

**Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Location: Gina McCarthy Auditorium, DEEP Headquarters and  
remotely on Zoom**

**Meeting Date: January 13, 2026**

**Meeting Time: 10:00 – 11:30 AM**

**Zoom Recording:**

[https://ctdeep.zoom.us/rec/share/epGiPwxCTzlgStmyQULJSOnSKV9JleBkjubTUbui  
OmKtIprEolm6aNRGZMHGliy.TU2ts-FDI387uCgd](https://ctdeep.zoom.us/rec/share/epGiPwxCTzlgStmyQULJSOnSKV9JleBkjubTUbuiOmKtIprEolm6aNRGZMHGliy.TU2ts-FDI387uCgd)

## GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON CLIMATE CHANGE ATTENDEES

Name
Commissioner Katie Dykes, DEEP (GC3 Chair)
Andrew Lavigne, DECD
Commissioner Michelle Gilman, DAS
David Barkin, DAS
Ryan Ensling, DAS
Asst. Deputy Commissioner George Bradner, CID
Joanna Wozniak-Brown, OPM
Commissioner Manisha Juthani MD, DPH
Paul Jorgensen, DOH
Raquel Ocasio, DOT
William (Bill) Turner, DESPP
Zachary Smith, DESPP
Executive Director Bryan Garcia, CT Green Bank
Executive Director James (Jim) O'Donnell, UConn CIRCA
President Frogard Ryan, The Nature Conservancy
President Leah Lopez, Save the Sound
Terence Shields, The Hartford
Executive Director Brenda Watson, North Hartford Partnership
Deputy Commissioner Brenda Bergeron, DESPP (remote)
Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt, DOAG (remote)
Kayleigh Royston, DOAG (remote)
Lee Cruz, Community Foundation for Greater New Haven (remote)
Mayor Justin Elicker, New Haven (remote)

## IN-PERSON ATTENDEES

Name
Rebecca French
Allie Brown
Emily Pysh
Hannah Beath
Lisa Morrissey
Charles Rothenberger
Marcus Ferguson
Claudia Allen
Roman Jamieson
Chris Phelps
Joe Gresko
Lilian Ruiz
Lori Martin
Maebel Haynes
Michael Ungaro
Hedley Freake
Laurel VanStone
Melinda Tuhus

Ivelisse Correa
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## OTHER ONLINE ATTENDEES

Name
Latha Swamy
Sarah Watson
Sarah Huang
Nancy Weinberg
Emily Socha
Jennifer Weymouth
Claire Sickinger
Mary-beth Hart
Jessica Bilyard
Tracy Babbidge
Janelle Braun
Ana Hoepfner
Lidia Ruppert
Camille Fontanella
Harrison Nantz
Jillian Murphy
Jennifer Arienti
Rebecca Andreucci
Nancy Tanguay
Matthew Lyman
Jordana Gravely
Leigh Whelpton
Stefanie Keohane
Nicole Govert
John Truscinski
Mary Buchanan
Annie Perkins
Patricia Houser
David Hawkins
Bill Cavers
Pippa Bell Ader
Thomas Swarr
Madison Spremulli
Amy B Patterson
Patrice Gillespie
Rebecca Dorsey
Peter Millman
Ken Donald
Adrienne Farrar Houel
Kipen Kolensinkas
Elizabeth Landry
Francis Brady
Ralph Jones

Amber Garrard
Christine O'Neill
Kamora Herrington
Cary Lynch
Tracy Gionfriddo
Kaleigh Mitchell
Michael Trunzo
Julianna McVeigh
Kate McAuliffe
Kaitlyn Cyr
Kelsey Sudol
Hannah Reichle
Lauryn Sherman
Dwayne Escola
Kerry Swift
Paul Aresta
Robert Maddox
Ian McDonald
Lance Scott
Susan Eastwood
Patty Szczys
Bud McAllister
Caroline Bailey
Ebone Lockett
Kim Stoner
Robin Ladouceur
Mary Sherwin
Nicolas Dostal
Julianna Larue
Thomas Mead
Lindsay Naughton
Kyle Johnson
David Schneider
Marge Schneider
Evan Dantos
Arnold Jensen
Maureen Fitzgerald
Nathan Frohling
Jonathan Steinberg
Amy Blaymore Paterson
Kelsey Sudol
Becky Kessler
Susan Chapin

