

**South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority**  
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## Testimony to the Energy and Technology Committee

March 17, 2015

### HB- 1079 Water Companies and Virtual Net Metering

*The South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (RWA) is a non-profit, public corporation and political subdivision of the state. Our mission is to provide our customers with high quality water at a reasonable cost while promoting the preservation of watershed land and aquifers. We provide approximately 46 million gallons of water per day to some 430,000 consumers in 15 communities in our region. The source of this water is a system of watershed and aquifer areas that cover about 120 square miles within 24 municipalities. Much of our 27,000 acres of land is managed for watershed protection, timber resource conservation, wildlife habitat, open space, education, and research.*

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments to the Energy and Technology Committee **in support** of **Raised House Bill 1079, An Act Concerning Water Companies and Virtual Net Metering.**

The South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority, (RWA) strongly supports the provisions of **HB 1079, An Act Concerning Water Companies and Virtual Net Metering,** which looks to expand the eligibility for Virtual Net Metering (VNM) to include water companies.

The RWA supports broadening **eligibility for virtual net metering to include regional and private water companies, as defined under Section 25-32a of the Connecticut General Statutes.**

As a public water supplier serving the greater New Haven area, the RWA operates more than 120 pumps and treatment facilities throughout the water district. Not all of these geographic locations within the water district are well suited for the placement of renewable energy equipment. With Virtual Net Metering, the RWA would be able to take advantage of renewable energy efficiencies by siting these installations at appropriate geographic locations while taking advantage of lower costs associated with less equipment.

This expansion would support Connecticut's Energy Strategy and allow us to further our commitment to energy efficiency and environmental sustainability while helping us to mitigate our water rates paid by our customers due to reduced energy costs.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support. If you have any questions, please contact, Lori Vitagliano, Government and Public Relations Specialist at 203-401-2720, or [lvitagliano@rwater.com](mailto:lvitagliano@rwater.com)