



Lamont-Bysiewicz Transition Policy Committee Reporting Template

Committee Name: Energy

Co-Chairs: Representative Lonnie Reed and Bryan Garcia

Please address the following questions using this template in a memo not to exceed 2 pages. You are welcome to submit appendices or other attachments in addition to the memo.

1. How do you propose the Lamont Administration should prioritize the policy goals in this area, and on what timeframe?

The Energy Committee proposes that the policy goals be prioritized according to following three areas: (1) job creation and economic growth, (2) confronting climate change by reducing GHG emissions (realizing its local and global benefits) while adapting to its impacts (ensuring local resilience against natural disasters through science-based planning and proper siting), and (3) lowering energy costs for everyone, with an emphasis on underserved communities (e.g., LMI households, seniors, people living with disabilities, and communities of color). The timeframe begins with the first 100 days, in combination with immediate (i.e., through FY 2019), short (i.e., CY 2019), medium (i.e., CY 2020-CY 2021), and long-term (i.e., beyond CY 2022) actions – see Attachments G-K.

2. Which goals are achievable in the first 100 days of the Administration?

The Energy Committee identified the following types of actions for the first 100 days of the Administration – continue ongoing action, make an announcement, introduce legislation, and/or issue an executive order (e.g., pledge to veto budgets that raid energy efficiency and Green Bank funds – executive order). For further details on specific policy recommendations and the first 100 days – see Attachments G-K.

3. Which goals will require legislation to move forward? Which items can be advanced through the actions of the Administration alone? What is the fiscal impact of these legislative or executive actions?

The Energy Committee identified three essential recommendations (i.e., recommendations that form the foundation to a successful sustainable energy policy) and a “Top 10” set of policy recommendations – see Attachment A. Consistent with the prioritization of the policy goals noted above, the essential recommendations include: (1) establishing new 2040 and 2050 GHG emission reduction targets,¹ (2) creating a Green Economy and Jobs Fund,² and (3) forming a Council on Energy Affordability and Equity.³ The “Top 10” policy recommendations include: (1) expanding energy efficiency, (2) protecting ratepayers,⁴ (3) amending Section 7 of PA 18-50 (i.e., behind-the-meter renewable energy and shared clean energy facilities), (4) expanding “Lead by Example,” (5)

¹ Requires legislation to establish long-term GHG emission reduction targets and has no fiscal impact. It should be noted that the Energy Committee is not recommending a 2030 goal as PA 18-82 established a 45 percent below 2001 levels by 2030 target (see Attachment D)

² Requires legislation to restore ratepayer funds (including RGGI) as a source of resources and administration by DECD and DOL

³ Requires administrative action alone to form and administer

⁴ Including energy efficiency funds, Green Bank funds, and RGGI allowance proceeds.

expanding the Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) with offshore wind, anaerobic digestion, and other new resources, (6) modernizing the grid and resiliency planning, (7) investing in zero-emission vehicle infrastructure, (8) promoting regional energy and environmental collaboration, (9) expanding CHEAPR incentives, and (10) leading on the Transportation Climate Initiative (TCI). For details on these policy recommendations requiring legislation, administrative action alone, and fiscal impact of these legislative and executive actions, see Attachments G-K. Also, two (2) proposals were accepted as “Innovative and Cross-Cutting,” including the Connecticut State and Northeast Regional Infrastructure Bank and Green and Healthy Homes – see Attachments W-X.

4. Are there specific challenges you can identify with regard to achieving the Lamont Administration’s goals, and how would you suggest to address those?

There are three challenges we foresee, including (1) harnessing the full cooperation of state Agencies and Departments, (2) convincing legislative leaders and key committee chairs to prioritize energy efficiency and green energy objectives, and (3) dispelling OPM and OFA fiscal concerns and fears. The Energy Committee urges the Governor-elect and his team to address these challenges by immediately bringing major players to the table with regular follow-ups to pursue goals, handle logistics, and confront the inevitable set-backs at the outset of the legislative session.

5. How will implementation of policy in this area create jobs and spur economic growth?

The green energy economy in Connecticut is comprised of 38,000 design, installation, and manufacturing jobs. As public and private investment in the energy efficiency and green energy economy grows, more jobs are created, more individual, corporate, sales, and property tax revenues are generated for the state, and more air pollution is reduced, thereby improving local public health and confronting global climate change – see Attachments F and S-V.

6. Are there opportunities for cost savings for CT state government in the context of implementing this policy?

There are opportunities for significant cost savings for Connecticut state government through the proposed “Lead by Example” policy recommendations, including: (1) reducing energy consumption in state buildings by 40 percent from current levels by 2030,⁵ including state- and quasi-public owned affordable housing, (2) converting state vehicles to zero emissions for 50 percent of its light duty fleet⁶ and 30 percent of its buses from current levels by 2030, and (3) implementing a pilot carbon charge across state buildings and vehicles.

7. What examples of success from other states, countries, or the private sector in this policy area should the Administration study?

Through its process, the Energy Committee sought feedback from state agency officials as well as received input from various stakeholders. Additional examples of success from other states, countries, or the private sector are included in Working Group summaries (see Attachments G-K) as well as various other documents (see Attachments L-R).

8. Are there any other issues/considerations you would like to highlight with regard to this policy area?

The Energy Committee has summarized its process (see Attachments A-C) and identified other issues/considerations to highlight with regards to the energy policy area (see Attachments G-K).

⁵ State buildings represent about 9 percent of Connecticut’s commercial and industrial sector energy consumption, the equivalent of nearly 45 trillion BTU’s, or about \$80-\$100 million in energy expenditures per year.

⁶ There are currently about 3,350 vehicles in the DAS fleet with a turnover rate of approximately 15% per year or 100,000 miles