

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**

**BY HIS EXCELLENCY**

**NED LAMONT**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 3**

**WHEREAS**, there is overwhelming evidence and scientific consensus that man-made greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are causing an overall rise in global temperatures, affecting global climate now, and profoundly affecting global climate in the future; and

**WHEREAS**, the increased intensity of weather events, rising sea levels, and ecological disturbances caused by climate change, including Tropical Storm Irene and Superstorm Sandy, continue to put Connecticut residents, businesses, infrastructure, and cultural and natural resources at risk; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the 2008 Global Warming Solutions Act and the 2018 Act Concerning Climate Change Planning and Resiliency, Connecticut seeks to substantially decarbonize electricity generation, the transportation system, and thermal energy for buildings, in an effort to cut GHG emissions to 10 percent below 1990 levels by 2020, to 45 below 2001 levels by 2030 and to 80 percent below 2001 levels by 2050; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Steering Committee on Climate Change produced the April 2010 report, *The Impacts of Climate Change on Connecticut Agriculture, Infrastructure, Natural Resources and Public Health*, which predicted that climate change would have a significant negative impact on agriculture, infrastructure, natural resources, and public health, and produced the 2011 report, *Connecticut Climate Change Preparedness Plan*, which recommended climate adaptation strategies for the State; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Council on Climate Change, established on April 22, 2015 by Executive Order No. 46, released a report in December 2018, *Building a Low Carbon Future for Connecticut: Achieving a 45% GHG reduction by 2030*, which set forth meaningful strategies to ensure the state meets its mandatory GHG reduction targets; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 50, issued on October 26, 2015, established a new State Agencies Fostering Resilience Council, which was tasked with, among other things, collaborating on the creation of a Statewide Resilience Roadmap based on the best climate impact research and data, and assisting in the creation of state policy on Disaster Resilience by using science-based, forward looking risk analysis; and

**WHEREAS**, the Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan, approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on January 21, 2016, established that rising temperatures and precipitation, reduced snow pack, rising sea levels, and increased prevalence of vector-borne diseases and invasive

species are altering animal and plant distributions, disrupting plant and animal life cycles, and altering community compositions and structures; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2018 Act Concerning Climate Change Planning and Resiliency requires that municipalities and the state use recent forecasts by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) that sea level in Long Island Sound will rise up to 20 inches (50 cm) higher than the national tidal datum by 2050 to prepare municipal evacuation or hazard mitigation plans, the state's civil preparedness plan and program, municipal plans of conservation and development, and revisions to the state's plan of conservation and development;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NED LAMONT**, Governor of the State of Connecticut, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Connecticut Constitution and by the statutes of the State of Connecticut, do hereby **ORDER AND DIRECT**:

1. Executive Order No. 46 of April 22, 2015, is amended as described herein.
2. **Governor's Council on Climate Change.** The Governor's Council on Climate Change (Council) shall have an expanded scope of responsibility, to wit, the Council shall monitor and report on the state's progress on the implementation of carbon mitigation strategies, as well as on the development and implementation of adaptation strategies to assess and prepare for the impacts of climate change in areas such as infrastructure, agriculture, natural resources and public health.
3. **Council Subcommittees and Working Groups.** To address the purposes of the Council in paragraph 1 above, the Council may establish subcommittees and working groups, including, but not limited to, a Climate Change Mitigation Subcommittee and a Climate Change Adaptation and Resiliency Subcommittee, comprised of Council members and other participants as designated by the Chair, as defined in paragraph 5 below, to deliberate and produce the reports required under this Executive Order. In addition, the State Agencies Fostering Resilience Council, established pursuant to Executive Order No. 50, shall become a subcommittee of the Council established herein.
4. **Oversight of Climate Mitigation Progress.** The Council shall report to the Governor no later than January 15, 2021 and annually thereafter, on the state's progress on the implementation of the strategies identified in *Building a Low Carbon Future for Connecticut: Achieving a 45% GHG reduction by 2030*, including, but not limited to:
  - a. Prioritizing, integrating, and advancing equitable distribution of the costs and benefits of climate change mitigation planning and policies, specifically addressing disproportionate impacts of such strategies on environmental justice communities;
  - b. A description of how such strategies are being integrated into existing and new agency policy planning efforts;
  - c. Evaluation of the efficacy of existing and proposed policies and regulations aimed at reducing GHG emissions; and

- d. Identification of new and emerging mitigation strategies that maximize climate change adaptation and resiliency opportunities while ensuring the state is on a sustainable path to meet its reduction targets.

