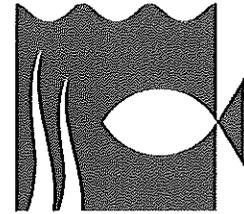


**Connecticut Fund
for the Environment**



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Testimony of Connecticut Fund for the Environment

Before the Energy & Technology Committee

In Support of:

Governor's Bill No. 23, AN ACT ENHANCING EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE.

Submitted by
Charles J. Rothenberger, Staff Attorney
March 20, 2012

Connecticut Fund for the Environment ("CFE") is a non-profit environmental organization with over 5,400 members statewide. The mission of CFE is to protect and improve the land, air and water of Connecticut and Long Island Sound. For more than twenty-five years, CFE has used legal and scientific expertise to bring people together to achieve results that benefit our environment for current and future generations.

Senator Fonfara, Representative Nardello and members of the Committee, Connecticut Fund for the Environment is pleased to have the opportunity to offer the following testimony on Governor's Bill No. 23.

Section 4 of this bill directs DEEP to establish a micro-grid grant and loan program to support local renewable distributed energy generation for critical facilities.

CFE supports the improvement of the state's electric reliability through the establishment of local micro-grids and the expansion of clean, renewable customer-side distributed generation. We are pleased that this proposal explicitly promotes the twin goals of grid reliability and the deployment of clean renewable generation. Such an initiative promises not only to make our energy infrastructure more secure from failures (whether caused by natural storm events or terrorist attacks), but will continue Connecticut's leadership in supporting the clean energy jobs and businesses that are essential to a prosperous economy for the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.