

To the Governors Council on Climate Change.

At the May 5th ADM meeting, climate disruption mitigation technologies were discussed. Given the fact that the data for carbon dioxide emissions that DEEP used are outdated and currently incorrect the state of CT needs to change course. According to a recent Acadia Center analysis, carbon dioxide emissions in CT have been trending upward since at least 2012, and the state will not meet its mandated carbon dioxide reductions targets. In addition, a recent Harvard study found that methane emissions increased substantially in the last ten years, and the EPA acknowledged that they have underestimated methane emissions. The metrics for both carbon dioxide and methane emissions should be corrected in the models DEEP uses.

If we hope to meet the goals set forth by the Global Warming Solutions Act and adopted by the GC3, CT needs to target reducing our emissions 100% percent as quickly as possible. Similar to savings for retirement, saving emissions early will be easier and have larger dividends over the years than putting the hardest actions off until later. The goal should be 100% emissions reduction by transitioning to 100% clean, renewable, community energy, transportation and production.

The current CES calls for conversion to methane gas for homes, businesses and vehicles, which would delay the transition to truly clean technologies such as solar, wind, tidal, and micro hydropower. The transition to these technologies is underway in the United States and around the world. Germany & Portugal have had several days in which their energy grid used no fossil fuels. Several cities in the US are using 100% renewable energy : Burlington, VT, Greensburg, KS, and Apsen, CO. If these places can break their reliance on dangerous fuels whose price fluctuates on a volatile market, than so can Connecticut. We can choose to be a leader in this transition and benefit from the growing number of jobs in the field or we can lag behind other areas by relying on dangerous methane imported from other places.

Sincerely,  
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