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The Northeast Utilities System

Testimony in Support of Raised Bill No. 6284
Committee on Public Safety and Security
February 3, 2009 Public Hearing

My name is Frederick F. Wajcs, Jr. I am a Senior Energy Engineer in CL&P's Conservation and Load Management Department and I am here to speak in support of Raised Bill No. 6284.

An understanding of the building code by design professionals, building officials and contractors is critical for compliance. The current statute is written in a way that makes it difficult to incorporate the "LEED Silver" requirements into the energy section of the State Building Code. A difficult to understand code will result in a code requirement that is difficult to implement and enforce. The lack of clarity in the current statute will result in limited attainment of its intended benefits.

The raised bill is enabling legislation that will direct the Codes and Standards Committee to create requirements in the energy code that will improve the energy efficiency of new construction and major alterations. Because it is enabling legislation it will allow the Codes and Standards Committee to amend the building code so as to incorporate sustainability concepts. Clear and consistent requirements in all sections of the building code will result in more energy efficient buildings and a more sustainable environment.

Thank you very much for your time.