## AGENDA & NOTES

### Welcome by DEEP Commissioner Katie Dykes (00:00:00)

**Roll call** of present members of the Governor's Council on Climate Change by Rebecca French (see GC3 attendee list).

***Summary of remarks from Commissioner Dykes. Listen to the full remarks on the [Zoom recording](#).***

Commissioner Katie Dykes acknowledges that 2025 has been a dynamic year and that 2026 will continue to be a busy and disruptive year with respect to our climate future. However, she celebrates that Connecticut was able to win a preliminary injunction to enable the construction of Revolution Wind (offshore wind project) to move forward. She emphasizes providing for predictable pathways towards decarbonization that address meeting our state greenhouse gas (GHG) targets, contributing to global GHG emissions reduction, bolstering the reliability of our grid, and supplying affordable electricity for residents and businesses in Connecticut and New England.

She then provides an overview of what will be discussed during the meeting, the Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA), and the broader effort to reduce GHG emissions while ensuring that communities remain as safe as possible from the impacts of extreme weather events and climate change.

Commissioner Dykes highlights the state's GHG inventory, reiterating that in 2023, emissions declined in the transportation and building sectors due to federal and state programs that improve energy affordability and protect public health. She reiterates the importance of focusing on long-term goals and the impact near-term changes have on the durability of long-term change.

She acknowledges that meeting our targets—especially near-term targets—will be tough considering the changes at the federal level, including regulatory decisions, rollbacks, extra-legal efforts to block action, and permitting changes. However, our state targets provide a transparent, science-based way to measure our progress and inform policymakers and the public.

She announces that the Trump administration withdrew the U.S. from the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is expected to soon issue their final decision whether to repeal the Endangerment Finding. The Endangerment Finding is a lawful standard under the Clean Air Act that states that GHGs threaten the public health and welfare of current and future generations.

Repealing the Finding would facilitate the rollback of vehicle emission standards. She states

that, at the state level, we will continue to prioritize affordability and make use of the federal grant funding still in place.

Commissioner Dykes appreciates the partnership with Attorney General Tong during current litigation and highlights that Governor Lamont is still a member of the U.S. Climate Alliance with 23 other governors. The Alliance collectively reduced its emissions by 24% since 2005. She states that DEEP is continues to engage with stakeholders to ensure that we retain as many of the tools to reduce emissions as possible then turns it over to Rebecca French to present on the GWSA report required by Public Act 25-125.

### **Presentation by Rebecca French (00:21:18)**

*For more context, please review the slide presentation or view the [Zoom recording](#).*

[All slides available here.](#)

Dr. French reviews the state's targets per Public Act 25-125:

- 45% reduction below 2001 levels by 2030
- 65% reduction below 2001 levels and a zero-carbon electricity supply by 2040
- Net-zero with an 80% reduction below 2001 levels by 2050

She mentions that the four-part GWSA report will be released soon and notes that one part, the state GHG inventory, has already been released publicly. In addition to the inventory, the report will also:

- Propose regulations, policies, and strategies designed to achieve our GHG targets
- Assess the latest scientific information regarding global climate change
- Review the status of emissions reduction efforts in other states and countries

#### Part I: GHG Inventory

- We met our 2020 emissions goal of 10% below 1990 levels
- DEEP is conducting a Business-As-Usual (BAU) projection as part of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Planning Grant from EPA under the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).
  - The BAU establishes a baseline that shows estimated GHG emissions and includes the federal tax incentives already rolled back and the proposed regulatory rollbacks not yet implemented.
  - Given these trends, Connecticut would reduce emissions by 34% by 2030 and 44% by 2050. Dr. French reminds the GC3 that long-term projections are more uncertain than near-term projections.
  - DEEP will be assessing pathways towards reaching our targets later this year.

#### Part II: Proposed Regulations, Policies, and Strategies

- Connecticut received \$2 billion in federal climate investments, but with the passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBA) in July 2025, the state saw a significant rollback of tax credits for clean electricity production, electric vehicles (EVs), energy efficiency, and solar.
- The state continues to implement funding programs for home energy rebates, EV charging, grid resilience, broadband, and heat pumps. Programs include the Connecticut Hydrogen and Electric Automobile Purchase Rebate (CHEAPR), EnergizeCT, and the Residential Renewable Energy Solutions Program.
- DEEP is prioritizing implementing existing programs and holding onto our funding.

