether to issue a certificate for a solar
806 photovoltaic facility that has a generating capacity greater than one
807 megawatt of electricity that is proposed to be located in a municipality
808 in which a solar photovoltaic facility that has a generating capacity
809 greater than one hundred megawatts is located, or in any municipality
810 abutting such existing facility, the council shall be bound by the
811 approval, disapproval or conditions concerning such proposed facility
812 that the chief executive officer or legislative body of the municipality in
813 which such facility is proposed to be located or such abutting
814 municipality submits to the council, provided the chief executive officer
815 or legislative body submits notice of such approval, disapproval or
816 conditions to the council not later than thirty days after such
817 municipality is served a copy of the application for such certificate
818 pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16-50l, as amended by this act.

819 Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 16-50k of the 2026 supplement to the
820 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
821 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

822 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of section 16-50z, no person
823 shall exercise any right of eminent domain in contemplation of,
824 commence the preparation of the site for, commence the construction or
825 supplying of a facility, or commence any modification of a facility, that
826 may, as determined by the council, have a substantial adverse
827 environmental effect in the state without having first obtained a
828 certificate of environmental compatibility and public need, hereinafter
829 referred to as a "certificate", issued with respect to such facility or
830 modification by the council. Certificates shall not be required for (1) fuel
831 cells built within the state with a generating capacity of two hundred
832 fifty kilowatts or less, or (2) fuel cells built out of state with a generating
833 capacity of ten kilowatts or less. Any facility with respect to which a
834 certificate is required shall thereafter be built, maintained and operated
835 in conformity with such certificate and any terms, limitations or
836 conditions contained therein. Notwithstanding the provisions of this
837 chapter or title 16a, the council shall, in the exercise of its jurisdiction
838 over the siting of generating facilities, approve by declaratory ruling (A)
839 the construction of a facility solely for the purpose of generating
840 electricity, other than an electric generating facility that uses nuclear
841 materials or coal as fuel, at a site where an electric generating facility
842 operated prior to July 1, 2004, and (B) the construction or location of any
843 fuel cell, unless the council finds a substantial adverse environmental
844 effect, or of any customer-side distributed resources project or facility or
845 grid-side distributed resources project or facility with a capacity of not
846 more than sixty-five megawatts, as long as: (i) Such project meets air and
847 water quality standards of the Department of Energy and
848 Environmental Protection, (ii) the council does not find a substantial
849 adverse environmental effect, and (iii) for a solar photovoltaic facility
850 [with a capacity of two or more megawatts,] to be located on prime
851 farmland or forestland, excluding any such facility that was selected by
852 the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in any
853 solicitation issued prior to July 1, 2017, pursuant to section 16a-3f, 16a-
854 3g or 16a-3j, the Department of Agriculture represents, in writing, to the
855 council that such project will not materially affect the status of such land

856 as prime farmland or the Department of Energy and Environmental
 857 Protection represents, in writing, to the council that such project will not
 858 materially affect the status of such land as core forest. In conducting an
 859 evaluation of a project for purposes of subparagraph (B)(iii) of this
 860 subdivision, the Departments of Agriculture and Energy and
 861 Environmental Protection may consult with the United States
 862 Department of Agriculture and soil and water conservation districts. In
 863 addition to all other requirements for the issuance of a certificate, the
 864 council shall not issue a certificate for a facility described in
 865 subparagraph (B)(iii) of this subdivision unless the applicant for such
 866 certificate furnishes a bond to cover all costs associated with the
 867 decommissioning of such facility and the restoration of such prime
 868 farmland, including, but not limited to, an inspection by a qualified soil
 869 scientist or other agricultural soils professional to assess and assure that
 870 the soils of such prime farmland are restored and will be suitable for
 871 farming. Such an assessment shall include, but need not be limited to,
 872 consideration of topsoil and subsoil depths, soil compaction, alteration
 873 in surface and subsurface drainage, erosion and sedimentation control
 874 measures and soil fertility. Such decommissioning bond requirement
 875 shall also apply to any such two-megawatt or more solar photovoltaic
 876 facility that is approved by declaratory ruling.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	16-50j
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	16-50l
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	16-50n
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	16-2a(a)
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	16-19d
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	16-243gg
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	16-245l(a)
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	16-2a(e)
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	16-50p(k)
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	16-50k(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To modify provisions concerning the Connecticut Siting Council, including by modifying its membership, establishing the Consumer Counsel as a party in proceedings and modifying submission and notification requirements for council applications.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]