

May 21, 2024

Honorable Governor Ned Lamont
State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Lamont,

The Connecticut League of Conservation Voters (CTLCV) extends our strong support for PURA Chairperson Marissa Gillett. As our state faces the intensifying effects of the climate crisis, Chair Gillett's demonstrated commitment to utility accountability, balanced management of our natural resources, and forward-thinking energy solutions is essential.

We commend Chair Gillett for her decisive actions across several critical areas. Her strong commitment to protecting Connecticut's trees is exemplary. By prioritizing urban tree health, she recognizes their environmental benefits: filtering stormwater, improving air quality, and reducing urban heat. These efforts directly improve the health and sustainability of our communities.

Her rejection of Targeted Risk Management ensures that utility companies work with communities to manage vegetation responsibly. This protects our natural landscapes while maintaining vital utility services.

Her focus on utility accountability holds companies responsible for service failures and outdated infrastructure. This is essential for reliable power, especially as severe weather increases due to a changing climate.

Chair Gillett's laudable framework for an Equitable Modern Grid outlines the interconnected objectives of supporting Connecticut's green economy, facilitating a cost-effective transition to a decarbonized future, advancing energy affordability, and enhancing customer access to a more resilient, reliable, and secure energy future.



This holistic approach recognizes that environmental sustainability, economic feasibility, energy affordability, and resilient infrastructure must all be addressed together as equally critical components in our journey towards electrification.

Additionally, her support for initiatives like Performance-Based Regulations and underground power systems shows her commitment to sustainability. Her forward-thinking approach and solutions balance environmental protection with energy security, positioning Connecticut as a leader.

CTLCV hopes that PURA will open a docket on gas infrastructure in accordance with our Global Warming Solutions Act to increase transparency and accountability in the energy sector. This was an essential component of the Climate Protection Act, HB 5004. While the legislature failed to pass this initiative, this provision is necessary to ensure that Connecticut transitions away from fossil fuels and towards a clean energy future.

The Connecticut League of Conservation Voters believes that Chair Gillett's leadership exemplifies the responsible and forward-thinking approach Connecticut needs for building a more sustainable and resilient future.

We urge you to continue providing her with the support, tools, and resources necessary for PURA to effectively regulate utilities and safeguard our state's environmental well-being.

Sincerely,



Lori Brown,
Executive Director

cc: Senator Norm Needleman; Representative Jonathan Steinberg