



Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Member Organizations

The Underground Center for Domestic Violence Services  
Ansonia, CT

The Center for Family Violence  
Bridgeport, CT

Domestic Violence Center  
Danbury, CT

Domestic Violence Support Center  
Dayville, CT

Domestic Violence Support Center  
Enfield, CT

Domestic Violence Support Center  
Greenwich, CT

Domestic Violence  
Hartford, CT

Domestic Violence Services  
Meriden, CT

Domestic Violence  
Middletown, CT

Domestic Violence Center  
New Britain, CT

Domestic Violence Center  
New Haven, CT

Domestic Violence  
New London, CT

Domestic Violence Crisis Center  
Norwalk, CT

Domestic Violence Services  
Sharon, CT

Domestic Violence Crisis Center  
Stamford, CT

Domestic Violence Center  
Torrington, CT

Domestic Violence  
Waterbury, CT

Domestic Violence Program  
Willimantic, CT

Testimony in Support of

Proposed SB 106, AAC Zero-Carbon Generating Facilities and Achieving Connecticut's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mandated Levels

Energy & Technology Committee  
February 7, 2017

Good morning Senator Winfield, Senator Formica, Representative Reed and members of the Committee. CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) is the state's leading voice for victims of domestic violence and our 18 member organizations that serve them. Our members provide essential services to nearly 40,000 victims of domestic violence each year. Services provided include 24-hour crisis response, emergency shelter, safety planning, counseling, support groups and court advocacy.

**We urge your support of Proposed SB 106.** As a nonprofit association in Connecticut whose members provide housing to victims of domestic violence, we care deeply about the cost of electricity. Its high costs are one of our operating challenges. Last year, the Connecticut Senate passed legislation that would have created a competitive process overseen by the state to reduce retail electric rates. The measure was not acted on in the House and should be revisited by this committee this year.

First, the legislation is consumer friendly energy policy. Connecticut has pursued multiple competitive processes to serve retail consumers directly. However, to date, these solicitations have been limited in scope, only allowing Natural Gas, Large-Scale Hydro and Class I Renewable resources the ability to compete. If Connecticut wants the lowest-cost, longest-term resource that also meets their environmental and economic goals, this solicitation process has to be expanded. Broadening the list to include nuclear power, among others, will encourage more competition and lower costs, benefiting our member organizations and all consumers alike.

The legislature, and this committee in particular, deserves credit for last year's legislation and the construct of what was proposed. The concept from last year was simple - it was a competitive process to derive low cost retail electricity. Moreover, the legislative language mandated that the overseers of the solicitation, the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP), the Attorney General's Office, the Office of the Consumer Counsel and the Public Utility Regulatory Authority (PURA) could only proceed with selecting a winning bid if it was determined to be in ratepayers' interest. As a nonprofit, this provides me with comfort and certainty knowing I will be protected. This is smart policy and good consumer protection. In essence the legislation is a tool to try and get more cost effective retail electricity. However, if the state regulators do not think that is being accomplished, the state is not mandated to act.

Adding additional resources to compete, like nuclear power, will help reduce costs. On a personal note, I hope Dominion's Millstone Power Station competes hard and wins. Dominion has been a long-time supporter of CCADV, including our members, and our work to improve outcomes for victims of domestic violence.

This competitively designed legislation requires no state or local subsidies and gives Dominion a chance to sell Millstone's power directly to Connecticut consumers. If

they are the selected bidder, Connecticut will enjoy all of Millstone's carbon-free attributes and the economic impacts that the station brings too. As a nonprofit, I know the benefits are many.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions.

Liza Andrews  
Director of Public Policy & Communications  
[landrews@ctcadv.org](mailto:landrews@ctcadv.org)