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To: ETTestimony
Subject: RHB 1078-AN ACT CONCERNING AFFORDABLE AND RELIABLE ENERGY

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Dear House Energy and Technology Committee Members,

We are submitting this email in opposition to *RHB 1078-AN ACT CONCERNING AFFORDABLE AND RELIABLE ENERGY*.

It is our opinion that the natural gas projects, for which this bill is designed to fund, are not necessary and that over the long term any funds spent on them will be wasted.

A country's future as a viable economy will, in the long term, be contingent upon its ability to secure low cost, clean, safe and dependable energy. Before the introduction of hydraulically fractured natural gas into our natural gas supply chain the gas and its method of extraction was a fairly safe energy resource among all available energy resources. The hydraulic fracturing process now threatens our clean water resources and the waste water produced in the extraction process is so vast and not able to be mitigated to be safely discharged back to our ground water. Additionally, natural gas pipelines and compression stations do explode, have leakages and have the need to be purged into the atmosphere on a regular basis. The latter incidents and procedures release methane that is known to be eighty six times more polluting than carbon over a twenty year period. This is thought to be a major contributor to climate change.

As to dependability and low cost, we are of the opinion that the proposed pipeline expansions in Connecticut and throughout New England are not solely for the benefit of these states' residents but, rather for the export of liquefied natural gas (LNG) abroad. The great increase in the diameter of the pipes and the increase in the compression stations capacities are needed for this purpose. The pipeline operators have been surveyed by Pieridae Energy of Canada who is proposing to build an export terminal for liquid natural gas to sell in Europe and India at higher prices than they can obtain in North America. Their proposed terminal in Goldboro, Nova Scotia will require up to 1 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day to be imported from the United States. (This information is taken directly from their website.) Initially the pipeline companies in the U.S. have denied that their intention is to export their product. Also, Pieridae's project at Goldboro is pending approval by the Canadian government.

If approved, the project will not be completed and able to ship the product until five years from when construction begins. This delay will be costly to the investors in the pipelines, in our case, the people of Connecticut who actually will not obtain a return on their expenditure. During this five year period, or longer depending on approvals and construction delays, the intended customers in Europe and India may reduce their need for the amount of product they will require. There could be spikes and drops in LNG pricing and the possibility of a loss of interest in pumping natural gas through the pipelines. Even if the Pieridae's best dreams are fulfilled, this could be a harbinger of higher energy costs in New England because of a demand at higher prices abroad.

Lastly, the delay until Pieridae's Goldboro LNG facility and our misdirected use of funds to expand and build pipelines in Connecticut will delay us in the race to achieve a truly low cost, clean, safe and dependable energy system that will meet our needs for all of our future and will provide more and longer lasting jobs.

We are convinced that the proposed natural gas pipeline expansion projects for Connecticut and New England are ill advised because of the lack of their ability to ensure the low cost, clean, safe, dependable energy that is required to keep Connecticut and America as a viable world economy.

Respectfully submitted,

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