

INTRODUCTION / WHY THIS LEGISLATION IS IMPORTANT

Madame Chair / Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee -- my name is Mike Giudice, from Trumbull, and I support SB #461 and #462 because they help ensure the greater good is served in Connecticut whenever energy and power plant decisions are being contemplated.

The natural gas, fuel cell power plant in Trumbull is just a preview -- a preview -- of what is about to happen -- in neighborhoods -- one-by-one -- all across our state.

THE RISK TO CONNECTICUT

So this committee should be mindful of the single, largest safety risk to Connecticut residents. The risk is undeniable. The risk is evidenced by facts. And the risk is this:

In Connecticut, "clean" energy is fighting dirty. In Connecticut, we are being bullied. In Connecticut, our own energy agenda has been taken from us.

The authority, rights, and good sense of our local, state, and federal officials is being challenged. Built into the system are restrictions, procedures, definitions, and influence such that... *when we find something wrong... when we see we have new information...* we are handcuffed in our ability to correct course.

EVIDENCE

In three minutes, I won't have time to give you the evidence. But it's out there. And I promise that if you look for it:

- **You will find: a Limited Liability Company** - an LLC - that is driving the process. They're in charge. They're dropping the power plants.
- **You will find: a fuel cell industry** that our state has faithfully supported for years - and that will continue to require millions of Connecticut dollars for the foreseeable future.
- **You will find: despite all this financial support, a home state fuel cell company** that decided to execute a business model that is suboptimal for the preservation and safety of residential neighborhoods. And let's be crystal clear here, and stop the insults to you and to our state:
 - Not all fuel cells are created equal.
 - Not all fuel cells are natural gas.
 - Not all fuel cells mean "neighborhood MW power plants".
- **You will find: also, despite all this financial support, a home state fuel cell company struggling...** struggling on Wall Street, struggling to achieve profitability, and struggling to acquire commercial and industrial customers on its own.
- **And finally, you will find: a growing group of smart, concerned Connecticut residents:**
 - That believe in full employment;
 - That acknowledge growing demand for electricity;
 - That want to go green; and

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- That support public policy to jumpstart innovation...
- *But that respectfully ask its state to reward the right companies, developing the right technologies, with the right application strategies for our neighborhoods.*

CONCLUSION

So, when we expand our point-of-view... when we widen the lens... we begin to ask questions. Questions like:

- **Is this really the best Connecticut can do?**
- **Is this really what Connecticut intended to sign-up for?**
- **Do we really want someone else to tell us what's green, what's clean, what's renewable, and what is safe?**
- **And finally, do we really want to execute on this plan when we already know - tragically - what can happen *anywhere* when power plant oversight, regulation, and extreme due diligence are not in place?**

REQUEST

Please... take back our energy agenda. Please... help Connecticut become a showcase for true clean energy and strong job creation while preserving our neighborhoods. Please... support this legislation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mike Giudice, Trumbull CT