

CT Committee on Energy and Technology
March 17, 2015

CT General Assembly
SB 1078- An Act Concerning Affordable and Reliable Energy

I am Joseph Rose, President / CEO of the Propane Gas Association of New England; here today representing the 101 Connecticut based member companies of our organization who sell propane to nearly 200,000 Connecticut consumers.

We oppose SB1078 as presented. While no one could oppose more affordable and reliable electricity, this particular bill proposes to accomplish this by authorizing the Commissioner of DEEP who supervises PURA to become a purchasing agent by creating RFP's for long term pipeline transportation capacity. Once these proposals are received, reviewed and are consistent with the policies outlined in the Comprehensive Energy Strategy the Commissioner of DEEP may file an application with PURA for review and approval of the agreement. Again, PURA plays a subordinate role to the Commissioner so there is little chance for checks and balances.

I am certain that we do not need the Commissioner of DEEP becoming the states purchasing agent for long term transportation contracts for natural gas and then seeking approval from employees of his own department on those same contracts.

This makes no sense, as there are no checks and balances. Again if other energies are more competitive in the future or new technologies are developed the taxpayers of Connecticut will be stuck paying the transmission charges on this long term agreement!

We urge you not to move this legislation forward.

Sincerely,



Joseph U. Rose
President / CEO