



Connecticut Department of  
**ENERGY &  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION**

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Public Hearing – March 10, 2016  
Energy & Technology Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Robert J. Klee  
Presented By Deputy Commissioner Katie S. Dykes

**Senate Bill No. 334 – AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO THE ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY RELATED STATUTES**

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding **Senate Bill No. 334 – An Act Concerning Minor Revisions to the Energy and Technology Related Statutes**. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) welcomes the opportunity to offer the following testimony.

We appreciate the Committee's willingness to raise this bill at the request of the DEEP. This proposal, which we strongly support, would make minor revisions to the energy and technology statutes relating to the following programs under DEEP's authority: (1) state electricity procurement, (2) energy performance standards and life-cycle cost analyses, and (3) the federal weatherization assistance program.

State Electricity Procurement

This proposal clarifies that the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) is authorized to contract on behalf of other state agencies in connection with the purchasing pool for electricity operated by DEEP. In the winter of 2014/15, DEEP attempted to procure electricity under this section but did not have the authority to sign contracts on behalf of other state agencies, which makes program administration difficult. This proposal clarifies that the purchasing pool will be operated by DEEP, but DAS has the authority to contract on behalf of other agencies, as it does with most other commodities.

Additionally, this proposal removes the waste-to-energy requirements for the purchasing pool that was added in Public Act 14-94. When DEEP issued a request for proposals in the winter of 2014/15, it did not select any proposal because the submitted bids failed to meet the threshold requirements of the purchasing pool, as amended by Public Act 14-94.

Energy Performance Standards and Life-Cycle Cost Analyses

This proposal repeals the requirements that DEEP and DAS create energy performance standards and conduct life-cycle costs analyses of state owned and leased buildings. This mandate, which was adopted in the 1970s, has been superseded by energy efficiency requirements codified in the State Building Code and the High Performance Building statutes and regulations. The State Building Code currently sets minimum requirements for energy efficiency for all building projects in the State via the *International Energy*

*Conservation Code* portion of the State Building Code. Moreover, the High Performance Building Regulations sets stringent efficiency requirements for all large state funded new construction and renovation projects. As such, the §16a-38 requirements, as they relate to state owned and leased buildings, are unnecessary.

#### Federal Weatherization Assistance

This proposal removes the reference to the federal weatherization assistance funding in 10 CFR Part 440 from the Department of Social Services' statutes because DEEP administers this program.

#### Shared Clean Energy Facility Pilot Program

DEEP believes that Sections 2 and 3 are no longer necessary because the intent of the proposal is better captured in H.B. 5427, An Act Concerning the Shared Clean Energy Facility Pilot Program, which DEEP supports.

#### Energy Savings Performance Contracting

DEEP appreciates the Committee's willingness to raise Section 5 related to energy savings performance contracting, but DEEP believes that this section is not needed at this time.

In summary, DEEP strongly supports **Senate Bill No. 334 – An Act Concerning Minor Revisions to the Energy and Technology Related Statutes** and looks forward to taking this step to streamline existing programs under DEEP's authority, thereby leading to more efficient government that delivers superior service to all regulated entities in the state, including businesses, municipalities and the state itself.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this proposal. If you should require any additional information, please contact Robert LaFrance, DEEP's Director of Governmental Affairs, at 860.424.3401 or [Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov) or, Elizabeth McAuliffe, DEEP Legislative Liaison, at 860.424.3458 or [Elizabeth.McAuliffe@ct.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.McAuliffe@ct.gov).