



TOWN OF HAMDEN ENERGY USE & CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION

**Energy and Technology Committee
March 15, 2018**

SB9 An Act Concerning Connecticut's Energy Future

I am Martin Mador, 130 Highland Ave. Hamden, CT. I have a Masters in Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. I have served as the legislative and political chair for the Sierra Club in the state for a decade, and have submitted testimony on 400 bills. This testimony is submitted in my role as Chair of the Hamden Energy Use and Climate Change Commission. The commission, created by town ordinance in 2005, has voted to endorse the following.

The EUCC supports the most of policies identified in SB9, but does not support the far too modest goals.

We all understand that a commitment to renewable energy is important. Raising the Renewable Portfolio Standard is important. SB 9 does this, but not by nearly enough. We need to call for at least 50% Class I renewables for 2030.

Net metering is a proven effective tool for encouraging solar installations. Removing it will certainly retard the growth of these important pathways to renewable energy for no benefit. Net metering must be left in place, at least until we have far more renewable installations.

Promoting energy efficiency is an important tool to achieve our energy goals. SB9 does call for setting annual minimum energy efficiency savings mandates, but sets the targets very low. We must do at least as well as our neighboring states. The goals in SB9 do not come close.

The ill conceived energy raids in the budget last fall actually cost us money. The raided funds must be restored, and we need to ensure they are protected for the future. Ratepayer funds dedicated to energy efficiency provide manifold benefits. Funding for Green Bank programs do as well. Both of these must be protected.