



September 4, 2020

Energy and Technology Committee
201 Capital Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Take Back the Grid Act


Members of the Energy and Technology Committee:

Lodestar Energy is writing in support of this Committee's examination of the initiatives set forth in the "**Take Back the Grid Act**" (the "Act") to reduce costs for Connecticut ratepayers, and improve resiliency of the Connecticut electricity grid owned by the citizens of this state, and operated by the two regulated monopolies. We strongly support the amendment of the Act for the inclusion of doubling the **Virtual Net Metering Cap** as set forth in 16-244u to enable Connecticut's energy independence and enable Connecticut's State, Municipal and Agricultural entities through their right to self-generate.


As set forth below, the doubling of the Virtual Net Metering Caps will create a number of benefits:

- (1) Create 1000 high-quality Connecticut jobs in construction, engineering, legal, accounting, and maintenance;
- (2) Expand municipalities' efforts to reduce energy costs with savings of up to \$1.5 million per solar project and increased tax revenue on renewable energy projects sited in their towns;
- (3) Improve Connecticut's grid reliability and resiliency by putting distributed generation where it is most needed;
- (4) Improve Connecticut's infrastructure with up to \$500,000 per solar project in critical electrical upgrades paid for by the project developers;
- (5) Reduce Connecticut's dependency on out of state energy generation, and reduce further reliance of the EDC's on construction of needless and unreliable transmission and distribution lines; and
- (6) Further Connecticut's environmental goals through clean zero-emission energy which helps us reach our Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS).

Very truly yours,



Jeffrey J. Macel, Esq.
Lodestar Energy



Jaime A. Smith
Lodestar Energy