

Testimony

Regarding the Governor's Biennial FY 2010-2011 Budget Proposals

Appropriations Committee Public Hearing
February 17, 2009

Entered by Connecticut Fund for the Environment
on behalf of 55 citizens

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Anthony Conklin, Mercury Solar Systems, 15 Coligni Ave, New Rochelle NY 10801

February 17, 2009

RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

Anthony Conklin – Mercury Solar Systems

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut . If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
- The funds help pay for energy audits, solar panels, and efficiency measures for homes, businesses, municipalities. Every \$1 invested in efficiency has a return of at least \$4.
- In 2008, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy ranked Connecticut 's program the third-best in the nation. Connecticut is recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency, and we must continue to support these programs to maintain our competitive advantage.
- In the past decade, the efficiency fund served 45,000 households. Demand was so high – up 200% for residences and 300% for schools and businesses- In 2008 that the Renewable Energy program had to stop taking new applications.
- Improving efficiency is also the most cost-effective way to meet our greenhouse gas reduction mandates. The efficiency fund has saved 355 kilowatts in a year, which in terms of emissions is equivalent to preventing the burning of 164,000 lbs of coal, saving 101,000 acres of trees, or getting 48,865 cars off the road.
- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. Connecticut 's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

Anthony J Conklin
Mercury Solar
(914) 469.8676 (cell)
(914) 637.9700 x18 (office)
aconklin@mercurysolarsystems.com

Thomas Edison 1931 - I'd put my money on the sun and solar energy. What a source of power! I hope we don't have to wait until oil and coal run out before we tackle that."

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Anne Scott
40 Rexford Road, West Cornwall, CT 06769

February 17, 2009
Re: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

I am writing to you as a member of the Cornwall Energy Task Force. I ask you to oppose Governor Rell's proposal to tax electric ratepayers to balance the budget by taking money intended for the Clean Energy Fund and CT Energy Efficiency Fund.

Programs from these funds have educated and inspired the town of Cornwall to become the leading clean energy town in Connecticut, with 30% of the town signed on for the clean energy option. As a result, The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund has awarded Cornwall eight solar panels for the grade school which will dramatically reduce energy costs to the town. The Clean Energy Fund and the Efficiency Fund have also made it possible to upgrade the lighting fixtures in the school, making the school fully energy efficient, which will pay dividends for decades ahead. Energy efficiency is the best possible tool for reducing costs, today and long into the future.

This proposal wastes ratepayers money on new power plants and fossil fuel dependence that will not be necessary if these programs are left in place to promote and support increased energy efficiency. This proposal forces the ratepayer to buy astronomically expensive and inefficient fuel paid for by a hidden tax placed on their electric bill.

Efficiency is the most effective tool in reducing costs and deficit. We must not go backwards, but rather retain the good forward movement that CCEF and the Efficiency Fund have already promoted. The costs will be infinitely higher in the future if we give this up now.

Sincerely,
Anne Scott
40 Rexford Road
West Cornwall, CT 06796
860-672-0595
annescott@optonline.net

I am a Program Administrator for the CT Energy Efficiency Fund. If the funds are raided I may likely lose my job, I'll be OK. What concerns me is the infrastructure that has been created because of the fund and my Home Energy Solutions (HES) program. There are approximately 70 technicians working with 5 companies that also employ office and management personell to provide energy efficiency measures to, in '08, 6000 homes. They have invested in equipment and vehicles. The technicians are mostly highschool graduates that we have trained over 3 years, they are now "green helmut" workers that are very proud of what they do. If Gov. Rell's proposal to take away the ratepayers fund that has provided financially sound money saving energy efficiency all the time, money and development will have been a waste. It will put businesses that do good out of business and break the spirit of people that found employ that helped the economy, customers, environment and got them into an industry that I promised had a solid future.

Raiding the fund is a short sighted attempt to shore up some balance sheet, not saving it will destroy CT's long running award winning energy efficiency programs, its infrastructure and 1000s of jobs for people that work hard to save people money.

Craig A. Clark

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Christine Hotchkiss
Naugatuck, CT 06770
February 17, 2009
Re: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

Our energy efficiency and clean energy programs are a powerful engine for a sustainable economy, and this is the time to invest in them. The governor's budget would take \$40 million from the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund for each of the next two years, and would borrow another \$52 million from them every year for the next decade. That's \$92 million out of only \$120 million in the funds' budgets. For the following reasons, I strongly urge you to vote to sustain these funds: Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

In 2008, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy ranked Connecticut's program the third-best in the nation. Connecticut is recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency, and we must continue to support these programs to maintain our competitive advantage. The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.

The funds help pay for energy audits, solar panels, and efficiency measures for homes, businesses, municipalities. Every \$1 invested in efficiency has a return of at least \$4. In the past decade, the efficiency fund served 45,000 households. Demand was so high in 2008—up 200% for residences and 300% for schools and businesses—that the Renewable Energy program had to stop taking new applications.

Improving efficiency is also the most cost-effective way to meet our greenhouse gas reduction mandates. The efficiency fund has saved 355 kilowatts in a year, which in terms of emissions is equivalent to preventing the burning of 164,000 lbs of coal, saving 101,000 acres of trees, or getting 48,865 cars off the road.

This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.

Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. We must continue to make wise policy decisions and investments if we are to build a better, sustainable place to live & work.

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Carole Osborn
26 Coppermine Road
Oxford, CT

February 17, 2009
Re: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

As a citizen of Connecticut, taxpayer, and concerned environmentalist, I urge you to expand the energy conservation and renewable energy programs that are boosting our economy, not cut them.

Our energy efficiency and clean energy programs are a powerful engine for a sustainable economy, and this is the time to invest in them. The governor's budget would take \$40 million from the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund for each of the next two years, and would borrow another \$52 million from them every year for the next decade. That's \$92 million out of only \$120 million in the funds' budgets. For the following reasons, I strongly urge you to vote to sustain these funds:

- Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.
- In 2008, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy ranked Connecticut's program the third-best in the nation. Connecticut is recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency, and we must continue to support these programs to maintain our competitive advantage.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
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- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. We must continue to make wise policy decisions and investments if we are to build a better, sustainable place to live & work.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,
Carole Osborn

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Christopher Zurcher
101 Bishop St. 2R
New Haven, CT 06511

February 17, 2009

RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

I'm the editor of CT Environmental Headlines, which compiles all environmental news stories being reported on in the state and sends daily updates to nearly 500 subscribers.

I'm writing to ask that you vote to keep the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Funds intact. Not voting to keep these funds intact would not make environmental or financial sense.

This money that comes from the surcharge on consumers' utility bills is intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state. It supports jobs, helps pay for energy audits, solar panels, and efficiency measures for homes, businesses, towns.

The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy has ranked Connecticut's program the third-best in the nation and we are recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency.

The efficiency fund served 45,000 households in the last ten years and demand is up up 200% for homes and 300% for schools and businesses.

Please keep the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Funds intact.

Sincerely,

Christopher Zurcher
CT Environmental Headlines
P.O. Box 8182
New Haven, CT 06530
(203) 886-5905

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee

From: Donna Callighan's PHOTO designs
652 Glenbrook Road 3-203
Stamford, CT 06906

February 17, 2009

RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

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Robbing Peter to pay Paul has not worked in the past, nor is appropriating funds intended for creating a healthier environment the right thing to do. Please do not let the economic solutions once again be short sighted.

Most Sincerely,
Donna J. Callighan

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Donna Callighan's PHOTO designs
652 Glenbrook Road Bldg. 3-203
Stamford, CT 06906-1410
203-348-7997 Phone

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee

From: David Downie, 272 Quincy Street, Fairfield, CT 06824

February 13, 2009

RE: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

I write to urge you to reject the portion of Governor Rell's budget proposal to strip \$92 million from the Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy funds. I recognize that you face difficult choices. Budgets must be cut, even significantly, but these funds are essentially investments that yield real, positive, measureable economic benefits in jobs, reduced energy costs, and the needed transition to cleaner energy.

Your enlightened leadership on this issue is crucial. I urge you to look to the future and oppose these cuts. Our great State can invest in green jobs and clean energy that produce real benefits or we can go backwards.

To provide context for my opinion, I have followed energy and related many years. I recently joined Fairfield University as Director of the Environment Program and a Professor in the Department of Politics. Prior to that, I conducted research and taught graduate courses at Columbia University for 14 years, where I also served as Director of Environmental Policy Studies at the graduate School of International and Public Affairs, Associate Director of the Graduate Program in Climate and Society, and Director of the Global Roundtable on Climate Change. I know that policies such as the Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy funds work and return net positive benefits - we have seen it in CT and compelling evidence exists from locations - including several US states and other countries. For CT to remain competitive in attracting and retaining new economy jobs, education opportunities and productive citizens it needs to embrace the transition to clean energy.

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. We must continue to make wise policy decisions and investments if we are to build a better, sustainable place to live & work.
- Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state. Placing this money into the general fund is a hidden tax increase and one could argue, a dishonest one. If we need

to raise taxes or cut services paid by taxes, so be it, these are difficult time. But these particular funds were intended to be raised and spent in a specific way.

- The funds help pay for energy audits, solar panels, and efficiency measures for homes, businesses, municipalities. Every \$1 invested in efficiency has a return of at least \$4.
- In 2008, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy ranked Connecticut's program the third-best in the nation. Connecticut is recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency, and we must continue to support these programs to maintain our competitive advantage.
- In the past decade, the efficiency fund served 45,000 households. Demand was so high – up 200% for residences and 300% for schools and businesses- in 2008 that the Renewable Energy program had to stop taking new applications.
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Lets move forward together to healthier, cleaner and more prosperous Connecticut.

With very best regards and gratitude for your service to the state,

David Downie

David Downie
Director, Program on the Environment
Associate Professor of Politics
Fairfield University

217 Donnarumma Hall
1073 North Benson Road, Fairfield, CT 06824
ddownie@mail.fairfield.edu; 203-254-4000, ext 3504

Dear Governor Rell,

I am writing to you with the hope that you find a way to not decrease the budget for renewable energy in our state. If our local and state elected leaders are able to hold the line with budgetary cuts in (a challenging financially time in our history) the short-term, our payback in the long-term will be recognized in both monetary and environmental capital.

The jobs created, the emissions not created, and the infrastructure established are just some of the collateral advantages our relentless financial support allows our citizens to be proud to call Connecticut home.

I speak for many who urge that these environmental budget cuts (92 million slated for the upcoming year) are not even a consideration for reduction because our health and many generations to come are counting on our responsible leadership to lead the way.

Thank you,

Dan Holmes, Chairman
Newtown Clean Energy Task Force

February 17, 2009

Donna Tatsapaugh
96 Burgoyne Heights Road
New Hartford, CT 06057

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee

I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact to support a clean energy future. The energy funds support good jobs in Connecticut and if the programs lose funding, green businesses may leave the state. Connecticut is recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency, and we must continue to support these programs to maintain our competitive advantage and meet our greenhouse gas reduction mandates.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Donna

To: Honorable members of the Appropriations Committee

From: Gail J. Berritt

February 17, 2009

I am a concerned citizen who believes that every possible measure needs to be taken to improve energy efficiency and decrease emissions in this State.

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

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- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

Sincerely

Gail Berritt

Law Offices of Gail J. Berritt
9 Berndale Drive
Westport, CT 06880
(203) 222-7449
gail@berrittlaw.com
www.berrittlaw.com

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Galen Vinter, 1073 N. Benson Rd, Fairfield, CT 06824
Director, Green Campus Initiative, Fairfield University
Project Coordinator, Westport Green Village Initiative, Westport, CT

February 17, 2009

RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

As a graduating senior at Fairfield University I understand that I'm enter what both government and mass media is calling one of the most severe economic recessions in 40, possibly 80 years. I understand that cuts must be made in these times and that we must all make sacrifices. However, in doing so, we should be retaining opportunities for carrying ourselves out of the hole we've been dug into to this point. Now more than ever we must strategize carefully if we're to have a sustainable economic future.

For this reason more than any, Connecticut **MUST NOT** cut any funding for sustainable funding and programming. Energy efficiency, reduction and alternatives should be at the top of Connecticut's budget, not on the chopping block. Connecticut is known for being a proactive state, but without the proper funding we'll become merely reactive - a state of political and economic immaturity and vulnerability.

Honestly, I'm tired of hearing that we're waiting for a technological breakthrough that will pull us through the catastrophe of peak oil. We are surrounded by those technologies! Instead of capitalizing on them we choose not to fund them, or to promote jobs to install them, or loan money to the organizations and business that want to maintain them.

If Connecticut is going to wait for Silicon Valley's technology, California's legislation, and purely philanthropic funding, then we're going to be waiting a long time. **NOW** is the time to get ahead, **NOW** is the time to make the right decisions, and **NOW** is the time to operate on proactive politics instead of reactive politics.

Sincerely,

Galen Vinter

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Heather Ferris
34 Town Farm Rd,
Easthampton, CT., 06424

February 17, 2009
RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

Hello, I am a health researcher. This issue effects absolutely everyone. Many people may not know or acknowledge the issue of global warming and energy resource depletion. However, as our new president and the leading scientists well know, it is the number one most important issue in the world and the wise will work now to prevent further damage and secure our safety. There is no business to be done in a country in complete energy crisis nor on a dead planet. Obama is offering us the opportunity now to stay on the leading front by addressing our energy problem. Clean, renewable energy is the leading front and most pressing concern right now.

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
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- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

To Our Planet's Best,

Heather

To: Honorable members of the Appropriations Committee

From:

Henry Link, PE
Enviro Energy Connections
45 Mountain St
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Governor's proposed biennium budget, 2009-2011

I strongly urge you to vote to keep the energy funds intact for the following reasons:

1. The energy funds support about 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut.
2. The funds help pay for energy audits, solar panels, fuel cells, and efficiency measures for homes, businesses and municipalities. It has been estimated that every dollar invested in efficiency has a return of about 4 dollars.
3. Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for taxpayers and ratepayers, and support business growth and create jobs.

Thank you.

Henry Link

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee

From: Jake DeSantis, 30 Mark Twain Lane, Redding

February 12, 2009

Re: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

Our clean energy programs are and will continue to be a powerful engine for our state's economy, and now is not the time to abandon them. I urge you to vote to sustain funding for these programs. Connecticut needs to show the rest of the country that it's a confident leader, not a small-thinking follower.

