



**Connecticut  
Light & Power**

The Northeast Utilities System



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TESTIMONY OF RICHARD A. SODERMAN  
ON BEHALF OF  
THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY  
and YANKEE GAS SERVICES COMPANY  
FEBRUARY 26, 2009  
Energy and Technology Committee

**S.B. No. 594 AAC RELOCATION COSTS AND ELECTRIC UTILITY RATES**

This proposed bill would prevent the Department of Public Utility Control from including the cost of relocation when setting an electric utility rate.

As you know, we have recently announced that we are moving our corporate offices to downtown Hartford. We intend to move approximately 180 jobs, including finance, legal and accounting positions. This will enhance our presence in the state capital, and it will help grow the community and local business in downtown.

This move is not being made at the expense of the communities in which we are currently located. We will continue our operations and presence in our corporate headquarters in Berlin. In fact, we need additional space in these facilities, some of which needs improved security for operational reasons, and the relocation to Hartford will make room for those improvements in a cost-effective manner.

Unfortunately, the proposed bill would penalize us for taking these actions, which improve our operations while at the same time relocating facilities to our economically distressed capital city. We oppose this bill as drafted because the DPUC already has the ability to disallow costs of imprudent actions, and, if the bill goes forward, we recommend that the language of the bill be revised so that cost recovery for worthy relocations such as ours not be disallowed automatically as a matter of law.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony at this hearing.