Public Hearing – March 2, 2023

Energy and Technology Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Katie S. Dykes

**House Bill No. 5628 – An Act Establishing a Task Force to Study the State’s Hydropower Assets**

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding Committee Bill No. 5628 – An Act Establishing a Task Force to Study the State’s Hydropower Assets. This bill establishes a new task force to study existing hydropower assets in the state to review the benefits of such assets.

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has several touch points with hydropower in the state. DEEP implements programs and can share expertise with respect to energy production, dam safety, water quality and quantity, fisheries, recreation, and historic preservation. A variety of state and federal laws govern hydropower in Connecticut, each of which evaluates a particular project’s benefits. DEEP has long supported hydropower in the state aligned with these statutes and state policy.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this proposal. We are happy to work with the Committee if this bill moves forward. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Harrison Nantz at Harrison.Nantz@ct.gov.