

**TESTIMONY CONCERNING LCO 3920 AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY RESPONSE
BY ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES AND REVISING THE REGULATION OF OTHER
PUBLIC UTILITIES**

September 8, 2020 To: Honored Chairs Sen. Needleman and Rep. Arconti and Distinguished
Members of the Energy and Technology Committee

From: Cate Steel, 23 Rose Lane, East Lyme, CT

We need to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and, *Take Back the Grid*

Steps should include:

1. de-monopolize our utilities
2. demand that policies and investments of our public utilities align with our state's climate goals.
3. call for a review of the ISO-New England wholesale market. This provision is incredibly important to realizing ratepayer interests and keeping in concert with CT's policy goals and environmental protection efforts.
4. invest in renewable energy and cut out fossil fuels
5. Expand energy storage The only way we can increase renewable energy procurement, including offshore wind, solar, hydropower etc. is to expand storage. Without it we will lack the necessary
6. Develop infrastructure to expand renewable energy to meet our goals.
7. Expand the Residential Solar Investment Program (RSIP) to provide more economical solar options to homeowners and lower the burden on the grid.
8. Keep solar net-metering until 2022. Have PURA to focus on other grid modification efforts instead of a rushed and unnecessary net-metering successor program.
9. Clarify the property tax exemption for solar and storage. Without this clarification, towns will continue to improperly assess property taxes on residential solar which will hurt the solar market.
10. Repeal the Pipeline Tax. Connecticut should require legislative approval for all new gas infrastructure to protect consumers from costly, polluting, and unnecessary fossil fuel infrastructure.

Thank you.

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