

Connecticut General Assembly
300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: Raised Bill No. 6337: An Act Clarifying the Scope of Solar Electricity Work

To whom it may Concern:

Greenskies Renewable Energy LLC, a Middletown, CT-based solar integration company, would like to express its support for Raised Bill No. 6337 with this letter. As experienced solar tradesmen, we can vouch for the varying levels of complexity posed by a solar installation. In fact, Greenskies has installed a wide variety of solar plants from large commercial installations for manufacturers to small residential installations here in Connecticut. In our estimation, this breadth of experience establishes Greenskies as an experienced solar provider and gives credence to this testimony.

It should be the intent of any state regulatory infrastructure to simultaneously protect workers from taking on projects beyond their training (which poses risk to the safety of those individuals and those others and can also detract from the integrity and quality of the solar installation) while allowing the maximum amount of people access to the expanding workforce provided by the emerging solar industry (thereby creating jobs and leveraging the effect of widely-supported state incentive programs on the state economy).

It must be understood first and foremost, that all solar installations require varying degrees of skill. There are two core components: the physical installation of the modules, inverters and racking equipment ("equipment") and the electrical interconnection of the system.

The physical installation of the equipment is a practice best performed by workers with carpentry, roofing or similar backgrounds. It does not have an electrical component and is an opportunity for many who desire to enter the solar workforce to have immediate access to new jobs. It is critical that the installation of equipment component of solar installations is left open for all to perform as a matter of economic growth.

The electrical interconnection of the system can have a range of complexity and requires dedicated training to perform. For most installations, the PV-1 license is an appropriate level of certification for the task. In our estimation, any system smaller than 200kW is within the capacity of a PV-1 to install. While most projects will require a local electrical permit, which can only be accessed by an E-1, electrical installation work can be performed safely by a PV-1 license holder.

Thank you for your time in considering this testimony as you consider the passage of this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Silvestrini". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "M" and a long, sweeping tail.

Michael Silvestrini, President