

I am writing in support of SB 882.

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is an ethical and logical imperative that benefits every family, every human, every creature in Connecticut and beyond. Codifying the Governor's Executive Order to curb emissions will put our state ahead of the curve in crafting a cutting-edge energy infrastructure that will protect our fragile and finite natural resources while saving ratepayers money in the long-term. As a citizen of Connecticut, and one who is employed by a municipal government, I am in strong favor of passing this bill as a broad, first step towards transitioning away from fossil fuels.

Right now, Connecticut is overdependent on natural gas (see image below). While natural gas has been touted as a "clean" alternative to coal and oil, we are merely going from fire to frying pan. It is true that natural gas emits only about 50% of the greenhouse gases that other fossil fuels do, but that is still 50% too much. Solar and wind emit 0%. Natural gas also requires dangerous hydraulic fracturing, which has been linked to water contamination, air pollution, and earthquakes ([source: NRDC](#)). With the passage of this bill, my hope is that renewables will obviate natural gas energy generation.


Our dependence on nuclear is also not ideal, though I'll admit it is leaps and bounds better than traditional fossil fuels. Please keep in mind that "If fossil fuels are used for mining and refining uranium ore, or if fossil fuels are used when constructing the nuclear power plant, then the emissions from burning those fuels could be associated with the electricity that nuclear power plants generate" ([source: EIA.gov](#)). I hope that DEEP will keep this in mind when calculating whether new energy generation projects will help or hinder the 2040 goal. I hope they'll also keep this in mind: nuclear power plants are safe, clean, and efficient *until they aren't*; if they fail, it is literally an epic disaster and humanitarian crisis.

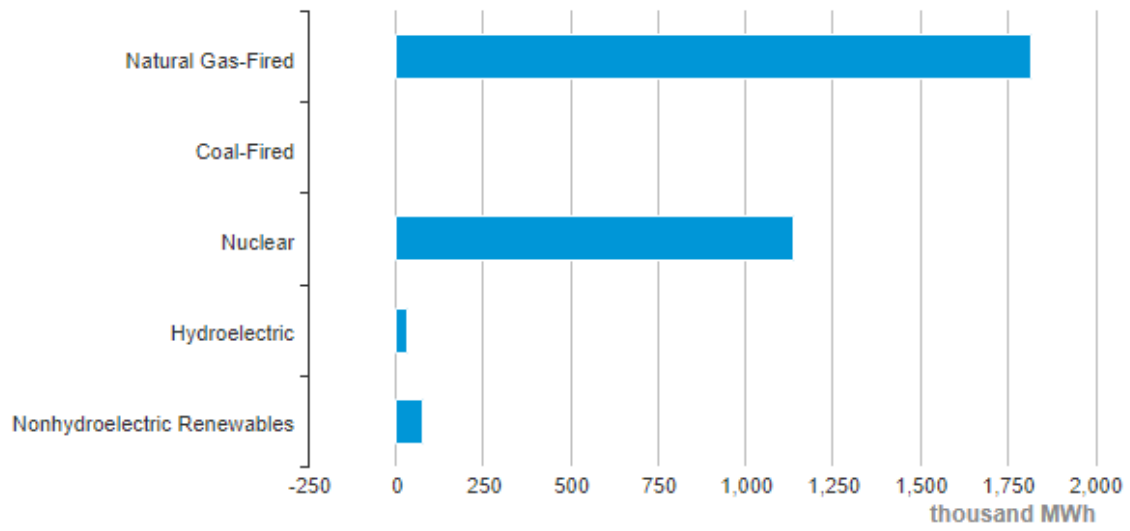
Legislators: as you consider this bill, please remember that climate change is real, it is here in Connecticut, and it is hurting people and the environment every day. **Did you know that according to the EPA, our state has warmed twice as much as the rest of the contiguous 48 states over the last century?** Other risks of climate change include a rise in tickborne illnesses, respiratory conditions, and extreme weather events ([source: EPA](#)).

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my testimony. I hope you will consider the passage of this bill for the good of our state.

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Connecticut Net Electricity Generation by Source, Nov. 2020

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Source: EIA.gov