

Testimony of

Joel M. Rinebold

Director of Energy Initiatives

Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Inc.

before

Energy and Technology Committee

March 4, 2014

regarding

**Raised Bill No. 358 - An Act Concerning the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Program**

## *Introduction*

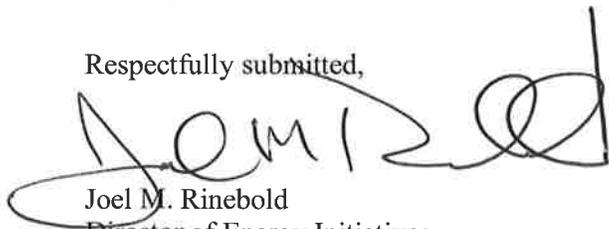
The Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Inc. ("CCAT"), offers this testimony in support of Raised Bill No. 358 - An Act Concerning the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Program

CCAT is a nonprofit corporation that provides services and resources to entrepreneurs, businesses, industry, academia, and government. The Energy Initiative of CCAT has been established to improve the economic competitiveness of the region through solutions that lower energy costs and increase long-term energy reliability. The Energy Initiative of CCAT also provides assistance to businesses and manufacturers regarding energy use and energy efficiency; undertakes energy planning, including microgrid development; and promotes renewable energy, including fuel cells and sustainable fuels.

This Bill modifies the definition of "energy improvements" to include any related infrastructure associated with microgrids that incorporate clean energy. This modification would allow microgrid facilities to participate in and benefit from the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) Program. C-PACE allows building owners to finance qualifying energy efficiency and clean energy improvements through placing a voluntary assessment on their property tax bill. This arrangement spreads the cost of clean energy improvements – such as the infrastructure needed for microgrid development – over the expected life of the project, and makes it more likely that the infrastructure needed to develop microgrids can be financed.

CCAT will make itself available to the Committee and legislature upon request to assist in the refinement of this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel M. Rinebold", written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

Joel M. Rinebold  
Director of Energy Initiatives