

Testimony of Joe Flaherty before the Energy and Technology Committee  
On proposed *House Bill 6249 An Act Establishing a Moratorium on the Siting of Wind  
Projects Until the Adoption of Regulations*  
Thursday, February 3, 2011

Senator Fonfara, Representative Nardello, Senator Witkos, Representative Hoydick and members of the Energy and Technology Committee, my name is Joe Flaherty and I am submitting this testimony in opposition to proposed House Bill 6249 An Act Establishing a Moratorium on the Siting of Wind Projects Until the Adoption of Regulations.

I'm a long time resident of Connecticut and a supporter of wind energy. The bill before you would stifle economic development and investment in a burgeoning industry. If you pass a moratorium bill, it will send a message to future investors in green energy that Connecticut doesn't want their business here. Our policy makers need to encourage investment in green technology, not place further restrictions on it.

The proposed BNE Energy wind project in Prospect CT will create jobs, bring in much needed tax revenue to the town and will preserve open space. This proposal is already going through the lengthy DPUC approval process which is open and allows comment from the public. We shouldn't stop that process in mid-stream because a small group of people disagree with it. If we did that on every occasion, Connecticut wouldn't have any energy infrastructure to speak of.

If you support clean, renewable energy, you must be opposed to this bill. I urge your rejection of HB 6249. Thank you.