



2018 Candidate Survey on the Environment

Tom O'Dea (Republican)

House District 125

1) 100% Clean Energy by 2050:

Do you support transitioning to 100% clean energy by 2050 or sooner?

Uncertain

Depends - if we can provide clean energy at competitive rates for residents and businesses then yes. Do you consider nuclear energy as clean?

2) State Water Plan:

Will you support the plan as submitted to the legislature and affirm that water is a public trust?

Uncertain

I need more information from those who opposed it. I do believe that water is a public trust that needs to be protected. I am concerned that "Water Planning Principle 3: Public and Stakeholder Process" will not be followed and private sector stakeholders and the public will not be included to the level necessary for it to be truly representative of what is best for all.

3) Municipal Funding Pilot for Open Space:

Would you support legislation that would allow, but not require, certain municipalities to establish a dedicated fund to protect local open space, farmland and water resources through a limited conveyance fee on buyers of real estate?

Yes

4) Plastic Bag Pollution:

Would you support a statewide ban on single-use plastic bags (or a ban/fee hybrid) to significantly reduce plastic bag pollution in our state?

Yes

5) Gas Pipeline:

Will you support the repeal of the pipeline tax established in 2015?

Uncertain

Depends on the information you're relying on (I've heard conflicting information) and where the money will go. I agree with, and have been pushing for, the natural gas expansion in my district which will save the town millions of dollars.

6) Carbon Pricing:

Would you support carbon pricing for Connecticut?

Uncertain

If nuclear is considered clean and the carbon pricing is reflective of actual costs of each fuel differently (as they are very different), then maybe. It depends on the amount and how incentives are put in place.

7) Additional Comments:

I drive a hybrid car and have tried to place solar panels on my roof. I very much believe in doing what we can to ensure that our children have a cleaner and safer planet than the one we currently have. We also have to make sure we have good jobs, housing and schools so that people want to live in our state. There is a balancing act and the concepts that I set forth above are not mutually exclusive.