

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY**

Public Hearing – March 1, 2012
Energy & Technology Committee
Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
Testimony Submitted by Chairman Kevin DeGobbo

House Bill 5272 - AN ACT CONCERNING ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding House Bill 5272 - An Act Concerning Energy Infrastructure. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP) Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) welcomes the opportunity to offer the following testimony.

House Bill 5272 would require that PURA initiate a docket to develop Connecticut-based renewable technologies and report its findings to the Energy and Technologies Committee on or before February 1, 2013. PURA is ready to conduct the proceeding contemplated by House Bill 5272 but asks the Committee's consideration of the following points.

The proposed bill has PURA conducting this proceeding on renewables, however, the Committee may wish to consider amending the reference from PURA to DEEP in this instance. Given the new organizational paradigm established under the provisions of Public Act 11-80, this is the kind of issue most appropriately assigned to DEEP's Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy for further analysis and recommendations.

In either event, PURA would encourage the Committee to more clearly state what parameters such an analysis would encompass by addressing in this legislation the specific types of issues to be evaluated and determined. A full analysis by all pertinent stakeholders concerning renewable infrastructure in the state and what further opportunities exist will be helpful in developing Connecticut's renewable energy policy and strategy going forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this proposal. If you should require any additional information, please contact DEEP's legislative liaison, Robert LaFrance at 424-3401 or Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov