February 24, 2018

The Honorable David Arconti Co-Chair, and
The Honorable Norman Needleman, Co-Chair
Energy and Technology Committee
Legislative Office Building, Rm. 3900,
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: H.B. No. 7156 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROCUREMENT OF ENERGY DERIVED FROM OFFSHORE WIND, and
S.B. No. 875 AN ACT EXPANDING CONNECTICUT’S OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY PORTFOLIO

Dear Senator Needleman, Representative Arconti, and Members of the Committee:

As a member of the Board of Directors of People’s Action for Clean Energy (PACE) and Eastern CT Green Action (ECGA), I appreciate the opportunity to submit this testimony. I strongly support the above referenced HB 7156 and SB 875 and urge the Committee to vote in favor of both bills.

I support the Committee’s call for up to 2000 MW of offshore wind, but the bills should be amended to create a mandate requiring DEEP to procure 2000 MW by 2030. MA and NY have solid commitments on this scale and if we don’t send a strong message to the industry that Connecticut wants to be a regional hub for offshore wind staging and supply chain activities, then those jobs will go elsewhere.

Given the urgent need to switch our power system to clean energy, the increasingly competitive prices of offshore wind, and the clear benefits of giving the offshore wind industry a strong, clear signal that Connecticut is committed to this source of power, this is no time for half measures.

Thank you for your efforts to find a path to a carbon free grid in Connecticut,

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