



**Connecticut  
Light & Power**

The Northeast Utilities System



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February 17, 2011

Chairmen LeBeau and Berger and members of the Commerce Committee, thank you for the opportunity to speak before this committee today.

My name is Peter Casarella, today I represent **Yankee Gas Services Company** which is a local natural gas distribution company that provides natural gas to some 205,000 customers in 71 cities and towns throughout the State of Connecticut.

I am here today to speak in support **Raised Bill 924 - An Act Concerning Alternative Vehicles.**

I have provided written testimony and in order to save your time I will briefly describe it and take any question you might have.

This Raised Bill supports our National Energy Policy Act of 1992, and also supports the U.S. Department of Energy's Clean Cities program whose *mission is to advance the economic, environmental, and energy security of the United States by supporting local decisions to adopt practices that contribute to reduced petroleum consumption in the transportation sector.*

According to The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency the benefits of compressed natural gas as a motor fuel (CNG) versus gasoline based on the inherently cleaner-burning characteristics of natural gas will:

- Reduces carbon monoxide emissions 90%-97%
- Reduces carbon dioxide emissions 25%
- Reduces nitrogen oxide emissions 35%-60%
- Potentially reduces non-methane hydrocarbon emissions 50%-75%
- Emits fewer toxic and carcinogenic pollutants
- Emits little or no particulate matter
- Eliminates evaporative emissions

Additionally, the *American Council for Energy-Efficient Economy* just released



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this year's clean vehicle ratings among plug-ins, gasoline hybrids, diesels, natural gas vehicles, and ever-improving "conventional" gasoline vehicles. For the 8th year, the natural gas powered Honda Civic GX wins top honors.

<http://www.aceee.org/press/2011/02/latest-technologies-place-dont-win-years-greenest-vehicle>

I drove here today in one such clean burning natural gas powered Honda Civic.

By passage of this Raised Bill, Connecticut will continue to foster the process of clean energy as a motor fuel, encourage economic development of industries to support the vehicular marketplace, fueling stations and the service industry. The financial incentives contained in this bill have worked to help the following sample of businesses:

- Yellow Cab
- United Parcel Services
- City of Waterbury -Fire Department
- City of Norwalk-Police Department
- Capuano Buick Cadillac

Thank you for the opportunity to speak and are there any questions