Connecticut 2018 Policy Priorities

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2018 Clean Energy Priorities

- Increase the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)
- Extend the ZREC/LREC program and direct DEEP to develop tariff-based successor incentive program
- Authorize a full-scale, 300 MW community shared clean energy facility program
- Undo clean energy fund raids and protect EE, RGGI, and Green Bank funding in the future
- Address “ratepayer impact statement” language from PA 17-144
- Lift the Virtual Net Metering Cap from current level of $10m
- Advance grid modernization and energy storage
- Set interim GWSA target of 45% CO2 reduction by 2030, as recommended by GC3
Increasing the RPS

- Extend the RPS beyond 2020 to achieve at least 50% Class I renewable energy sources by 2030
  - Consistent with Governor Malloy’s proposed mandate of 75% clean energy by 2030
- A 50% by 2030 RPS target will
  - Add more jobs to Connecticut and New England
  - Reduce reliance on natural gas
  - Mitigate electricity price volatility
  - Help Connecticut meet its greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals under the GWSA

See NECEC study by Synapse Energy & Sustainable Energy Advantage
Revising Solar Incentives

- Extend the ZREC program through 2020 while DEEP/PURA design and implement a long-term, sustainable solar successor program
- Move to a tariff-based program (similar to Rhode Island and Massachusetts)
- Program should complement, not replace, net metering
- Set program size large enough to support robust solar growth, investment and jobs
Sharing Clean Energy

• Expand shared clean energy facilities program so that a broader group of energy customers, including low and moderate-income families, businesses, and municipalities can participate
• Shared clean energy is a proven model to expand access to solar and other clean distributed resources
• Move beyond pilot to scale that will deliver benefits to customers
Clean Energy Funding

• Protect the Energy Efficiency, RGGI, and Green Bank funds from future raids
• To the extent possible, undo the raids from last session
• Provide renewed support of Connecticut’s national award winning residential and commercial Energy Efficiency and Green Bank Financing programs
• Energy efficiency and clean energy investments are critical to Connecticut’s fiscal and environmental health.
Ratepayer Impact

- Ratepayer impact provision of PA 17-144 failed to include consideration of benefits as well as costs
- If Office of Fiscal Analysis is going to evaluate ratepayer impacts of new bills, it needs to look at long-term, life-cycle costs and benefits
- Benefits and costs should include evaluation of climate impacts (e.g., systemic health and environmental effects), including any proposal’s impact on Connecticut’s ability to meet mandated GHG levels under the GWSA.
Additional Priorities

- **Virtual Net Metering**
  - Lift current cap of $10 million to expand access, especially for governmental users, as means of reducing budget burdens through cost-effective adoption of renewable energy while advancing economic development, job creation and energy security.

- **Grid Modernization and Energy Storage**
  - Move forward with grid modernization proceeding at DEEP/PURA.
  - Begin integrating energy storage.

- **Set Interim GWSA Target**
  - Amend GSWA to set interim GHG reduction target for 2030 of 45% reduction below 2001 emissions levels by 2030, as recommended by the Governor’s Council on Climate Change (GC3).
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