

SB 450

Testimony Before the Energy & Technology Committee

Submitted by

Justin Haaheim, Community Organizer in New Haven, CT

Tuesday March 20, 2012

To: The Connecticut General Assembly and Governor Malloy

From: Connecticut Municipal Leaders

As you know, forty-eight percent of housing units in Connecticut are heated with fuel oil, but the residents in those homes currently have limited and declining access to efficiency programs to help reduce their heating bills. Many municipal facilities and schools are also heated with oil. We are deeply concerned that with the end of federal stimulus funding, oil efficiency programs will disappear almost entirely without action from you.

We, the undersigned representatives of Connecticut municipalities, are writing to ask you, our lawmakers, to create a stable funding source for energy efficiency programs for oil-heating customers. It is critical to act this year as oil prices are rising to \$4 per gallon. Funding oil efficiency proportionately to our state's natural gas efficiency programs will create jobs in our communities, save our residents that use oil heat an average of \$768 each winter, and cut our greenhouse gas emissions by 251,000 short tons.

Connecticut's municipal and residential energy efficiency programs have been around for years and have proven effective at saving CT residents money, improving municipal buildings, and creating jobs. Our municipalities cannot afford to lose those benefits and leave our oil-heating customers out in the cold. We are joining together today to ask you to support legislation in the 2012 session to provide oil customers full access to energy efficiency programs.

Please feel free to contact Justin Haaheim, a representative of this group, with questions or comments: justin@350.org or 203-936-9006.

Respectfully signed,

Virginia Walton, chair
Mansfield Energy Education Team
Mansfield, CT

Michael Harder
Chair, Hebron Citizens Green Committee
Hebron, CT

Rick Linden
Andover Energy Committee
Andover, CT

Michael D. Okrent
Chairman Clean Energy Task Force
Bethany, CT

Donald Feeley
Analyst, St Raphael's Hospital
Essex, CT

Stacy Abbott
Energy and Financial Analyst, Strategic Building Solutions
Essex, CT

Maryellen Donnelly
Secretary, Hampton Green Energy Committee
Hampton, CT

Justin Elicker
New Haven Board of Aldermen
New Haven, CT

Justin Haaheim
Connecticut Regional Organizer, 350.org
New Haven, CT

Andy Bauer
Chair, and on behalf of the Portland Clean Energy Taskforce
Portland, CT

Letitia Naigles
Leader, Environmental Ministry, St. John's Episcopal Church
Vernon, CT

Catherine Diviney
Energy Manager, Town of West Hartford
West Hartford, CT

David Mann
on behalf of the Westport Green Energy Task Force
Westport, CT

Christina Mailhos
First Selectman
Willington, CT

Pamela Wheeler
Member of Willington Energy Advisory Committee
Willington, CT

Bruce Hampson, chair
Wilton Energy Commission
Wilton, CT

Patrice Gillespie
Wilton Energy Commission
Wilton, CT

Marcia Wilkins
Chair, Brookfield Energy Committee
Brookfield, CT

Benjamin Martin
Wallingford Energy Conservation Commission
Wallingford, CT