



**Connecticut
Light & Power**

The Northeast Utilities System



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TESTIMONY OF RICHARD A. SODERMAN
THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
and YANKEE GAS SERVICES COMPANY
Energy & Technology Committee--March 3, 2009

S.B. No. 597 AAC THE TIMELY REMOVAL OF DOUBLE AND BARE UTILITY POLES.

The proposed bill would require the DPUC to open an investigation to establish uniform procedures and time schedules for the timely removal of double and bare utility poles.

The Connecticut DPUC completed a thorough investigation of double poles in Docket No. 03-03-07, and created rules for removal of double poles. Since that time, CL&P has removed more than 13,000 double poles working with the telecommunication companies to meet the guidelines established by the Department. We have filed compliance reports with the Department to indicate the progress and status of double poles.

In order to remove a double pole, facilities owned by others, primarily used for communication purposes, must also be shifted to the new pole. Failure to shift all facilities can result in longer periods of double poles at locations. Per the Department's directives, we are working to improve communication with these other service providers.

As a result, we do not believe that an additional DPUC investigation of double poles is required at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.