



**Energy and Technology Committee  
Testimony Concerning Raised Bill 394- An Act Concerning Virtual Net Metering and Certain  
Zero or Low Emission Generation Projects**

Madam Chair, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Ray Carpentino, I am the Economic Development Director for the Town of Rocky Hill. I am here to testify in support of Raised Bill No. 394 **“An Act Concerning Virtual Net Metering and Certain Zero or Low Emission Generation Projects.”**

Rocky Hill is one of several municipalities with a solar photovoltaic project stranded as a result of the 40% cap on the \$10 million of electricity that municipal systems can collectively generate. We have executed three Purchase Power Agreements with SolarCity to construct a 3.9 MW solar photovoltaic project consisting of approximately 13,000 ground mounted solar panels. SolarCity will be constructing the solar panels on 15 acres of a 62 acre Town owned former sand pit, with an option to lease an additional 10 acres for potential expansion.

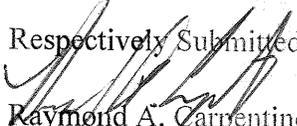
From its very inception, Rocky Hill’s project (as well as every other stranded municipal project) has been a financial and labor intensive process for both the Town and SolarCity. To put into a historical context, our project was initiated in December of 2013. A solar consultant was engaged by the Town in January 2014. An RFP/Q was advertised in July 2014. In April 2015, Purchase Power Agreements were executed. On July 7, 2015, SolarCity won their ZRECs. In November 2015, SolarCity initiated the Interconnection application process with Eversource.

Rocky Hill and the other stranded municipalities have invested significant public resources in an attempt to bring our projects to fruition to offset our electricity usage with on-site, renewable energy generation and help lower taxes for our residents and businesses. The SolarCity project is estimated to produce over 90,000,000 kWh over its 20 year contract period, resulting in over \$4,000,000 in savings on the Town’s electric bill and will generate \$1,800,000 in lease revenue.

Unfortunately, Rocky Hill and the other stranded municipalities were informed very late in the process that the 40% cap for municipal credits provided to beneficial accounts had been reached; effectively stranding Rocky Hill’s project as well as other municipal solar projects; negating hundreds of millions of kWh of alternative clean energy production and potential tax benefits to Connecticut residents. The passage of Raised Bill 394 will allow Rocky Hill and other stranded municipalities to realize our goals to maximize our reliance on clean energy and reduce our energy costs.

I urge the Committee to pass this bill.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Raymond A. Carpentino, Economic Development Director  
Town of Rocky Hill

