



Connecticut Department of  
**ENERGY &  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION**

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Public Hearing –March 7, 2013  
Energy and Technology Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Daniel C. Esty  
Presented by Deputy Commissioner Katie Dykes

**Proposed House Bill No. 5587 - AN ACT CONCERNING SUBMETERING AT APARTMENT  
BUILDINGS AND CONDOMINIUMS**

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding Proposed House Bill No. 5587 – An Act Concerning Submetering At Apartment Buildings And Condominiums. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) offers the following testimony.

DEEP strongly supports this bill as enabling wider use of submetering will allow more customers to be billed based on actual usage thereby encouraging conservation. This is also an equity issue for Connecticut residents who are living in rental housing and currently have little or no control over their electric bills.

Submetering creates an incentive to conserve electricity thereby enabling thousands of tenants to save money by reducing consumption within their rental unit. This bill primarily affects older commercial or residential buildings, including apartments and multi-family units. Landlords and/or property owners of newer buildings are already required to install utility grade meters for each unit.

DEEP recognizes there is concern about customer service and ensuring that meters are accurate and operate effectively. We agree that proper safeguards need to be put in place. The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority should be directed to establish uniform standards, an efficient application process and a mechanism to deal with consumer complaints. Neighboring states, such as New York, can offer helpful guidance in establishing these protocols.

DEEP recognizes that new submetering technologies have outpaced Connecticut's regulations and that PURA is in a good position to expand the use of submeters while protecting consumers

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this proposal. If you should require any additional information, please contact DEEP's legislative liaison, Robert LaFrance at 860-424-3401 or [Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov).