



Testimony
Elizabeth Gara
Connecticut Water Works Association
Before the Energy Committee
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The Connecticut Water Works Association (CWWA), which represents municipal, private and regional water companies, respectfully submits the following comments relative to **HB-6530, AN ACT CONCERNING DEVELOPMENT OF CONNECTICUT-BASED RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES**, which directs the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to initiate a docket to develop Connecticut-based renewable energy sources.

As stewards of the state's water resources, we appreciate that Governor Malloy's 2012 Connecticut Comprehensive Energy Strategy recognizes that, treating and distributing water is very energy intensive. As noted in the full report, EPA found that water utilities' biggest cost is energy and that those costs can represent as much as 65% of a utility's annual budget.

As such, water utilities are pursuing efforts to reduce energy costs, improve the efficiency of equipment such as pump stations, reduce leaks and other measures that save energy as well as water. To build on these efforts, CWWA encourages lawmakers to ensure that programs designed to reduce energy costs, such as Virtual Net Metering, are available to water utilities.

In addition, CWWA supports efforts to require the Conservation & Load Management Program plans submitted by the electric and gas distribution companies to include specific efficiency programs for water and wastewater utilities, and water conservation measures, in general, rather than just those that reduce energy use related to heating water. This will greatly enhance opportunities for water companies to utilize energy efficiency programs to reduce costs and promote water conservation.

The Connecticut Water Works Association, Inc. (CWWA) is an association of private, municipal and regional public water supply utilities serving more than 500,000 customers, or population of about 2½ million people, located throughout Connecticut.