

UTC Power Corporation  
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**UTC Power**

A United Technologies Company

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To: The Chairs and Honorable Members of the Energy and Technology Committee

Date: March 8, 2011

Re: Senate Bill No. 1141

UTC Power Corporation, a United Technologies company located in South Windsor and employing over 525 people in the development, design, production and service of fuel cells for use in stationary, transportation, space and defense applications, supports Section 2 of Senate Bill No. 1141, "An Act Concerning Net Metering". UTC Power is in favor of the opportunity represented by net metering.

UTC Power has been in the fuel cell industry for over 50 years and without the fuel cells produced in South Windsor, man never would have set foot on the moon. Today we are producing fuel cells for stationary applications that fulfill the promise for energy generation with system efficiencies approaching 90%, no combustion, no noise, no green house gas emissions and a significantly reduced carbon foot print from the same amount of energy input, compared to traditional power generation devices, through the use of combined heat and power. We also provide fuel cells and fuel cell technology for transportation applications, from working with various automotive manufacturers on fuel cell technology for light duty vehicles, to underwater vehicles, to the Space Shuttle, to the five fuel cell powered transit buses deployed with CT Transit in Hartford.

We are in support of the new section 2 of SB 1141, providing virtual net metering to in-state retail end users of electric distribution companies, so long as this process protects the existing infrastructure and maintains the safety and stability of the electric distribution system. Allowing the aggregation of meters affords many benefits to ratepayers, as well as municipalities with multiple sites of smaller electricity demand and consumption. Virtual net metering further encourages end users to use clean energy technologies, while simultaneously creating clean power generation that can offset peak loads of existing commercial facilities.

We are also in support of any excess electricity supplied to the electric distribution system in a given month being assigned as a credit to the end user in the following monthly billing period until the monthly bill equals zero kilowatt hours. It is important that the electric distribution companies align the credits being assigned in the monthly billing period with the calendar year reconciliation. This legislation should also consider the demand for electricity at a given site or aggregation of sites and not allow installation of equipment that is significantly larger than the peak load of the existing commercial facility. This will ensure both appropriate net metering credits, as well as avoid disproportionate reliance of the distribution system on electricity generated at the oversized site.

Net metering represents further opportunity for Connecticut to reduce overall energy costs to consumers and provide significant environmental benefits. Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for this bill. We are pleased to provide any information to the Committee and the staff in support of the consideration of this bill.