



My name is Adam Teff and I serve as the general manager of TitanGen, which is the onsite power generation division of Titan Energy New England, a full-service energy management company based in Hartford, Connecticut. Titan has been serving the energy management needs for municipalities across Connecticut for twenty years, and paramount among those needs is the long-term cost reduction that comes from renewable energy programs like the Z-REC and Virtual Net Metering. As the preferred energy procurement partner for CCM members, Titan has a unique view into the needs of municipalities and can speak with authority on the issue regarding what towns want and need from the State government. We have these conversations every day and feel it to be our duty to represent their needs before this committee.

The municipalities we work with that have been fortunate enough to access VNM have collectively reduced their long-term operating costs by millions of dollars and are now better positioned to reinvest those savings to provide higher quality services and fund the construction of highly efficient buildings. The quantity of dollars saved in many cases has been enough to break a vicious cycle of reductions and cuts, and replace it with a virtuous cycle of reinvestment and growth. From that reinvestment and growth come jobs and a more sustainable, independent system of energy creation for the residents of our state. Unfortunately, not every municipality has been so lucky. One of the largest Cities in Connecticut has been working with Titan to develop a series of solar projects that will produce over \$175,000 in savings and revenue every year, for the next twenty years, at a time when the City is in dire need of creative, impactful solutions. A failure to extend VNM will eliminate 75% of those dollars and create an unnecessary obstacle on their path to financial stability.

The virtuous cycle of reinvestment and growth also applies to employment opportunities created by a flourishing renewable energy industry. A solar project requires skills that fall under the broad categories of engineering, construction, finance, purchasing, accounting, legal, sales and marketing; all high-quality jobs that pay generous wages and support a web of interrelated economic activity. It simply doesn't make sense to dismantle one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy and force those skilled workers to look outside of Connecticut for employment, especially when our neighbors across New England and the Mid-Atlantic all have flourishing renewable energy industries that would be more than happy to have them.

Connecticut has made such good progress moving away from fossil fuels and encouraging the creation of an established and thriving renewable energy industry. We ask that you continue that good legislative work by extending the funding for VNM so that every municipality that wants to participate, has the chance to do so, without needing to rely on "luck."

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