

Dear Energy & Technology Committee:

The solution to CT's outrageous energy costs has and will be (for the foreseeable future) obtaining access to the nation's massive, cheap energy reserves. Energy producers are literally giving natural gas away for free (or **paying their customers** to take it) in many places in the country. Yet, our lack of access to pipelines prevents CT from accessing this cheap energy. While the discussion today focuses on electric rates, this issue is relevant to both electricity and natural gas.

Unfortunately, New York State has cut New England off from the country. An easy, job-creating solution is to construct an LNG terminal on the coast and have that supply CT's (and the rest of New England's) energy needs.

This could be either legislated or regulated into effect. Inaction on this matter continues to devastate CT's businesses and residents, especially the most vulnerable populations.

Best regards,
Steven Utke