



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 5460



Offered by:

SEN. HARTLEY, 15<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. MESKERS, 150<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. MARTIN, 31<sup>st</sup> Dist.  
REP. ANISKOVICH, 35<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 306

File No. 347

Cal. No. 233

**"AN ACT CONCERNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND  
COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY STRATEGY."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 16a-3d of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5 (a) On or before October 1, 2020, and every four years thereafter, the  
6 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall prepare a  
7 Comprehensive Energy Strategy in consultation with the (1)  
8 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, (2)  
9 Commissioners of Agriculture, Housing and Transportation, or said  
10 commissioners' designees, (3) Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
11 Management, or the secretary's designee, (4) Consumer Counsel, or the  
12 Consumer Counsel's designee, (5) chairperson of the Public Utilities

13 Regulatory Authority, or the chairperson's designee, and (6) chief  
14 executive officer of the Connecticut Green Bank, or the chief executive  
15 officer's designee.

16 (b) Said strategy shall reflect the legislative findings and policy stated  
17 in section 16a-35k, provide any analysis and recommendations  
18 necessary to guide the state's energy policy to meet greenhouse gas  
19 emission reduction requirements, as established in section 22a-200a, in  
20 the most cost-effective manner and incorporate (1) an assessment and  
21 plan for all energy needs in the state, including, but not limited to,  
22 electricity, heating, cooling, and transportation, (2) the findings of the  
23 Integrated Resources Plan, (3) the findings of the plan for energy  
24 efficiency adopted pursuant to section 16-245m, (4) the findings of the  
25 plan for renewable energy adopted pursuant to section 16-245n, and (5)  
26 the Energy Assurance Plan developed for the state of Connecticut  
27 pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, P.L.  
28 111-5, or any successor Energy Assurance Plan developed within a  
29 reasonable time prior to the preparation of any Comprehensive Energy  
30 Strategy. Said strategy shall further include, but not be limited to, (A) an  
31 assessment of current energy supplies, demand and costs, (B)  
32 identification and evaluation of the factors likely to affect future energy  
33 supplies, demand and costs, (C) a statement of progress made toward  
34 achieving the goals and milestones set in the preceding Comprehensive  
35 Energy Strategy, (D) a statement of energy policies and long-range  
36 energy planning objectives and strategies appropriate to achieve, the  
37 state's greenhouse gas reduction goals established in section 22a-200a, a  
38 sound economy, the least-cost mix of energy supply sources to meet said  
39 goals and measures that reduce demand for energy, giving due regard  
40 to such factors as consumer price impacts, security and diversity of fuel  
41 supplies and energy generating methods, protection of public health  
42 and safety, environmental goals and standards, conservation of energy  
43 and energy resources and the ability of the state to compete  
44 economically, (E) recommendations for administrative and legislative  
45 actions to implement such policies, objectives and strategies, (F) an  
46 assessment of the potential costs savings and benefits to ratepayers,

47 including, but not limited to, carbon dioxide emissions reductions or  
48 voluntary joint ventures to repower some or all of the state's coal-fired  
49 and oil-fired generation facilities built before 1990, (G) the benefits,  
50 costs, obstacles and solutions related to the expansion and use and  
51 availability of natural gas in Connecticut, and (H) a strategy for ensuring  
52 the state's energy efficiency goals are met.

53 [(b)] (c) In adopting the Comprehensive Energy Strategy, the  
54 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall conduct a  
55 proceeding that shall not be considered a contested case under chapter  
56 54, but shall include not less than one public meeting and one technical  
57 meeting at which technical personnel shall be available to answer  
58 questions. Such meetings shall be transcribed and posted on the  
59 department's Internet web site. Said commissioner shall give not less  
60 than fifteen days' notice of such proceeding by electronic publication on  
61 the department's Internet web site. Not later than fifteen days prior to  
62 any such public meeting and not less than thirty days prior to any such  
63 technical meeting, the commissioner shall publish notice of either such  
64 meeting and post the text of the proposed Comprehensive Energy  
65 Strategy on the department's Internet web site. Notice of such public  
66 meeting or technical meeting may also be published in one or more  
67 newspapers having state-wide circulation if deemed necessary by the  
68 commissioner. Such notice shall state the date, time, and place of the  
69 meeting, the subject matter of the meeting, the manner and time period  
70 during which comments may be submitted to said commissioner, the  
71 statutory authority for the proposed strategy and the location where a  
72 copy of the proposed strategy may be obtained or examined in addition  
73 to posting the proposed strategy on the department's Internet web site.  
74 Said commissioner shall provide a time period of not less than sixty days  
75 from the date the notice is published on the department's Internet web  
76 site for public review and comment. During such time period, any  
77 person may provide comments concerning the proposed strategy to said  
78 commissioner. Said commissioner shall consider fully all written and  
79 oral comments concerning the proposed strategy after all public  
80 meetings and technical meetings and before approving the final

81 strategy. Said commissioner shall (1) notify by electronic mail each  
82 person who requests such notice, and (2) post on the department's  
83 Internet web site the electronic text of the final strategy and a report  
84 summarizing all public comments and the changes made to the final  
85 strategy in response to such comments and the reasons therefor. The  
86 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall comment on the strategy's  
87 impact on natural gas and electric rates.

88 ~~[(c)]~~ (d) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection  
89 shall submit the final Comprehensive Energy Strategy electronically to  
90 the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
91 cognizance of matters relating to energy, ~~[and]~~ the environment and  
92 commerce.

93 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection  
94 may modify the Comprehensive Energy Strategy in accordance with the  
95 procedures outlined in subsections ~~[(b)]~~ (c) and ~~[(c)]~~ (d) of this section.

96 ~~[(e)]~~ (f) For the Comprehensive Energy Strategy next approved after  
97 October 1, ~~[2021]~~ 2026, and every Comprehensive Energy Strategy  
98 prepared thereafter, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
99 Protection, in consultation with the persons described in subsection (a)  
100 of this section, shall consider (1) the reductions in greenhouse gas  
101 emissions resulting from low-carbon fuel blends used in home heating  
102 oil on a life-cycle basis, (2) possible contributions to the state's  
103 greenhouse gas emissions mandated levels, pursuant to section 22a-  
104 200a, in connection with the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions on  
105 a life-cycle basis, (3) the ability of a thermal portfolio standard to further  
106 reductions in greenhouse gas emissions on a life-cycle basis, and (4) the  
107 relative value of the reductions in greenhouse gas emissions on a life-  
108 cycle basis achieved by biodiesel and other low-carbon fuel blends used  
109 currently in the state compared with the value of future projected  
110 greenhouse gas emissions reductions achieved by the retail heating oil  
111 industry on a life-cycle basis five, ten, and twenty years into the future  
112 using the Department of Energy and Environmental Protections'  
113 contemporaneous projection of renewable energy utilized."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	16a-3d
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