

## Testimony Before the Committee on Energy & Technology

### *Concerning*

### **S.B. No. 9 AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT'S ENERGY FUTURE**

Submitted by **Letitia Naigles**

March 1, 2018

Dear Members of the Energy and Technology Committee:

I am submitting this testimony concerning Proposed S.B. No. 9, An Act Concerning Connecticut's Energy Future.

*I support the provision in this bill that would require Connecticut to update and extend its Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), but I strongly oppose the provision that would eliminate net metering for residential solar customers.*

#### Renewable Portfolio Standard

I urge the committee to support an expansion of the RPS to at least 40% by 2030, because an expanded RPS is needed to

- forestall climate change—by promoting clean energy generated from renewable sources.
- reduce pollutants that are harmful to our health—by reducing emissions of SO<sub>2</sub> and mercury
- and buttress Connecticut's economic growth—by driving investment in renewables and supporting energy efficiency and solar jobs! When our solar panels were installed, the installers told us many times how grateful they were for their jobs.

#### Net Metering

I strongly oppose the proposed elimination of net metering for residential solar customers, and I urge the committee to reject this aspect of SB 9.

I have had solar panels on my roof for over 6 years now, and net metering was a critical lure for convincing my family and I to make the financial commitment. Net metering allows us to take charge of our electrical generation and consumption, helping us to realize just how much we use and how much we cover our consumption with our generation. With net metering, electricity that we don't use today, we

know can go out on the grid to be used by others. The system is efficient and distributed, rather than concentrated and accident-prone.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony concerning SB 9, which would strengthen Connecticut's Renewable Portfolio Standard and thereby help to meet our state's climate goals while fostering local job creation and improvements in public health.

Respectfully submitted,

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