

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

DANNEL P. MALLOY

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 59

CONNECTICUT  
SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
CAPITOL OFFICE

2011 JUL 25 P 12:50

**WHEREAS**, affordable, reliable and clean electricity is essential for a thriving, competitive business environment, and for the health and well-being of Connecticut families; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1998, Connecticut enacted legislation providing for the deregulation of the electric power sector in order to shield ratepayers from the risk associated with power plant investments and to secure cheaper electricity through a competitive regional market; and

**WHEREAS**, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2008, Public Act 08-98, established Connecticut as a leader in reducing harmful greenhouse gas emissions and requires a transition to cleaner sources of low and zero carbon power generation in order to cut economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions to 10 percent below 1990 levels by 2020, and to 80 percent below 2001 levels by 2050; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 46 established the Governor's Council on Climate Change, or GC3, and charged it with adopting interim emissions goals to ensure that Connecticut meets its 2050 greenhouse gas emissions target; and

**WHEREAS**, the lack of adequate pipeline capacity to serve New England's increasingly natural gas-dependent electric grid highlights the critical role of emissions-free sources of electricity, including the two Millstone nuclear units, which contribute significantly to southeastern Connecticut's economy, providing fuel diversity and ensuring the reliability of New England's electric grid, particularly during cold winter periods; and

**WHEREAS**, average prices for power generation have fallen in recent years, as a result of decreasing demand and currently low, but inherently volatile, natural gas prices, and operators of some nuclear power facilities elsewhere in the country have chosen to retire such facilities because of the resulting competitive pressure and environmental concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, given the foregoing conditions, a resource assessment is needed to determine whether and, if so, how Connecticut should take action to support existing nuclear power facilities, other emissions-free sources of generation, and demand reduction alternatives, in order to ensure continued progress towards Connecticut's Global Warming Solutions Act requirements, minimize ratepayer risk, maintain the reliability of the electricity grid, and secure electricity at the least cost and greatest benefit for Connecticut families and businesses;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, DANNEL P. MALLOY**, 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. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) to immediately commence such proceedings as necessary and appropriate to jointly conduct a resource assessment of the following:
  - a. The current and projected economic viability for the continued operation of the Millstone nuclear generating facilities using the best available information, including such facilities' audited financial statements and such other financial data that is reasonably requested by DEEP or PURA;
  - b. The role of existing nuclear generating facilities, as well as large scale hydropower, demand reduction measures, energy storage, and emissions-free renewable energy, in helping Connecticut meet interim and long-term carbon and other emissions


targets, at the least cost and with the greatest net benefit to Connecticut ratepayers, while maintaining the reliability of Connecticut's electric grid;

- c. The best mechanisms to ensure continued progress towards those targets, and considerations for whether and, if so, how, such mechanisms should be implemented, including but not limited to:
  - i. options within the existing legal and regulatory framework;
  - ii. additional measures that could be considered to ensure the continued viability of nuclear generation;
  - iii. potential collaborative efforts with other states;
  - iv. benefits, payments or agreements that nuclear power generating facility operators may be eligible to obtain from the regional independent system operator or other sources;
- d. The compatibility of such mechanisms with competitive wholesale and retail electricity markets, and the resulting financial impact on electric ratepayers of such mechanisms.

2. In conducting such proceedings, DEEP and PURA shall provide opportunity for public participation.
3. The findings of this resource assessment shall be reported to the Governor, the chairpersons and ranking members of the Energy and Technology Committee of the General Assembly, and to the GC3 no later than February 1, 2018.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017.

  
DANNEL P. MALLOY  
Governor

By His Excellency's Order

  
Denise W. Merrill  
Secretary of the State