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee

From: Judi Friedman, 101 Lawton Rd., Canton, CT 06019

February 17, 2009

RE: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

I am the Chair of PACE (PEOPLE'S ACTION FOR CLEAN ENERGY, INC.). Our organization is devoted to clean energy and energy efficiency, and we have been delighted with the progress of our state in this area. Connecticut has become a national leader on these issues and rightly so since we have some of the highest energy costs in the nation. Generating our own energy and cutting costs by being more efficient only makes sense. The enthusiasm of the population is evident as the Clean Energy Fund has more applicants for solar systems than they can handle. The mood of the country and our federal leadership stress the importance of homegrown clean energy. Now is not the time to reduce our use of these technologies.

Clean energy and energy efficiency also mean more jobs. Installing panels, inverters, turbines, small hydro systems, insulating and changing windows create employment for thousands. These steps also help to reduce our air pollution and thereby improve health, lowering costs to the state.

PACE represents about 3000 activists and every one is adamantly in favor of maintaining the clean energy and energy efficiency funds. In fact we think that using these funds is fundamentally wrong since they are the result of ratepayer monies not taxpayers.

We strongly urge you to protect Connecticut's energy efficiency and renewable energy funds.

Dear and Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee,

Please do not reduce the money appropriated for Energy Conservation, Renewal, and Sustainability. I do not represent any special group other than being a lifelong citizen of Connecticut. But it is clear to me that the State benefits from its investment in clean and renewable energy sources far beyond the dollars invested. In fact, the dollars invested generate more income in actual financial ways, but even more important, our exemplary energy policies make us a national leader, perhaps even a world leader. The payoff is in a quality of life in Connecticut that attracts all the other "riches" that go beyond the merely monetary. To cite but one example that is personally relevant, I suffer from asthma, and the cleaner the air in Connecticut is, the healthier and happier I am. But in this, I speak for all the citizens of the State and the surrounding States as well. Our very health will suffer by the measure you reduce the funding for clean, renewable energy -- as surely as our pocketbooks will suffer to the degree that you lessen energy conservation. So I call upon you in these trying financial times to have the wisdom and the courage to hold to a full, if not increased commitment to energy policies that produce clean, renewable, and conserved energy.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

John and Diane Gourlie
69 Boston St.
Guilford, CT 06437
John.Gourlie@Quinnipiac.edu

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Jared Haines, Mercury Solar Systems

February 17, 2009

RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

We have built a business around installing solar energy. The industry still relies on subsidies in order to make it a viable investment. CT had a good plan for its residents and businesses, but has used all of the grant money. Our staff is going to either be let go or moved to NJ to keep their jobs because of the lack of funding. The President wants growth in the renewable energy business but this does not seem to be in line with the Federal goals.

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
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To Our Planet's Best,

J. Jared Haines
Mercury Solar Systems
15 Colligni Avenue
New Rochelle, NY 10801
Phone 914.637.9700
Fax 914.637.9713
www.mercurysolarsystems.com

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From Julia Hikory PO Box 548 Old Lyme CT 06371
2/14/09
Re: The governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011
Environmental educator

For our health and survival as well as for building a sustainable economy, clean energy programs and energy efficiency are crucial and we can no longer delay making necessary changes and substantial investments. The governor's budget would take \$40 million from the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund for each of the next two years and would borrow another \$52 million every year for a decade. That totals \$92 million out of only \$120 million in the funds' budgets. Please have the courage and foresight to retain these funds for their intended use. . CT has taken a position of leadership which we need to continue. This \$ is not state revenue but comes from a surcharge on utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state. We want to create green jobs and draw green businesses to the state not discourage them. Not only have these funds provided jobs but also provided help to many households. Cutting the funds by 3/4 is exactly the wrong approach.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Julia Hikory

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: John D. Horkel, 14 Woodside Lane, Westport, Connecticut

While I recognize that you and Governor Rell are dealing with extremely challenging budgetary issues during these very difficult economic times, I urge you to vote to keep the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Funds intact. These funds should not be placed in the state's General Fund. They came from surcharges on consumers' energy bills and were intended to foster the growth of clean energy in our state. The ultimate benefits of clean energy, associated jobs and businesses, savings on energy usage in both the private and public sector, meeting greenhouse gas reduction mandates are enormous in terms of the economic health of our state. As well as the health of all of our residents. The funds are there to support all of this and should not be used otherwise. I appreciate your consideration of my request. Thank you for all of the hard work you are doing for our state.

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Joseph Morrone, 546 Hill Street, Bristol, CT, 06010

February 17, 2009

RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

I am a VERY concerned citizen, father and supporter of our nations clean energy future and up until now, very proud of our states leardership in these issues.

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:
This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.

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- In 2008, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy ranked Connecticut ' sprogram the third-best in the nation. Connecticuti s recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency, and we must continue to support these programs to maintain our competitive advantage.
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- Improving efficiency is also the most cost-effective way to meet our greenhouse gas reduction mandates. The efficiency fund has saved 355 kilowatts in a year, which in terms of emissions is equivalent to preventing the burning of 164,000 lbs of coal, saving 101,000 acres of trees, or getting 48,865 cars off the road.
- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. Connecticut ' s energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, business growth, and create jobs.

To Our Planet's Best,
Joseph Morrone

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: John Sheirer, 170 Elm Street, Enfield, CT 06082

February 17, 2009

RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

As a professor at Asnuntuck Community College, one of the state institutions of higher education, and as a member of the Northern Connecticut Land Trust, a nonprofit land-preservation organization, I am committed to environmental education.

I am writing in support of keeping the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Funds intact, not swept into the state's General Fund, as proposed in the Governor's budget.

Governor Rell's budget proposal would strip \$92 million from the Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy funds—that's \$3 out of every \$4.

This budget would take \$40 million from the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund, and would borrow another \$52 million from them. That's \$92 million out of only \$120 million in the funds' budgets.

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
- The funds help pay for energy audits, solar panels, and efficiency measures for homes, businesses, municipalities. Every \$1 invested in efficiency has a return of at least \$4.
- In 2008, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy ranked Connecticut's program the third-best in the nation. Connecticut is recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency, and we must continue to support these programs to maintain our competitive advantage.
- In the past decade, the efficiency fund served 45,000 households. Demand was so high – up 200% for residences and 300% for schools and businesses- in 2008 that the Renewable Energy program had to stop taking new applications.
- Improving efficiency is also the most cost-effective way to meet our greenhouse gas reduction mandates. The efficiency fund has saved 355 kilowatts in a year, which in terms of emissions is equivalent to preventing the burning of 164,000 lbs of coal, saving 101,000 acres of trees, or getting 48,865 cars off the road.
- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

Thank you for your attention,
John Sheirer

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Kimberly Allen 4 Brewster Rd PO Box 46 Falls Village, CT 06031

February 17, 2009
RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut . If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
- The funds help pay for energy audits, solar panels, and efficiency measures for homes, businesses, municipalities. Every \$1 invested in efficiency has a return of at least \$4.
- In 2008, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy ranked Connecticut ' s program the third-best in the nation. Connecticut is recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency, and we must continue to support these programs to maintain our competitive advantage.
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- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. Connecticut ' s energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

To Our Planet's Best,

Kim

--

Kimberly Jordan Allen
PO Box 46
Falls Village, CT 06031

February 17, 2009

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee

From: Kenny Foscue, North Haven, CT

Re: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

As a member of the North Haven Clean Energy Task Force, I am asking you to oppose Governor Rell's proposal to tax electric ratepayers to balance the budget by taking money intended for the Clean Energy Fund and CT Energy Efficiency Fund. Governor Rell's proposal would take a giant step backward in moving our state and nation toward building a clean energy based policy and economy. Through the work of our task force, our town has signed up with the 20% by 2010 Campaign to obtain at least 20 percent of the electricity for all municipal facilities from clean renewable energy sources by the year 2010. We have received one of the \$5000 clean energy innovations grants which is helping us to educate residents about the need to sign up for clean energy through their electric bill. This funding is crucial to our success. We are also counting on the solar panel incentives provided by the Clean Energy Fund to help lower the cost of providing electric power to the town, as well as providing encouragement for residents to sign up for clean energy.