*Part III: Assessment of the Latest Science Regarding Global Climate Change*

- In Fall 2025, the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine released comments regarding the proposed repeal of the Endangerment Finding, noting that the 2009 Finding was accurate and stands the test of time.
- Dr. French thanks the University of Connecticut, Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (UConn CIRCA) for their help in reviewing the climate impacts included in the GC3 2021 report. Largely, these impacts have not changed. Connecticut will still need to plan for stronger storms, more frequent droughts, sea level rise, increased flooding, extreme rainfall, and extreme heat.

*Part IV: Emissions Reduction Efforts in Other States and Countries*

- Globally, emissions have more than doubled between 1970 and 2024, although U.S. emissions have decreased 19% below 2005 levels in 2023.
- The U.S. withdrew from UNFCCC, but Connecticut continues to engage with the Convention through the U.S. Climate Alliance. The Alliance has decreased its emissions by 24% while increasing GDP by 34% since 2005.
- Connecticut is part of the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP) which produced the first-ever international multi-jurisdictional climate plan in 2001.
- The state also participates in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) which has, across its 11 member states, decreased emissions 46% from power plants covered under the RGGI region and invested \$550 million in auction proceeds in clean energy in Connecticut since the state joined.

Dr. French transitions to the discussion portion of the meeting and encourages online GC3 members to come on camera and asks in-person members to put up their tent card if they would like to speak.

## Council Discussion (00:32:40)

*Summary of the remarks from members of the GC3. Listen to the [Zoom recording](#) for full comments.*

Commissioner Manisha Juthani (Department of Public Health): Notes that transportation and buildings are the two largest sources of emissions. Asks what individuals can do within those two buckets to decrease emissions and how the GC3 or DEEP can enhance uptake of action in those sectors. Is there anything we're not already doing to reduce emissions in those sectors?

Commissioner Katie Dykes (Department of Energy and Environmental Protection): Responds by saying that 2025 was one of the biggest years in EV adoption that the state has ever experienced. We saw a lot of folks accelerating their interest in buying an EV because of the expiration of federal tax credits that occurred in late October. We're waiting now to evaluate the vehicle registration data for the last quarter of 2025. Transit-oriented development (TOD) is another powerful tool that also provides more affordable housing.

Bryan Garcia (Connecticut Green Bank): Wants to flag a couple of policies that pertain to Part II of the GWSA report. The first is Public Act 21-48, Sec. 2 that enables renters in multi-family affordable housing to participate in the green economy and benefit from clean energy deployment. Public Act 22-25, the Clean Air Act, includes a section on deploying electric school buses in environmental justice (EJ) communities. Thinking about those buses as a resilience resource might be interesting. Could we plug them in when the grid is down? Lastly, Public Act 25-33 provides another pathway for municipalities to invest in municipal-wide resilience projects through resilience improvement districts.

Commissioner Michelle Gilman (Department of Administrative Services): Reports on one initiative relative to Public Act 25-125 that considers procurement models across the state relative to green purchasing. DAS created a website that went live as of January 1 and is a resource for state agencies, municipalities, nonprofit partners and others. It provides contract templates and models for various purchasing and procurement policies. It also serves as a resource hub for policies related to ENERGY STAR and federal procurement.

Ryan Ensling (Department of Administrative Services): One of DAS' big projects is installing solar at our state property and partnering with the Green Bank to do so. Throughout this initiative, we have 30-plus projects in various states, whether they're completed in construction, design, or just in initial talks. DAS has a goal, per Executive Order (EO) 21-3 to install 10 megawatts (MW) of solar annually. DAS' food scrap diversion program, also per EO 21-3, looks at state agencies with food service capabilities, such as corrections, schools, and hospitals, to reduce food scraps entering the waste stream. DAS is also updating

contracts to incorporate language regarding the environmental preferable purchasing guidelines.

David Barkin (Department of Administrative Services): Several years ago, DAS adopted the International Green Construction Code (IGCC), which is a higher standard than the state's high-performance building standards. The agency is currently midway through a decarbonization study of all state buildings which is expected to be completed in July 2026. DAS is working with its human resources department to develop a new sustainability job classification. There are also several net-zero projects ready for construction including at the Valley Lab for the Agricultural Experiment Station and the Whitfield State Museum.

Raquel Ocasio (Department of Transportation): Circles back to Commissioner Juthani's inquiry about transportation. DOT has a 2030 VMT reduction target plan that proposes how individuals can reduce their VMT by 5% by 2030. She recommends utilizing public transit system, rail services, bus stop shelters, and micro-mobility options.

