

To: Honored Chairs Sen. Needleman and Rep. Arconti and Distinguished Members of the Energy and Technology Committee

Submitted: August 27, 2020

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony concerning Tropical Storm Isaias Response and Electric Utility Rate Increases.

Connecticut's electric grid should no longer be in the hands of fossil fuel interests. We need to de-monopolize our utilities to make sure that all of Connecticut's citizen's interests are considered. This is an economic justice issue as many lower income families are less able to cope with power outages and raising electric rates. In addition we need policies that will invest in public utilities that will meet our state's climate goals.

I support legislation, previously considered by the Energy and Technology Committee that would meet those goals:

- Expand energy storage to make offshore wind, solar and other renewables meet our energy needs around the clock..
- Expand the Residential Solar Investment Program (RSIP) so more homeowners can afford solar options.
- Keep solar net-metering which has worked to make solar affordable and encourage solar installations.
- Clarify the property tax exemption for solar and storage in order for all solar owners to be correctly assessed.
- Repeal the Pipeline Tax, Connecticut does not need addition pipeline infrastructure and should not be encouraging it as it is contrary to the state's clean energy goals.

As a senior citizen, I am concerned about the reliability and affordability of our electric service as our health and welfare depend upon it. As we look to the future we know we can no longer rely on dirty, polluting fossil fuels which are dangerous to our planet. It is time to be bold and look for new ways of producing and distributing electricity that includes all stakeholders. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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