The Governor's proposal also seems to be in direct opposition to the new Administration's clean energy policies and major parts of the Stimulus Plan. Besides addressing climate change and dependence on foreign non-renewable energy sources, the Clean Energy Fund is part of the effort to rebuild the economy through developing green businesses and jobs. Providing resources to Connecticut towns and businesses to purchase clean energy is a direct means to creating the demand for this new economy. Please do not take away the needed investment funding to do this.

Please find attached a recent article in the North Haven Citizen regarding clean energy and revitalizing the economy.

Sincerely,

Kenny Foscue
195 Wayland St
North Haven, CT 06473
(203) 589-1512, kfosc@snet.net

To Honorable Members of
Appropriation Committee

Re: Governor's Biennium Budget

From: Kerry Noble
Co-founder Build Green N.W.
Salisbury, Ct 06068

In the Northwest Corner, a local group of contractors, architects, building inspectors, and interested home owners been meeting monthly since last spring to educate and retrain ourselves to gain expertise in weatherizing homes, rehabbing existing homes with energy conserving modifications, and rethinking designs for building new green homes.

We want you to vote for or retain every dollar that exists in Connecticut legislation. It will create a great number of new jobs and commerce!

Thank you

Kerry Noble
Co-founder
Build Green N W
P.O. Box 294
Salisbury Ct 06068

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Kathee Rebernak

February 16, 2009

RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

I am the founder and CEO of Framework:CR, a Connecticut business that works with companies to improve and communicate environmental, social, governance, and economic performance to stakeholders. I care deeply about this issue because my entire business is dedicated to helping companies improve their environmental performance, and that includes using clean energy to replace fossil-fuel energy use.

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, businesses and jobs dedicated to helping companies use clean energy may leave the state.
- The funds help pay for energy audits, solar panels, and efficiency measures for homes, businesses, municipalities. Every dollar invested in efficiency yields a return of at least \$4.
- In 2008, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy ranked Connecticut's program the third-best in the nation. Connecticut is recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency, and we must continue to support these programs to maintain our competitive advantage.
- In the past decade, the efficiency fund served 45,000 households. Demand was so high in 2008—up 200% for residences and 300% for schools and businesses—that the Renewable Energy program had to stop taking new applications.
- Improving efficiency is also the most cost-effective way to meet our greenhouse-gas reduction mandates. The efficiency fund has saved 355 kilowatts in a year, which, in terms of emissions, is equivalent to preventing the burning of 164,000 lbs of coal, saving 101,000 acres of trees, or getting 48,865 cars off the road.
- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis.
- Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Kathee Rebernak
CEO
Framework:CR
T 203.563.0644
F 203.563.0634
C 203.278.3096
www.frameworkCR.com

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Larry Liesner

February 17, 2009
RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

My name is Larry Liesner and I work in the renewable energy industry right here in CT.

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut . If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
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- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. Connecticut ' s energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

Larry Liesner
Sales

Alteris Renewables™
formerly SolarWrights and SolarWorks

Westport Office

Tel: (203) 557-0555
Cell: (203) 644-2404
Fax: (203) 557-0556
Web: www.alterisinc.com

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Michael Avicolti- LEED AP 135 Linwood St. New Britain, CT
February 17, 2009
RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

I am a member of the USGBC and a LEED Accredited Professional working in the building and construction industry here in CT.

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
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Michael Avicolti, LEED AP
Assistant Project Manager

Standard Builders, Inc.
52 Holmes Road
Newington, CT 06111
p: 860.594.7143
f: 860.594.7151
c. 860.209.0803
Standardbuilders.com

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Monique Bosch
member, Green Energy Task Force in Westport
member, Green Village Initiative, Westport
chair, Environmental Action Group, Unitarian Church in Westport
member, Fairfield County Environmental Justice Network, Bridgeport

February 17, 2009
RE: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

For the first time since I can remember I am asking you to follow the lead of the federal government(!) in making energy efficiency and renewable energy funds key items in the 2009 budget. These are precisely the investments we need to make to build a better, sustainable place to live & work. It is proven that these energy funds create jobs and offer Connecticut homes and businesses a chance to make the right decision towards energy efficiency. It's up to the Connecticut government to lead us through this financial crisis by helping taxpayers save money on energy and help lead the rest of the nation to build a sustainable future.

Thanks for listening.

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee:
Feb. 17, 2009 meeting

From: Martin Kaplan, PhD
22 Cottonwood Drive
Avon, Ct. 06001

As a member of the Avon Clean Energy Commission as well as initiator of the Farmington Woods Green Team, I feel very strongly that the new Biennium Budget Proposal should include increased funding for our State's energy efficiency and renewables programs. If the State fails to provide adequate funding, we will lose our momentum on programs already established.

These programs include green education and audits coordinated with The Center for Integrated Design at the University of Hartford; reduction will occur in programs involving our town's municipal buildings and schools, as well as negatively impacting residents and their green energy home projects.

I have counseled several local small business owners who are involved in renewable energy programs. They are relying upon your support to expand their activities thereby increasing employment.

I respectfully urge the Committee to increase funding for the Clean Energy Budget.

Martin Kaplan, PhD---

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: (see below)

February 17, 2009

Re: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

Our energy efficiency and clean energy programs are a powerful engine for a sustainable economy, and this is the time to invest in them. The governor's budget would take \$40 million from the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund for each of the next two years, and would borrow another \$52 million from them every year for the next decade. That's \$92 million out of only \$120 million in the funds' budgets. For the following reasons, I strongly urge you to vote to sustain these funds:

- Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.
- In 2008, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy ranked Connecticut's program the third-best in the nation. Connecticut is recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency, and we must continue to support these programs to maintain our competitive advantage.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
- The funds help pay for energy audits, solar panels, and efficiency measures for homes, businesses, municipalities. Every \$1 invested in efficiency has a return of at least \$4.
- In the past decade, the efficiency fund served 45,000 households. Demand was so high in 2008—up 200% for residences and 300% for schools and businesses—that the Renewable Energy program had to stop taking new applications.
- Improving efficiency is also the most cost-effective way to meet our greenhouse gas reduction mandates. The efficiency fund has saved 355 kilowatts in a year, which in terms of emissions is equivalent to preventing the burning of 164,000 lbs of coal, saving 101,000 acres of trees, or getting 48,865 cars off the road.
- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. We must continue to make wise policy decisions and investments if we are to build a better, sustainable place to live & work.

We need to STOP BURNING stuff into the environment!

Mike Urban
58 Naugatuck Avenue
Milford, CT 06460-6033
USA

<http://www.urban-antiqueradio.com>
eBay: "urbanradio"
eMail: urbanradio@optonline.net
phone: 203-877-2409

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Nancy Mason, 31 Woodland St. #3U, Hartford, CT 06105

February 17, 2009

Re: the Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal, 20010-1011

Please do not make cuts in the Efficiency Fund! This is not state revenue but money paid by ratepayers to fund environmental efficiencies. To cut these funds would therefore be a tax hike and will be called out as such. Furthermore, such action would be a giant step backwards rather than a move forward into a more sustainable, and eventually profitable, future. **Conservation and renewable energy development are essential for our environment and our economy.** We depend on your good judgment and expect no less. We are look forward to rewarding your good judgment with public praise and votes, but will hold any who are responsible for backsliding in this matter, accountable - in the press and the voting booth.