5. **Oversight of Climate Change Adaptation / Resiliency.** The Council shall undertake the following activities with respect to the development, implementation and institutionalization of the climate change adaptation strategies:

- a. Establish a framework, in consultation with the state's Chief Data Officer, for which state agencies shall compile and maintain an inventory of vulnerable assets and operations in coordination with CIRCA's ongoing vulnerability assessment;
- b. By January 15, 2021, prepare and report to the Governor on a revised statewide Adaptation and Resilience Plan for Connecticut that encompasses the most current and locally-scaled scientific information and analysis available with respect to the effects of climate change, including sea level rise, changes in precipitation and temperature patterns, and storm preparedness in the context of the State's changing land use and demographics. The plan shall provide updated recommendations for adapting to and improving the state's resilience to such changes, including, but not limited to:
  - i. A review of recommendations from the 2011 Climate Change Adaptation/Preparedness Plan and 2013 revision thereto, to assess current implementation status and continued relevance of recommendations from those plans;
  - ii. Recommendations and proposals for funding sources and financing mechanisms to advance investment in recommended strategies;
  - iii. Recommended strategies to prioritize climate change adaptation efforts to protect vulnerable communities that may be disproportionately impacted by the effects of climate change; and
  - iv. Recommendations for aligning with municipal and regional adaptation efforts;
- c. By December 31, 2021, each state agency member of the Climate Change Adaptation and Resiliency subcommittee shall report to the Council on the alignment of climate change adaptation strategies incorporated into their relevant planning processes and documents including, but not limited to:
  - i. the Integrated Resources Plan (DEEP);
  - ii. Forest Action Plan (DEEP);
  - iii. Wildlife Action Plan (DEEP);
  - iv. Green Plan (DEEP);
  - v. State Water Plan (Water Planning Council – PURA, OPM, DPH, DEEP);
  - vi. Coordinating Water Systems (DPH);
  - vii. Statewide Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (DESPP);
  - viii. State Building Code (DAS);
  - ix. State Plan of Conservation and Development (OPM);
  - x. Housing and Community Development Plan (DOH); and
  - xi. Five-Year Capital Program for All Modes of Transportation (DOT); and

- d. The Council shall report at least once, by the close of each calendar year, on its progress to the chairpersons and ranking members of relevant joint standing committees of the Connecticut General Assembly, including, but not limited to, the joint standing committees having cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology, the environment, planning and development, and insurance.
6. **Council Membership and Administration.** The Council shall be administered through the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, which shall provide staff support. The Council shall meet at least biannually, at dates, times, and locations established by the Chairperson. The Council shall be comprised of the following individuals as appointed by the Governor:
    - a. The Commissioner of Energy & Environmental Protection, or the Commissioner's designee, shall serve as Chairperson;
    - b. The Secretary of the Office of Policy & Management, or the Secretary's designee;
    - c. The Commissioner of Public Health, or the Commissioner's designee;
    - d. The Commissioner of Transportation, or the Commissioner's designee;
    - e. The Commissioner of Administrative Services, or the Commissioner's designee;
    - f. The Commissioner of Economic & Community Development, or the Commissioner's designee;
    - g. The Insurance Commissioner, or the Commissioner's designee;
    - h. The Commissioner of Housing, or the Commissioner's designee;
    - i. The Chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, or the Chairperson's designee;
    - j. The Chief Executive Officer of the Connecticut Green Bank;
    - k. The Executive Director of the Connecticut Institute for Resilience & Climate Adaptation;
    - l. The Commissioner of Agriculture, or the Commissioner's designee;
    - m. The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, or the Commissioner's designee;
    - n. A representative of the insurance industry familiar with climate change impact planning;
    - o. Two individuals who represent business and industry;
    - p. Five individuals who represent non-governmental or academic organizations, of which two shall represent health, equity, affordability, or environmental justice; and
    - q. Two municipal or local government leaders or representatives thereof.
  7. Membership on this Council for agency heads shall run concurrently with their service as agency heads. Other members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
  8. **Integrated Resource Plan – Achieving the Zero Carbon Target.** In order to accelerate achievement of the goals in the 2008 Global Warming Solutions Act and the 2018 Act Concerning Climate Change Planning and Resiliency, spur innovation in carbon-reduction strategies and economic development throughout the state and region, and ensure that strategic electrification strategies for decarbonizing the transportation and buildings sectors

will result in real emission reductions, DEEP shall, in consultation with the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority as appropriate, in the Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) pursuant to sections 16a-3a and 16a-3b of the Connecticut General Statutes, analyze pathways and recommend strategies for achieving a 100% zero carbon target for the electric sector by 2040.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 3rd day of September, 2019.



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Ned Lamont  
Governor

By His Excellency's Order

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Denise W. Merrill  
Secretary of the State