



# CLEAN WATER ACTION

CONNECTICUT

## **Testimony of Roger Smith, Campaign Director, Clean Water Action Energy and Technology Committee March 3, 2009**

### **Raised Senate Bill No. 1076 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CLASS IV RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD**

We support the goal of increasing renewable energy development and creating a stable market for developers. To that end we are wary of continued efforts to game the Class I RPS to change definitions to benefit particular developers at the expense of others.

The primary innovation in this approach is to reward renewable energy with a high capacity factor (baseload), which bids at zero in order to always run, by giving it a new Class in the RPS where the demand always slightly outstrips the supply (rather than ramping up an arbitrary amount such as a percentage a year, etc). This approach as laid out in Section 1 (B) would potentially enable renewable energy developers to build projects that may not happen due to volatility in the Class I REC market.

At this time we do not wish to oppose or support this proposal as it is one possible way to mitigate price fluctuations in Class I for certain types of renewables which have ratepayer benefits today. If there is a glut of supply in renewable energy in coming years, we would alternatively support increasing the percentage of Class I sources required by the RPS to ensure the continued development of renewable energy. There are real societal and energy benefits to building more renewable energy and exceeding the targets we have today.

There do appear to be issues with the way this bill was drafted, as only section 1 (A) and (B) appear to be new language and the rest appears redundant.