Sincerely yours,
Nancy B. Mason

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Patrice Gillespie, Wilton, CT

February 17, 2009

RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

Far more expensive than temporary financial shortfalls are the centuries-long consequences of WAY TOO MUCH CO2 in our atmosphere. We have the next VERY few years to mitigate irreparable harm from greenhouse gases to the balance of nature.

For the following reasons, I strongly urge your vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
- The funds help pay for energy audits, solar panels, and efficiency measures for homes, businesses, municipalities. Every \$1 invested in efficiency has a return of at least \$4.
- In 2008, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy ranked Connecticut's program the third-best in the nation. Connecticut is recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency, and we must continue to support these programs to maintain our competitive advantage.
- In the past decade, the efficiency fund served 45,000 households. Demand was so high – up 200% for residences and 300% for schools and businesses- in 2008 that the Renewable Energy program had to stop taking new applications.
- Improving efficiency is also the most cost-effective way to meet our greenhouse gas reduction mandates. The efficiency fund has saved 355 kilowatts in a year, which in terms of emissions is equivalent to preventing the burning of 164,000 lbs of coal, saving 101,000 acres of trees, or getting 48,865 cars off the road.
- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

It would be contrary to all we know about sustainability, job creation and climate science to take money from the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund. Thank you.

-- Patrice Gillespie
258 Silver Spring Road
Wilton, CT 06897

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee

From:

Peter Votto
Consulting Engineering Services
811 Middle St.
Middletown, CT 06457

February 17, 2009

RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

As a mechanical engineer in the state who is directly responsible for the implementation of energy saving and clean energy technologies I can assure you that the elimination of the state incentives for clean and renewable energy would be detrimental to the fledgling clean energy economy which is developing currently in the State. Losing the incentives will force anyone in this industry to leave the state, thereby additionally costing your budget with decreased tax revenue since the "green economy" is the only thing making money right now. Please be sure to consider the whole picture before costing the young people of CT their future here. I have spent my entire life in CT (26 years) and I intend to stay, but without the necessary jobs available for someone with my background, I will not have a choice.

For the following additional reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
- The funds help pay for energy audits, solar panels, and efficiency measures for homes, businesses, municipalities. Every \$1 invested in efficiency has a return of at least \$4.
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- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

Peter Votto
Mechanical Engineer
LEED® Accredited Professional

Consulting Engineering Services, Inc.
811 Middle Street
Middletown, Connecticut 06457
Phone: 860.632.1682
Cellular: 860.398.2089
Fax: 860.632.1768
E-mail: pvotto@cesct.com
Web: www.cesct.com

Tisha Ferguson

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee

Randy Christophersen
2 Manitou Court,
Westport, CT 06880

February 17, 2009

RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
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- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

Regards Randy Christophersen

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Robyn Cornwell, CSBA
Sustainable Building Advisor Program
Madison, CT 06443
503-927-9260

February 17, 2009
RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
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- In the past decade, the efficiency fund served 45,000 households. Demand was so high – up 200% for residences and 300% for schools and businesses- in 2008 that the Renewable Energy program had to stop taking new applications.
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- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

Robyn Cornwell, CSBA
Certified Sustainable Building Advisor
503.927.9260

Feb. 16, 2009

To: Members of the Appropriations Committee

Re: The Governor's Budget Proposal for 2010-2011

As a volunteer and executive committee member of the Sierra Club-Greater Hartford Group, energy conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy issues have become priority issues for us. Connecticut needs to prioritize energy efficiency as the most cost effective way to meet our energy needs. We must expand energy conservation programs as they will become a powerful engine for our economy. Cutting energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is the wrong approach. I strongly urge you to sustain the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund.

First, these funds come from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills and are intended to support clean energy. Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

Second, Connecticut is recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency - we must continue to support these programs to stay competitive. The energy funds support over a thousand good jobs in our state. Lets not encourage green businesses and their associated jobs to leave Connecticut.

Third, demand for the Renewable Energy program is at all time highs. The funds help pay for energy audits, solar panels and efficiency measures. It has been proven that every dollar invested in efficiency has a return of four dollars.

Finally, improving efficiency is the most cost-effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

I thank you for your consideration.

Richard Stanley
5 Sherwood Lane
West Simsbury, CT 06092

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee

From: Sue Freimuth

75 Burnap Brook Rd.
Andover, CT 06232

February 17, 2009

Re: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

As a concerned citizen of the Town of Andover, State of Connecticut, I am writing to encourage careful consideration of priorities as we react to the economic challenges we are facing. While it is important to conserve funds, I believe that it is short sighted to borrow from our future by removing funding of critical environmental initiatives. We must not allow economic pressure to weaken our resolve to provide a clean and sustainable environment for ours and future generations. Now more than ever, we must be able to count on governmental leadership to grow our economy in directions that align with a sustainable environment.

Our energy efficiency and clean energy programs are a powerful engine for a sustainable economy, and this is the time to invest in them. The governor's budget would take \$40 million from the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund for each of the next two years, and would borrow another \$52 million from them every year for the next decade. That's \$92 million out of only \$120 million in the funds' budgets. For the following reasons, I strongly urge you to vote to sustain these funds:

- Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.
- In 2008, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy ranked Connecticut's program the third-best in the nation. Connecticut is recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency, and we must continue to support these programs to maintain our competitive advantage.
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- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. We must continue to make wise policy decisions and investments if we are to build a better, sustainable place to live & work.

Sue Freimuth

75 Burnap Brook Rd.
Andover, CT 06232
860-798-4527
suefrei@mac.com

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From Julia Hikory PO Box 548 Old Lyme CT 06371
2/14/09
Re: The governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011
Environmental educator

For our health and survival as well as for building a sustainable economy, clean energy programs and energy efficiency are crucial and we can no longer delay making necessary changes and substantial investments. The governor's budget would take \$40 million from the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund for each of the next two years and would borrow another \$52 million every year for a decade. That totals \$92 million out of only \$120 million in the funds' budgets. Please have the courage and foresight to retain these funds for their intended use. . CT has taken a position of leadership which we need to continue. This \$ is not state revenue but comes from a surcharge on utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state. We want to create green jobs and draw green businesses to the state not discourage them. Not only have these funds provided jobs but also provided help to many households. Cutting the funds by 3/4 is exactly the wrong approach.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Julia Hikory

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Stephen J. Joncus, AIA-Architect
13 Chadwick Drive
Old Lyme, CT 06371

February 13, 2009

RE: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

I am an architect in private practice that has been concerned about our energy issues since the first oil shocks and the energy crisis of the 1970's. Also, I am among a group of individuals enrolled in a Sustainable Building Advisor Program at Gateway Community College this year. This is the first program in New England and the only program in Connecticut of the National Sustainable Advisor Program which seeks to train people to assist in the development of a sustainable future.

The budget proposal to strip 75% of the Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy funds would be a disaster for Connecticut.