Frogard Ryan (The Nature Conservancy): The Nature Conservancy calls for continued investments in collaborative projects such as the restoration of Bright Brook Salt Marsh at Rocky Neck State Park. We are aiming to address inconsistent terminology about forest management to improve forest-related decision-making. We have four climate adaption-related priorities: 1) advancing urban forestry networks, 2) supporting municipal- and regional-level climate planning emphasizing nature-based solutions, 3) extending funding for key programs such as DEEP's Climate Resilience Fund (DCRF), 4) adopting climate-progressive forestry management on state forest lands. We also have several climate mitigation priorities: 1) increasing attention on energy transmission, 2) recognizing and scaling offshore wind to meet energy demand and affordability goals, 3) prioritizing energy efficiency programs, 4) renewing attention on renewable siting, especially solar.

Bill Turner (Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection): DESPP is doing everything we can to be ready for the unknowns associated with FEMA. We were successful in multi-state litigation to get Building Resilience Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) reinstated though we have not received official word from FEMA on next steps. In 2024, Connecticut received its first ever fire management assistant grant, so DESPP is interested in projects from partners to use the \$1 million available for wildfire-specific hazard mitigation. Mr. Turner acknowledges Deputy Commissioner Brenda Bergeron who is retiring at the end of January after 37 years of state service.

Commissioner Katie Dykes (Department of Energy and Environmental Protection): Quickly notes that DEEP is proud to continue implementing DCRF and expresses hope that it will fit well with the return of the FEMA BRIC program.

Mayor Justin Elicker (City of New Haven): Channels what Commissioner Juthani raised about focusing on transportation and residential energy use because that's where the most impact will be. Mayor Elicker acknowledges the progress made to expand micro-transit, bus transit, and e-bikes, but New Haven is still facing some challenges. He calls for increased partnership with the state to electrify the city fleet and for public-private partnerships with the utilities for charging stations that are accessible for multi-family housing units (such as street charging). There should be more incentives for landlords to conduct energy efficiency audits and energy improvements because there's often a mismatch between the tenant that pays the electric bill and the landlord that doesn't but still makes the decision on investment. He expresses the desire to explore the potential geothermal systems more.

Leah Lopez (Save the Sound): Save the Sound was thrilled that Revolution Wind could continue moving forward. Our top two priorities on the mitigation side are continuing to procure additional wind resources and helping the public understand the role of the public benefits charges. The priority on the resilience side is keeping funds accessible for nonprofits and municipalities to fulfill federal gaps. State funding dollars to support project identification and initial design can help make projects more shovel ready.

Brenda Watson (North Hartford Partnership): The North Hartford Partnership is dedicated to a net-zero North Hartford and intends to accomplish this goal through top-down actions such as one project that replaces the roofs of multifamily buildings to install solar plus backup storage and installs heat pumps in those buildings along with a microgrid. Bottom-up actions include partnering with TEN4CT to promote geothermal and a composting program. Workforce development is big priority as well, specifically upskilling and job training. Another project includes the development of a climate resiliency hub that focuses on emergency planning and preparation, food storage and distribution, and public education about the clean energy transition.

Jim O'Donnell (University of Connecticut, Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation): UConn CIRCA recently released a report called Resilient Connecticut 2.0 that lists a lot of projects such as those Brenda Watson shared. Even more difficult than developing projects is sustaining progress on those projects in the face of changing political leadership. Mr. O'Donnell advises thinking about programs such as DCRF as being a multi-year announcement so that planners can project what needs to get done and when. He also suggests more stringent tracking of workforce development in the green energy space and the effect that workforce investments have had on offsetting some of the negative costs associated with reinvesting in and improving resilience.

Commissioner Katie Dykes (Department of Energy and Environmental Protection): Thanks the members of the GC3 for sharing their perspectives and encourages members to

continue sharing suggestions for what the state should be prioritizing once the GWSA report is released. She transitions the meeting to public comment.

