

**Consumer Counsel Katz and OCC Staff Deliver Presentation to**

**Lamont-Bysiewicz Transition Energy Policy Committee**

On December 6, 2018, Consumer Counsel Elin Swanson Katz and OCC staffers Taren O’Connor and Joseph Rosenthal were pleased to have the opportunity to offer a presentation to the Transition Energy Policy Committee (Committee) of Governor-Elect Ned Lamont and Lieutenant Governor-Elect Susan Bysiewicz. The Committee is chaired by Rep. Lonnie Reed (D-Branford) and Bryan Garcia, President and CEO of the Connecticut Green Bank, and Consumer Counsel Katz is proud and pleased to also be a part of the Committee.

 OCC’s presentation was entitled, [“The Office of Consumer Counsel and its Role in Promoting Energy Policy Progress,”](file:///S%3A%5CSHAREDAT%5COCC%20Website%5CWebsite%20Blurbs%5CArchive%202018%5CPresentation%20to%20L-B%20Policy%20Committee%20120618.esk%20version.pptx) and can be accessed as a hyperlink. In it, the OCC discusses its statutory responsibilities and OCC’s interest in balancing a multiplicity of goals for the benefit of the utility customers it represents. Certainly affordability is a key focus for OCC, but we also consider the needs of customers for service reliability, environmental sustainability and emissions reduction, technological advancement, effective program design, and broader economic impacts. The slides highlight OCC’s efforts on the Energy Efficiency Board, to protect customers from illegal marketing by third-party electric suppliers, to procure and promote new grid-side and distributed renewable energy resources at competitive prices, to modernize the electric grid, and to transition to electric vehicles without undue impacts on electric rates. We also highlighted Connecticut’s increasing electric affordability problem and the rising numbers of service terminations. An informative dialogue ensued on a variety of issues with Committee members, and the OCC team appreciated the opportunity to both offer its insights and to hear the perspectives of the Committee on the topics raised.

Please visit [OCC’s website](http://www.ct.gov/occ/site/default.asp).