1. Electricity is the energy that powers us today and will tomorrow. How that energy is conserved and generated has a major bearing on whether Connecticut will be a viable place to do business and to live economically. Currently we are at the end of the gas pipeline that generates most of our power, and unless we entertain another Liquid Natural Gas proposal like the one we have just beaten back, that's all we are going to get. Nuclear power generation will not grow until public attitudes change and that well has been poisoned by the failure of the national government's nuclear waste program. As demand increases and spikes we buy power from the Canadians at huge cost or turn on the dirty half dozen of our own power plants at high operating and environmental costs. Some power is generated by bio fuels, hydro, and slowly by photovoltaic cells. Unless we can find ways to use less electricity through conservation and produce more electricity through clean energy such as solar and wind, our economy will stagnate, our population will lose its most creative and energetic people, and we will be left with small farms, well-to-do retired folks, and the rest of us dying on the vine because we can't afford to leave for greener pastures.
2. Connecticut's energy funds have been a huge success because people, businesses, schools, and other local government agencies have realized that this time, unlike 30 years ago, there is no viable alternative. The goal to reduce our energy consumption by 50% is attainable, but only through continuing the efforts we have begun. At the same time, power growth through renewable, clean resources is the only viable road ahead through the continued existence and expansion of these funds.

The funds that this proposal wants to cut are not state revenues and it is absolutely outrageous that they are included in the current budget proposal at all. In our rush to try and reduce the cost of government in this very rich, but also very costly state, let us try to avoid shooting ourselves in the foot, or worse. Please vote to retain these funds at the present level.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Joncus, AIA

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Stacy Prince, 5 Little Lane, Westport, CT 06880

February 17, 2009
Re: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

When my daughter was diagnosed with cancer in 1998, at the age of three, the way I looked at the world changed. As I searched for the reasons she -- and not other children -- got sick, I came to realize that everybody who lives on earth today is linked in to a vast global economy in which human health has no value. As my understanding grew, I came to see that the health of our planet itself has no value within this system either, and that the very earth that we count on to sustain this economy is being endangered. "The economy" and "business" have been used for decades as bludgeons with which to weaken any attempt to protect our natural resources. The only relevant paradigm has been exploiting these resources, rather than managing them so they will continue to serve our needs (including basic health needs of clean air, water, and soil).

We are at a turning point. The economy in whose name we have been ignoring the planet's health is itself in shambles. Scientists (at least independent ones) are telling us we're close to the tipping point, and that if we want to continue to exist on this planet we need to change the way we do things. Most educated Americans express a desire to have the environment count when governments consider energy policy.

That the governor would stick to the old paradigm is no surprise; we've seen scant leadership on this important issue, and it's tempting to think that we can bury our heads in the sand and hope our energy and environmental situation will improve by magic. But this is the time for BOLD leadership, to admit that the old policies have failed us, and to work toward developing a new economic model that protects the planet, makes us less reliant on foreign oil, and at the same time allows for smart business growth. Connecticut needs to build new green technology; all the CFL bulb drives, the recycling pushes, and plastic bag bans in the world will not substitute for meaningful public energy policy.

Undercutting the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund, as Governor Rell has proposed, is exactly the wrong thing to do. As I'm sure you've heard already, the people of Connecticut need these funds spent in the manner in which they were intended:

- Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.
- In 2008, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy ranked Connecticut's program the third-best in the nation. Connecticut is recognized as a leader in clean energy and efficiency, and we must continue to support these programs to maintain our competitive advantage.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
- The funds help pay for energy audits, solar panels, and efficiency measures for homes, businesses, municipalities. Every \$1 invested in efficiency has a return of at least \$4.
- In the past decade, the efficiency fund served 45,000 households. Demand was so high in 2008—up 200% for residences and 300% for schools and businesses—that the Renewable Energy program had to stop taking new applications.
- Improving efficiency is also the most cost-effective way to meet our greenhouse gas reduction mandates. The efficiency fund has saved 355 kilowatts in a year, which in terms of emissions is equivalent to preventing the burning of 164,000 lbs of coal, saving 101,000 acres of trees, or getting 48,865 cars off the road.
- *This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.*
- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. We must continue to make wise policy decisions and investments if we are to build a better, sustainable place to live & work.
- Connecticut can be a leader in energy policy -- and be at the forefront of the new economy -- or it can stay mired in the past, fretting that it cannot "afford" to move forward. It is my fervent hope that we are smart enough, and courageous enough, to take bold steps into the only future we have

Thank you.

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Simon Silverleaf, 293 Dundee Rd, Stamford, CT 06903

February 17, 2009

RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

As a person who is very concerned about our environment and the effect that global warming is having on our daily lives, I would like you to consider the impact of the proposed budget amendment. I have also changed my electricity generator to Wind Power as I believe that this is a social responsible act although their electricity cost is higher.

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut . If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
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- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis.

Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth and create jobs.

Yours truly

Simon Silverleaf

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Susan Tabachnick, 655 Jennings Road, Fairfield, CT 06824
Date: February 17, 2009
Re: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

As a tax and utility payer, I find it totally unreasonable that the Governor would even consider taking the dollars specifically put aside for the Clean Energy Fund! What happens to all those state residents who had planned on making personal investments in clean energy, but can no longer do so because of the missing subsidies? And what about Connecticut's commitment to clean and green the State?

Our energy efficiency and clean energy programs are a powerful engine for a sustainable economy, and this is the time to invest in them. The governor's budget would take \$40 million from the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund for each of the next two years, and would borrow another \$52 million from them every year for the next decade. That's \$92 million out of only \$120 million in the funds' budgets. For the following reasons, I strongly urge you to vote to sustain these funds:

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- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. We must continue to make wise policy decisions and investments if we are to build a better, sustainable place to live & work.

Please contact me with any questions or comments.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Susan Tabachnick

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Suzanne Urban 58 Naugatuck Avenue Walnut Beach, Milford CT 06460

February 17, 2009

Re: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

I UNDERSTAND THAT GAS RATES ARE HIGHER IN CT THAN ANY OTHER STATE, ALSO WITH CT HAVING THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN BEING DIAGNOSED WITH BREAST CANCER I WOULD THINK CLEAN ENERGY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AN IMPORTANT ISSUE FOR OUR CURRENT AGENDA.

Our energy efficiency and clean energy programs are a powerful engine for a sustainable economy, and this is the time to invest in them. The governor's budget would take \$40 million from the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund for each of the next two years, and would borrow another \$52 million from them every year for the next decade. That's \$92 million out of only \$120 million in the funds' budgets. For the following reasons, I strongly urge you to vote to sustain these funds:

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To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Susan B. Wasch, 150 Coleman Rd., Middletown, CT; Member: Middletown Garden Club

February 17, 2009

Re: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

Our energy efficiency and clean energy programs are a powerful engine for a sustainable economy, and this is the time to invest in them. The governor's budget would take \$40 million from the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund for each of the next two years, and would borrow another \$52 million from them every year for the next decade. That's \$92 million out of only \$120 million in the funds' budgets. For the following reasons, I strongly urge you to vote to sustain these funds:

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To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Tulay Luciano
808 Warrenton Road
Mansfield Center, CT 06250

February 17, 2009

Re: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

Our energy efficiency and clean energy programs are a powerful engine for a sustainable economy, and this is the time to invest in them. The governor's budget would take \$40 million from the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund for each of the next two years, and would borrow another \$52 million from them every year for the next decade. That's \$92 million out of only \$120 million in the funds' budgets. For the following reasons, I strongly urge you to vote to sustain these funds:

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To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Tim Maurer, 392 Crystal Lake Road, Tolland, CT / Vice President, Energy New England
Date: February 17, 2009
RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

Yes, this is an unprecedented and difficult time. But rather than just being a time of budget reduction, this must also be a time of investment -- in job retention; in job creation; in innovation; and in quality of life.

