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**Written Testimony of Chris Lenda, Aegis Electrical Systems
Before the Connecticut General Assembly Energy and Technology Committee
March 4, 2010
Written Testimony in support of House Bill 5362, AN ACT CONCERNING
RENEWABLE ENERGY**

I am Chris Lenda, president of Aegis Solar, a division of Aegis Electrical Systems in Branford, CT

The Solar industry in CT is facing a crisis, a shrinking market for solar.

In January of 2009 the Commercial and Municipal solar rebate program was suspended. Effectively killing the largest segment of the solar industry in CT. A number of companies left the state.

The companies that remained focused on the Residential Solar lease program. That program was abruptly Suspended last month only 18 months into what was to be a 3 year program.

If we do not take immediate action the CT solar industry will collapse. Companies that can will move to states that have made strong commitments to solar and green jobs, including New Jersey, Massachusetts, and New York. Many of the companies that remain will fold.

Employees of these companies will be laid-off. If they wish to remain working in the Solar Industry, they will be forced to leave the state as well.

We can and must reverse this trend if we hope to keep green jobs in CT.

Please support House Bill 5362, "AN ACT CONCERNING RENEWABLE ENERGY"!

Sincerely,

Chris Lenda

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