

Public Hearing – February 21, 2019  
Energy and Technology Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Katie S. Dykes

***H.B. No. 6237 – AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF ENERGY STORAGE PROJECTS AND DISTRIBUTED GENERATION IN THE STATE***

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding H.B. No. 6237 – An Act Requiring a Study of Energy Storage Projects and Distributed Generation in the State

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) welcomes the opportunity to offer the following testimony. While DEEP is generally supportive of interest in energy storage and distributed generation in the state, the Department notes that DEEP and PURA already have existing authority to conduct studies and implement pilot projects on these technologies, and it is important to ensure that this proposal does not duplicate any efforts already underway, including:

- Docket No. 17-12-13, PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies, where PURA identified several key questions on how to optimize the deployment of DG, storage, demand response and other technologies and policies in order to avoid distribution system costs over time while meeting state goals.
- Public Act 15-5 Pilot Programs on Grid-Side System Enhancements to Integrate Distributed Energy Resources, where PURA has approved several pilot projects from the state's two electric distribution utilities, including for DG hosting capacity and analysis mapping and localized targeting of DG resources with energy storage-ready advanced inverters.

To support the growth of grid-scale energy storage, DEEP's procurement authority in P.A. 17-3 and P.A. 13-303 explicitly allows DEEP to solicit energy storage projects. And for the first time, in its recent procurement pursuant to P.A. 17-3, the Zero Carbon RFP, DEEP selected two grid-scale solar projects that were paired with battery storage.

DEEP would welcome an opportunity to work with the Committee on this proposal. Distributed generation (DG) and energy storage play an important role in reducing peak demand; meeting the state's renewable portfolio standard requirements; supporting reliability; and providing customer benefits in terms of management of demand charges, among other things.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this proposal. If you should require any additional information, please contact Mandi Careathers, DEEP's Legislative Liaison, at [Mandi.Careathers@ct.gov](mailto:Mandi.Careathers@ct.gov).