Retaining -- and, perhaps, further investing in -- energy efficiency and renewable funding should be explored as a priority economic growth engine amid your Results Based Accountability funding criteria.

Per your RBA criteria, sustained and continued investment in funding energy efficiency and renewable sources will:

- create new jobs and income tax revenue in the new energy economy
- enable the "green practices" Connecticut companies will need to compete in today's marketplace
- provide an ROI that's estimated to be about 4-to-1
- deliver quality of life health impacts and greater life spans for Connecticut residents
- assure Connecticut doesn't abdicate its leadership of efficiency and renewable development to other states.

As Vice President of Marketing for Energy New England (an energy cooperative owned in part by CMEEC, Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative) which has a unique perspective on how the public and private sectors derive significant benefits from these critical programs... as a former Director of Market Management at Northeast Utilities who guided the company through the onset of deregulation and who has seen first-hand the value of marketing energy solutions to help Connecticut retain its businesses... and as someone who has previously advised the White House National Economic Council... I can't encourage you enough to keep the energy funds whole.

Thousands of businesses and municipalities throughout the state have benefitted from energy conservation in lowering costs and remaining viable, and many more are waiting to be served as a means of reducing their operating costs and increasing their competitiveness. Plus, leading businesses everywhere are now aware that they must execute green strategies to meet market demands and remain competitive.

Just as Governor Rell recently launched the \$9 M Connecticut Clean Tech Fund to make investments in seed and early-stage companies focused on clean technology and renewable energy... and just as Connecticut has enjoyed a long history of leading the nation in conservation and renewable energy efforts... Connecticut must continue to make investments in energy efficiency and renewable sources. Such investments should be viewed as part of an essential strategy to both create jobs and help businesses compete by keeping energy costs low and fulfilling on rapidly increasing market requirements that companies everywhere affect green practices.

But should these funds (which originated through charges on ratepayer bills and are actually ratepayer dollars) be tapped for non-energy purposes, surrounding states will more directly harvest the economic benefits of the emerging clean energy industry. Importantly, other states are increasing their investments in energy efficiency businesses and programs, just as Connecticut is now considering reducing these investments.

Now more than ever, as the federal economic stimulus investment in clean energy shows, there is a new energy economy emerging that Connecticut must continue to invest in -- and, ideally, should continue to lead. An economy that grows through the investment in energy efficiency and alternative energy is one of the few short-term ways to offset income tax losses from vast job cuts in the financial and other sectors.

This is the time to harvest Connecticut's energy efficiency expertise for job creation and growth, and to help all Connecticut businesses survive and prosper. In addition to our own company's work in Connecticut, high quality energy-related businesses throughout Connecticut -- in CT-based companies like Con Serv, New England Energy Management, Sunlight Solar and others -- have not only assured the state an estimated 4-to-1 return on conservation and renewable dollars invested, they have also created hundreds

of jobs and laid the foundation for helping Connecticut navigate our new energy economy. Cutting funds from the energy budget would negatively impact these firms and constrain their ability to create new jobs and enable all CT-based businesses to execute much-needed green practices.

Finally, investing in energy efficiency and renewable sources will produce the RBA measure of impacting Connecticut's Quality of Life. Investing in energy efficiency and renewable sources will not only help Connecticut generate income tax revenue and ROI, going green has also been proven to improve heart health, and even add to the life spans of area communities. That's according to a study on fine-particulate matter and life expectancy just published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

And it's why Connecticut-based Eastern Connecticut Cardiology Associates recently led the healthcare community with an investment in Solar, which was made possible, in part, through the help of the CCEF.

According to the January 2009 NEJM article, residents of communities that do the best job cleaning up air pollution experience the biggest jump in life spans. As an example, the study cites Pittsburgh's improvements in air quality as enabling residents to live nearly 10 months longer.

The study noted that exposure to dirty air over long periods -- specifically, the tiny specks known as fine-particulate air pollution -- shortens lives and contributes to cardiovascular and lung disease. It notes that particulate matter is inhaled almost like a gas and is thought to hike blood pressure, heart attack risk, and the chance of heart disease-related death.

"Gas and diesel engines, coal-fired plants ... (those energy sources) involving burning at high temperatures, produce these particles... the ones that can penetrate deeply into the lungs and cause most of the health problems," explained the study's lead researcher, Arden Pope III, Ph.D., of Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

Conservation efforts, renewable energy and other green strategies are what's needed to reduce our dependence on fossil fuel-fired plants. Importantly, Connecticut's efficiency funding has reportedly had the equivalent impact of not burning 164,000 lbs of coal, saving 101,000 acres of trees, or removing 48,865 cars from the road -- and is a key to meeting our greenhouse gas reduction mandates.

And now we know, these strategies and impacts are essential to quality of life -- and longer life, too. While not yet quantified, it's likely continued investment in clean energy will produce additional financial gain for Connecticut which will be realized through significantly reduced health care expenditures.

I believe it would serve Connecticut well financially to at least keep in step with neighboring states such as Massachusetts, which, via its Green Communities Act of 2008, is providing MORE, not less, incentives to the marketplace and is aggressively encouraging energy and water efficiency; reduced grid congestion/less dependence on dirtier generation; environmental stewardship; and competitive support via green practices.

In conclusion, I would strongly discourage reducing Connecticut's investment in funding energy efficiency and renewable sourcing, as such funding uniquely meets the Appropriation Committee's RBA criteria with job creation; income tax generation; enhancing business competitiveness; ROI; and quality-of-life.

In fact, I would hope Connecticut will continue to assert its tremendous leadership and develop a viable strategic plan for harvesting the full benefits available amid America's new energy economy.

Sincerely,

Tim Maurer
Vice President, Marketing and Sales Support
Energy New England
tmaurer@energynewengland.com
www.energynewengland.com

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Wendy G. Batteau
6 Arlen Road
Westport, CT

February 17, 2009

RE: The Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget 2010-2011

I am an elected member of Westport's Representative Town Meeting, though in this circumstance I do not speak for that body. I believe, as do most citizens, that building a robust clean energy system is key to the success of our state, nation, and to safeguarding the health and future of our children, and their children.

For the following reasons, I strongly urge you vote to keep the energy funds intact:

- This money is not state revenue: it comes from a surcharge on consumers' utility bills intended to support the growth of clean energy in the state.
- The energy funds support at least 1,000 good jobs in Connecticut. If the programs lose funding, green businesses and these jobs may leave the state.
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- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. Connecticut's energy funds are proven to save money for ratepayers, support business growth, and create jobs.

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee
From: Dot Kelly @ Lake Drive Darien, CT 06820 (203) 324-6996 dot@dkelly.org

February 12, 2009

Re: The Governor's Budget Proposal 2010-2011: CT Clean Energy Fund and Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund

Improving our energy efficiency and developing non-fossil fuel renewable energy sources has been an area of active interest for me. As a board member and building committee member of the Darien Library I've been involved in the construction of a LEED building based on an energy efficient design utilizing a geothermal heating and air conditioning system. In addition, I've attended a number of Connecticut Clean Energy Fund board meetings, hearings, and events. Also, I am working with an inventor of a patented hydrokinetic turbine, to develop a low-cost run-of-river generator for residential distributed energy generation.

