

My name is Andrew Peklo III, I live and work in Woodbury CT in a former Mill on the Pomperaug River. It is a former hydro electric site that I have spent more than 8 years obtaining a FERC license to produce class one renewable energy. The project is in the 75kw range, which is enough for about 35 homes. It is not cheap to develop a hydro site (even an existing one) so the revenue side of the equation is important. Bill HB-5427 if done properly would help people with sites like mine and allow for develop of them. As far as HB-5427 goes, a couple of things would really help. One- there should not be a cap on the number of producers, or the maximum kw they produce. Two- it should not be a pilot program, if you want CT to grow, just do it. It is not a grant or subsidy it is just more and smaller producers. So many times the legislators try it address clean energy and the programs all have hooks that make them less than successful. The Z-REC program for under 100 kw looks great until you are put into a lottery for acceptance. Try taking that to a bank. And the time limits don't work, it's not a couple of panels on a roof or stand, it is real construction with weather constraints etc. The VNM programs are again, limited and only for state, municipalities and agriculture, and with caps. Why? And then there is the property tax exemption's limit of production to no more than the name plate value on the generator. God forbid a small producer might make money on an installation. You have an opportunity to address some of these short coming with HB - 5427. I encourage you to do so.

Sincerely,

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