

Testimony

of

THE UNITED ILLUMINATING COMPANY

before the

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Re

RAISED HOUSE BILL 5467

AN ACT CONCERNING THE COORDINATION OF ENERGY

EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING

HARTFORD, CT

March 9, 2010

Good Afternoon, Senator Fonfara, Representative Nardello and members of the Energy and Technology Committee. My name is Patrick McDonnell and I am the Director of Conservation and Load Management for The United Illuminating Company (“UI”). I also represent UI on the Energy Conservation Management Board (ECMB). I am here today to testify on **Raised House Bill 5467 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE COORDINATION OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS**

This Bill would modify the membership of the ECMB to broaden the perspectives of the membership. This modification of the membership was last done in 2007, and the addition of the gas distribution companies has resulted in the high level of coordinated program delivery we currently have. UI supports including additional representatives that can facilitate the necessary coordination to develop seamless program offerings to customers.

There are also additional provisions of this bill that would require the ECMB to hire an administrator to develop offerings for deliverable fuels, and provisions for handling funding for deliverable fuels. UI believes that these provisions are unnecessary administrative expenses that can be avoided by utilizing the current framework of administration.

RHB 5467 also requires that funds from different sources be kept in separate accounts. These provisions are unnecessary as funds separation is already occurring. The electric

distribution companies are currently receiving funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Those funds are held in a separate account as the bill would require. There are also several vendors working in our programs whose core business is providing oil heating services. The result of the ARRA funds being available, as well as the coordination of services with natural gas distribution companies, means that customers can receive energy efficiency services on a truly fuel blind basis. The bill would also require establishing separate accounts for federal or other funding that may be available from time to time for energy efficiency. The electric companies are currently receiving funding from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), which are currently also kept in a separate account, and subject to audit (as are all of these funds) by the Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC).

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I would be happy to answer any questions you might have.