Our energy efficiency and clean energy programs are a powerful engine for a sustainable economy, and this is the time to invest in them. The governor's budget would take \$40 million from the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund and the Renewable Energy Investment Fund for each of the next two years, and would borrow another \$52 million from them every year for the next decade. That's \$92 million out of only \$120 million in the funds' budgets. For the following reasons, I strongly urge you to vote to sustain these funds:

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- Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is exactly the wrong approach in a financial crisis. We must continue to make wise policy decisions and investments if we are to build a better, sustainable place to live & work.
- The CT Clean Energy Fund and CT Energy Conservation and Load Mgt Funds are good programs with good, dedicated people. Improvements in the programs can be made, but slashing the programs is the wrong action, at the wrong time.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions, or if I can provide you with further information.

Respectfully submitted,

Dot Kelly
Dot Kelly



6 Waterview Drive · Shelton, CT 06484 · 203-954-0050 · www.poulsenhybrid.com

To: The Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee

From: Frank Kuchinski, VP Marketing, Poulsen Hybrid, LLC

Poulsen Hybrid, LLC is located in Shelton, Connecticut and is a green technology manufacturer and distributor.

Date: February 17, 2009

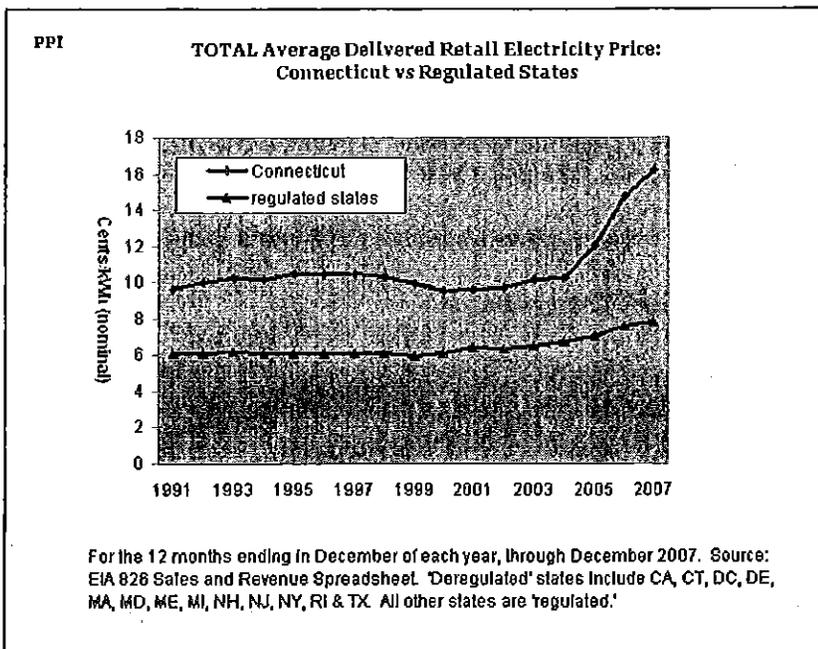
RE: The Governor's Biennium Budget Proposal 2010-2011

SUMMARY: We must look beyond the budget problems of today and invest in our future by doing three things:

1. Keep the Clean Energy funds intact.
2. As a state, we need to invest in our future by establishing a SRCC approved lab. This will bring solar technology to market faster and expand the solar talent pool in Connecticut.
3. Offer incentives for Solar Water Heating products. The Connecticut Clean Energy fund proposed a Solar Thermal Pilot Program which has been put on hold because of the budget. Typically, a modern solar hot water system will save 50 to 80% of a consumer's hot water bill. In our opinion, this deserves a high priority because it can be implemented today at a low cost with incentives.

For the following reasons, we strongly urge you to vote to keep the energy funds intact:

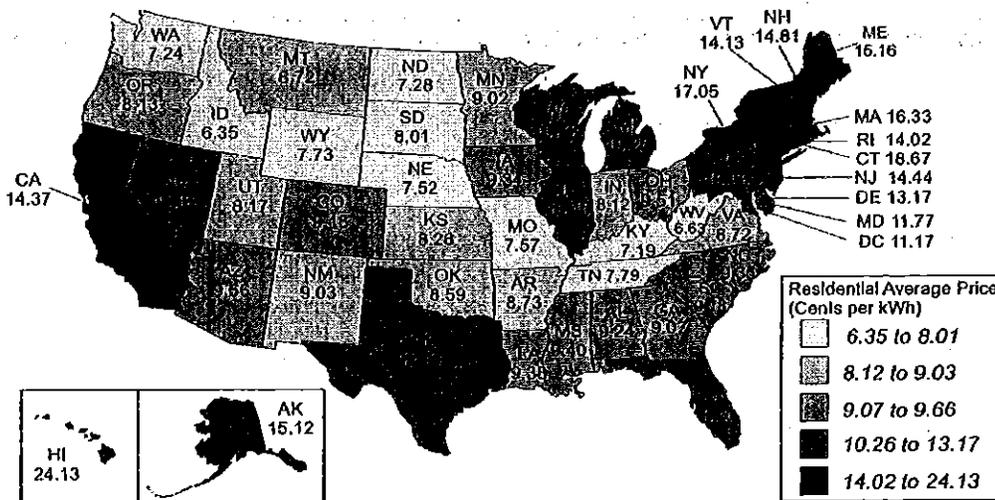
- Deregulation of electricity in Connecticut has not gone well.



Source: www.ppinet.org Power in the Public Interest using U.S. Energy Information Agency, EIA-826 Sales and Revenue Spreadsheets

- In 2007, Connecticut had the second highest electricity rates in the nation. Second only to Hawaii.

The U.S. average residential retail price of electricity was 10.64 cents per kilowatt-hour in 2007.



Source: Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-826, "Monthly Electric Sales and Revenue with State Distributions Report."

We understand the difficult position the Governor is in with the budget. Cutting the energy efficiency and renewable energy funds by three-fourths is a short-term fix with a long term negative impact for the Connecticut solar industry. It will stop consumers from investing in renewable solar energy, reduce the number of internships with university students in the solar industry, and decreased jobs.

- Solar PV systems are still a major investment for consumers even with the second highest utility rates in the country and need incentives from the Connecticut Clean Energy fund.
- We must look beyond the budget problems of today and invest in the future by:
 1. Keeping the Clean Energy funds intact.
 2. Establishing a non-profit SRCC approved lab here in Connecticut to remove the bottleneck of waiting 14 to 30 months for solar product testing.
- Solar Rating and Certification Corporation. (SRCC) certification is a good thing and required by products to qualify for the Connecticut Clean Energy fund incentives and Federal tax credits. But having to wait 14 to 30 months in order to have a new solar product tested because there are only two SRCC accredited labs for the entire United States means that the solar products being offered to Connecticut residents and businesses today are using technology that is dated.

As a consumer, would you buy a Dell laptop that was designed 30 months ago? Probably not. Dell realizes this and re-invents their product line every few months. Solar products should not be delayed in coming to market because of a lack of SRCC approved testing labs.

As a State, we need to invest in our future. The State of Connecticut and/or the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund should be investing in our future by funding a non-profit SRCC approved lab here in Connecticut that would train and involved students in testing the latest solar technology. Educational institutions such as the University of New Haven could provide students to perform these tests. The revenue from the testing lab would go to hiring students and staff and the lab could be self-sustaining within two years with an estimated \$500,000 investment. Please contact me at 203-954-0050 if you can help.

Sincerely yours,



Frank Kuchinski
VP Marketing
Poulsen Hybrid, LLC