## September 8, 2020

## **Testimony Concerning LCO 3920**

An Act Concerning Emergency Response by Electric Distribution Companies and Revising the Regulation of other Public Utilities

To: Chairs Senator Needleman and Representative Arconti and Members of the Energy and Technology Committee

From: Thomas Mead, member Connecticut League of Conservation Voters (CTLCV), Veteran; U.S. Navy

I concur entirely with the submitted testimony of the CTLCV and support their demand to recast the role of public utilities from one of monopoly to one of cooperation and alignment with Connecticut's climate goals. Our current progress toward replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy is extremely limited with our continued allegiance to ISO – New England. Nice "Fuel Mix" pie chart; 62% Natural Gas, 5% Renewables. Rather mixed up, don't you think?

The stark realization hitting the West Coast today is that whatever policy changes and new initiatives have been made by energy pioneers are still inadequate. We must re-double our efforts. You have the opportunity to do something now, so get busy.

Back up the CTLCV by actively supporting legislation to:

- Expand Energy Storage
- Expand the Residential Solar Investment Program (RSIP)
- Keep solar Net Metering until 2022. Seriously? Keep it until 2052.
- Clarify the Property Tax exemption for solar and storage.
- Repeal the Pipeline Tax.

The public is ready for leadership on these measures. If you cannot lead, step aside. Connecticut should be a leader among the states, and not a reluctant follower. Trust in the science, trust in the power of the active public, and trust in your abilities to work the transformation from fossil fuel domination to renewables and carbon-free energy.

Sincerely

Thomas Mead Co-Owner of a new passive house Hamden, CT 06518