

State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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Testimony in Support of
**SB 106: AN ACT CONCERNING ZERO-CARBON ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITIES AND
ACHIEVING CONNECTICUT'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS MANDATED LEVELS.**
Energy and Technology Committee
January 7, 2017

Co-Chair Representative Reed, Senator Winfield, Senator Formica; Vice Chairs Senator Doyle, Representative Slap, Senator Hwang; Ranking Member Hoydick; and distinguished members of the Energy and Technology Committee. I would like to frame my perspective this morning as the wife of an employee, in his twentieth year at Millstone Nuclear Power Station.

Millstone has been a tough boss, but a place where skilled employees meet challenges every day. Like the movie Total Recall their day starts off walking through a metal detector and explosive detection scanner. All bags, personnel items and outer clothing go through an x-ray machine. Employees wear a thermoluminescent dosimeter and are monitored for radiation exposure. During an outage/refueling they work 12 hour days on rotating schedules and perform coordinated maintenance and surveillance testing evolutions. It's at this time that they are joined by thousands of union contractors and support staff that, at the direction of highly qualified trained staff, perform preventative maintenance and plant design improvements. The outage schedule varies, but this year it will happen twice. Unfortunately for my children, this is the same time I am working on developing a state budget proposal.

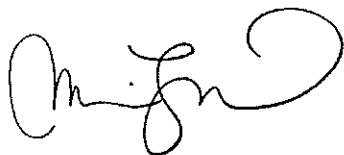
When my husband first worked there in the late 90's it was owned by Northeast Utilities. Power stations were good jobs and scattered throughout the Northeast. Over the next decade the once plentiful raises and bonuses dwindled. We watched other plants closing and workers being laid off. While Dominion has done their best to trim costs, the premise of Millstone closing is a real one for my family and 1200 other fulltime employees. When you hear your colleagues tell you that they cannot close, it is simply not true. Kewaunee nuclear power plant in Wisconsin closed in 2013. Palisades nuclear power plant in Michigan will be closing early Oct. 1, 2018. Just to our north, Pilgrim nuclear power plant in Massachusetts is scheduled to close May 31st 2019.

As a legislator I am disheartened by comments from colleagues who truly do not value what Millstone delivers every day to this state and our residents. Carbon free power and 50% of the production grid

should be something we value and are proud of. While herculean efforts are made to subsidize other top employers around the state---Millstone was hit with an energy tax in the last few years. Quite the disconnect. This proposed bill is not a handout. It simply allows the company to compete with other renewable power sources.

Please level the playing field. Please find value in Millstone and their employees. Thousands of families, area supply chain businesses and the local governments their tax dollars support are counting on it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ziobron", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Representative Ziobron
State Representative
34th District