



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
**NEWS RELEASE**

Consumer Counsel Elin Swanson Katz

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Elin Swanson Katz: 860-827-2910

**CONSUMER COUNSEL URGES EVERYONE TO CHECK APPLIANCES DURING  
THE POWER OUTAGE**

(November 2, 2012-New Britain, CT) - Connecticut's Consumer Counsel, Elin Swanson Katz, is urging everyone that is currently without power to switch off or unplug any appliances or electronics that may have been on when the power went out.

Consumer Counsel Katz said, "We've received reports of pots left on stoves catching fire when power is restored, issues like that. We want to make sure everyone is safe in their homes both during an outage and when their lines are reenergized."

She commented that it is easy to forget what was running when the power went out. Check all appliances to prevent a serious safety hazard to you and your home. In addition, when power returns, there may be a surge of electrical energy that could damage sensitive equipment such as computers and TVs, so unplugging electronics is recommended.

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*The Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC) is the State of Connecticut's advocate for all utility ratepayers. OCC seeks to ensure just and reasonable rates and reliable utility service for customers of Connecticut's electric, gas, telephone, and water utilities and reasonable protection for cable television customers. For more information, visit [www.ct.gov/occ](http://www.ct.gov/occ).*