

My name is David Jackson and I am speaking on House Bill 6635 AAC Solar Energy. I am here as energy Chair representing the Connecticut Sierra Club with a membership of over 11,000. And am a resident of West Hartford.

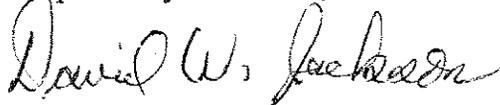
Senator Fonfara, Representative Nardello and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to address this important issue.

The solar path is simple: use less energy, and make sure that the energy comes from generating with renewable resources in Connecticut, rather than from mining, extraction and burning fossil fuels. The Sun's energy is free. The Sun bombards Earth each day with energy about 6,000 times greater than our present daily global needs.

Global Insight has projected current and potential new green jobs by metropolitan areas in Connecticut to be about 84,000 through year 2038. According to the U.S. PV Industry Roadmap, each MW of installed capacity supports 32 direct jobs. Connecticut's solar program in this bill aggregating 370 MW would translate to an estimated: 8,400 local jobs as about 75% of PV jobs are installation-related.

It is my understanding that present peak power requirements in Connecticut generate about 25% of rate payers annual electricity costs. Peak power days represent about 5 to 6 % of Connecticut's annual energy needs. Hot summer days are when the Connecticut grid is strained and we need to resort to using the oldest and dirtiest power plants. Solar installations generate at their maximum design load on sunny days and have a beneficial affect in reducing peak power loads. Connecticut has better access to sunlight than world-leader Germany. Germany is at longitudes N49° -N50° and Connecticut is at longitudes N41° - N42°.

Respectively submitted,



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