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**Testimony of UTC Power
Regarding**

**Senate Bill No. 23
*AN ACT ENHANCING EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE***

**Before the Energy and Technology Committee
March 20, 2012**

Senator Fonfara, Representative Nardello and members of the Committee:

UTC Power appreciates the opportunity to convey its support for ***Senate Bill No. 23, An Act Enhancing Emergency Preparedness and Response***. UTC Power, a United Technologies company located in South Windsor for the last 50 years, employs approximately 430 people in the development, design, production and service of fuel cells for use in stationary, transportation, space and defense applications.

UTC Power would like to take this opportunity to thank Governor Malloy for his leadership in introducing this legislation that represents an innovative and comprehensive approach to the promotion of energy infrastructure resiliency that enables micro-grids as a part of the systemic solution. We'd also like to thank Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Commissioner Esty and his staff for their work in reaching out to the renewable energy and distributed generation community to begin what we believe will be a thoughtful dialogue on the potential uses of micro-grids in Connecticut.

Today UTC Power is providing fuel cell solutions for stationary and transportation applications. Fuel cell technology solutions benefit customers by providing higher system efficiencies within a broad range of applications. A fuel cell converts its input fuel directly into electricity, allowing the fuel cell to operate at much higher electrical efficiencies than an internal combustion engine. More simply, a fuel cell produces a larger amount of electricity than a combustion engine with the same fuel input. UTC Power's stationary solution is a sustainable energy generation system, with a combined heat and power efficiency approaching 90%. Our stationary fuel cells operate without combustion, make minimal noise and meet the strictest air standards in the United States. Additionally, UTC Power offers a transportation fuel cell solution for heavy duty applications, such as public transit buses. Currently, our product is operating in revenue service within five buses at CT Transit and twelve buses in California at AC Transit.

UTC Power respectfully recommends further enhancements to the Senate Bill No. 23 to ensure that a comprehensive statewide energy policy is truly achieved. Specifically, we support Section 4 which establishes a grant and loan program for the establishment of micro-grids for critical infrastructure in Connecticut. Installing distributed energy generation as part of these micro-grids will provide further energy reliability and security for Connecticut. We suggest that a defined date for the release of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's request for proposal (RFP) for micro grids be established within Section 4(b). A discernible timeline for the RFP allows project developers, electrical

distribution companies and critical infrastructure end users to properly plan and execute all potential micro grids in Connecticut.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for SB 23 which we believe will be critical to meeting the State's dual objectives of the ensuring its citizens have access to the cleanest, and most reliable energy possible, while facilitating job creation and retention in the State of Connecticut. We would be pleased to provide any information to the Committee and the staff in support of the consideration of this bill.