

TESTIMONY CONCERNING LCO 3920

AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY RESPONSE BY ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES AND REVISING THE REGULATION OF OTHER PUBLIC UTILITIES

Dear Honored Chairs and Members of the Energy and Technology Committee,
I am writing today in strong support of Section 19 of the above-mentioned Act, Review of the ISO-NE wholesale market. We urgently need to restructure our electric market, and incentivize renewable energy and storage, their implementation as well as interconnection to the larger grid, in order to comply with our energy goals for 2030 and beyond.

I especially ask that you

- Expand energy storage
- Keep net metering until 2022
- Expand the Residential Solar Investment Program
- Clarify tax exemptions for solar and storage
- For all those measures and incentives, please make sure to include towns with municipal utilities/ residents who are not customers of Eversource/ UI to be considered for similar awards
- Repeal the pipeline Tax
- And finally stop Killingly NTE power plant and make sure ISO-NE does not award market shares before permits are given, as happened with Killingly, and without acknowledging/ awarding shares to new renewable sources

I also urge you to restructure the CT electric power grid.

The latest storms, Isaias and Laura, were just another example how the two big monopoly utilities are failing CT customers. While our municipal utility had 1. Only very few customers lose power, and 2. Restored power within hours or days, neighboring towns were without power for weeks. The two big utilities are too big, and they can't or won't take good care of our towns. Therefore, I suggest that

- either you pass legislation for better oversight and more localized maintenance and restoration structures,
- Or, preferably, set the frame and encourage more municipal or other smaller scale utilities, Community Choice Aggregate, Community Solar etc. so local needs can be addressed locally or with neighboring towns.

NE-Regional cooperation has its benefits for sure, but regional monopolies do not. And with the new technologies like solar, wind, geothermal and storage, the benefits of local grids are just obvious.

Please review our wholesale power market, enhance incentives for solar and storage, and strengthen localized utilities. "Take back the Grid!"

Thank you for your consideration.
Respectfully,

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