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Subject: testimony from Rivers Alliance.

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TO: Sen. Paul R. Doyle and Rep. Lonnie Reed, Chairmen,
And the Members of the Committee on Energy & Technology

Testimony from Rivers Alliance of Connecticut
Public Hearing, February 10, 2015, *in support of*

Proposed H.B. No. 6030 AN ACT CONCERNING ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLES IN CONNECTICUT.

Proposed H.B. No. 6031 AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

Rivers Alliance of Connecticut is a statewide non-profit organization, founded in 1992, as a coalition of river organizations, other conservation non-profits, individuals, and businesses working to protect and enhance Connecticut's rivers, streams, aquifers, lakes, and estuaries. We promote sound water policies and water stewardship through education and assistance at the local, regional, and state levels.

We support providing means and incentives for use of electric or z-emission vehicles. As you all know, what is in the air will drop onto land and into water. Considering mercury alone, it has so contaminated Connecticut waters that none meet the Clean Water Act standard of fishable and swimmable. There are consumption warnings on fish everywhere in the state. In 2001, the EPA initiated a study of mercury contamination from fossil fuel vehicles. It concluded:

Results of this pilot NVFEL program provide evidence that gasoline and diesel motor vehicles contribute to environmental mercury. Tailpipe exhaust measurements indicate that mercury emissions vary depending on driving conditions and fuel use. This pilot study identified brake wear as a potentially significant source of mercury emissions from mobile sources. However, a quantitative evaluation of mercury emissions from brake wear was beyond the scope of this study. Motor vehicle sources of mercury include, but are not limited to the fuel, lubricating oil and brake wear. Tire wear is a potential source of mobile source mercury not yet investigated. (emphasis added, "Mercury Emissions from Motor Vehicles," Marion Hoyer, et al).

Meanwhile nitrous oxides emitted when driving fossil-fuel vehicles, is a source of acid rain and dangerous acidification of fresh and salt waters.

We assume the two bills before you will be merged, and we look forward to a major step forward this session. Thank you for your work.

Margaret Miner, Executive Director

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