

**Written Testimony of Henry Labalme**  
Member – Town of Cornwall Clean Energy Task Force  
Before the Connecticut General Assembly Energy and Technology Committee  
March 10, 2009

Written Testimony in support of HB 6635, An Act Concerning Solar Power

Honorable Members of the Committee;

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony in support of HB 6635 today, and thank you for taking the time to consider this incredibly important legislation to promote the acceleration and adoption of clean energy in Connecticut.

As you know, our State has for many years been a national leader in supporting clean energy, especially solar energy. Connecticut, along with California and New Jersey, has led the United States in promoting clean, renewable sources of energy through a creative and effective program of financial incentives, administered by the CT Clean Energy Fund. This has led directly to the installation and interconnection of approximately nine (9) megawatts of generating capacity.

Because of the current economic conditions, there have been efforts recently by some in Hartford to transfer funds intended to support renewable energy development out of the CT Clean Energy Fund and into the general fund. Fortunately, the CT Legislature has rolled back these efforts and is now, through HB 6635, on track to do something that takes our state in a far more intelligent direction.

By supporting and passing HB 6635, the Assembly would help us take a huge leap along the only trajectory that today makes real sense. This is the path that will preserve and create thousands of permanent jobs for CT residents, generate sustainable, clean energy for our homes & businesses, protect the health and well being of our citizens by reducing harmful emissions, and contribute to the energy security of our nation.

Therefore, I urge you to do everything in your power to support and approve HB35. So much of our future, as a State and as a Nation, depends on this.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry Labalme". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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