

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

**Raised Bill No. 6535 – An Act Redefining Class I Renewable Energy Resources**

**Public Hearing Testimony of**

**Augustus Kellogg**

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**and**

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Greenleaf Biofuels LLC ("Greenleaf"), a biodiesel producer located in New Haven and a member of The Connecticut Thermal-Renewable Energy Coalition ("CT-REC"), appreciates this opportunity to support Raised Bill No. 6535 ("Bill 6535") and its proposal to redefine Class I Renewable Energy Sources in the State's renewable portfolio standard ("RPS").

I am Gus Kellogg, Founder and Co-CEO at Greenleaf, a Connecticut company that recently began producing a cleaner burning, renewable fuel called biodiesel primarily when used in diesel vehicles and Bioheat when used in oil-fired heating systems. Biodiesel and Bioheat are well recognized for their environmental benefits in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, particulate, PAH and sulfur. Our particular product, made almost entirely from recycled cooking oil and animal fat, has been found by the EPA to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by 86% compared to their petroleum equivalents.

Connecticut can significantly advance its renewable energy strategy by adopting provisions to incorporate Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) from applications including Bioheat as a Class I resource under the state's RPS. By allowing thermal RECs to be generated from Bioheat, Greenleaf will continue to scale production at its new facility, hire more workers and expand the capacity of the facility.

As detailed by other CT-REC members testifying today, Bill 6535 provides increased support for in-state resources with no new funding required, reduces ratepayer expenditures for RPS compliance, and allows for the more efficient utilization of fuels that are already eligible under existing RPS guidelines.

Connecticut's RPS utilizes market-based incentives to accomplish defined public policy objectives. Currently, more than 96% of all funds associated with Class I RECs leave the state of Connecticut. I encourage the legislature to take action now to ensure that these RPS dollars contribute to the economic development of in-state renewable generation.

Biodiesel, Biogas, Wood Pellets & Chips are all eligible to create RECs when used as fuel for electric generators, but are up to 3.5 times more efficient if used to generate heat in thermal applications. However, only Renewable Energy in the form of electricity is currently eligible to receive CT RPS credits, thus denying the State's natural gas and fuel oil providers from benefiting from the use of renewable fuels.

The concept of non-electric thermal RECs has been accepted in both the Federal Executive Order on Renewable Energy as well as fifteen state level RPS programs. Both Maryland and New Hampshire enacted legislation last year designating thermal RECs as Class I resources from specific in-state resources. The Massachusetts legislature is currently considering the inclusion of thermal energy into its renewable mandate, as is Maine, Oregon, Illinois, New Mexico and Colorado. Thus, Bill 6535's legislative solution is consistent with similar efforts in other states and Connecticut should take this opportunity to proactively include the benefits of these widely acknowledged applications into its existing RPS.

I believe that Bill 6535 represents a significant opportunity for Connecticut to advance its clean energy goals without collecting additional funds from ratepayers and taxpayers. Furthermore, millions of dollars that are currently flowing outside the state will stay in Connecticut and will support job creation and economic development here at home.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony in support of Raised Bill No. 6535. I respectfully encourage the Committee to adopt reasonable measures to respond to the State's renewable energy challenges in a timely and cost-effective manner. I am available to answer questions regarding my testimony.