### **Synopsis of Public Comments (01:05:17)**

*For full comments, please see the Zoom recording and/or audio transcript. Submitted written comments are posted on the GC3 [Meetings and Notices](#) page.*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Claudia Allen	(Windham-Willimantic NAACP Environmental Justice Committee)
Roman Jamieson	(Windham-Willimantic NAACP Environmental Justice Committee)
Chris Phelps	Environment Connecticut
Kate Donnelly	Hampton Green Energy Committee
Lilian Ruiz	Connecticut Council on Soil and Water Conservation
Lori Martin	Haven's Harvest
Maebel Haynes	Sunrise Movement Connecticut
Michael Ungaro	Sierra Club
Hedley Freake	Third Act
Melinda Tuhus	Connecticut Climate Crisis Mobilization
Ivelisse Correa	Self
Kerry Swift	Self
Kipen Kolesinskas	Consulting Conservation Scientist. Retired USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service State Soil Scientist for Connecticut and Rhode Island
Lance Scott	Carbon Capture Machine
Bud McAllister	Partners in Healthy Communities
Robert Maddox	SterlingPlanet.Com
Francis Brady	Connecticut Advocates for Trees
Peter Millman	People's Action for Clean Energy

### **Closing Comments by Commissioner Katie Dykes**

Commissioner Dykes thanks everyone who provided comment, appreciating the feedback received during the meeting. She notes that there is much work ahead and acknowledges everyone's participation in working to reach our targets.

### **Adjourn**

### **Chat Record**

55:16	Adrienne Farrar Houel	am I no longer on this committee? Adrienne Farrar Houel....
55:51	Allie Brown   CT DEEP	For those of you just joining us, please be sure to keep your cameras and microphones off. Thank you.
59:29	Sarah Huang	Hi Adrienne, I believe you were on the Equity and Environmental Justice Working Group as a part of the GC3. They were only taking roll call for the council members who were appointed by the Governor. Hope that helps and good to see you!

1:04:51	David and Marge Schneider	What were some of the obstacles in reaching target that could have been attacked sooner or should be attacked over this year and beyond? We should address those we can ASAP in conjunction with the hard ones to attack?
1:06:41	David and Marge Schneider	Please excuse my typos.
1:11:50	Adrienne Farrar Houel	Right. Thanks...
1:13:15	Sarah Watson   CT DEEP	CT GHG Inventory: <a href="https://portal.ct.gov/deep/climate-change/ct-greenhouse-gas-inventory-reports">https://portal.ct.gov/deep/climate-change/ct-greenhouse-gas-inventory-reports</a>
1:14:12	Lauryn	Does anyone have the link to the 2025 legislative goals?
1:15:23	Sarah Watson   CT DEEP	Are you referring to Public Act 25-125? <a href="https://www.cga.ct.gov/2025/ACT/PA/PDF/2025PA-00125-R00HB-05004-PA.PDF">https://www.cga.ct.gov/2025/ACT/PA/PDF/2025PA-00125-R00HB-05004-PA.PDF</a>
1:15:41	Ebone Lockett	Greetings All, We are working with training a coalition of community residents across (5) CT Communities (Hartford, Bloomfield, Bridgeport, New Britain, and Middletown who are proximate to problems and solutions at the nexus of climate and cumulative health impacts and social drivers. We would love to lift up our critical initiative - A.C.E.S. Academy - partially funded through Sustainable CT Community Match Fund in partnership with climate leaders like yourself (and through expertise like yours). Please learn more and join us!!! <a href="https://www.patronicity.com/project/activating_aces_academy">https://www.patronicity.com/project/activating_aces_academy</a>
1:15:55	Lauryn	Yes, thank you!
1:19:13	Ebone Lockett	<a href="https://www.nationalacademies.org/read/28337/chapter/7#58">https://www.nationalacademies.org/read/28337/chapter/7#58</a>
1:19:16	Francis Brady	Question from CT Advocates for Trees on Nature Based Solutions: Most environment experts claim that trees and nature based solutions are important in stabilizing and eventually reducing CO2 levels. Every since 2023 when Raised Bill HB 6744 (Concerning Tree removal by DOT) and SB 122 (Replacing trees in public areas) were brought forward only to die, no significant new legislation has been raised to either help protect trees nor replace those that needed to be cleared cut by CT DOT or the Utilities companies. When can we expect any legislation, like the two above, to focused on trees and other nature based solutions?
1:25:33	David and Marge Schneider	What incentives are there to encourage commercial enterprises to invest in alternative energy such as going solar?
1:29:46	Patricia Houser	GOOD POINT—bit about the powerful impacts (one could argue has the greatest potential) of urban design and land use—also an opportunity to have a happy synchronous relationship with those working towards affordable housing, tree city goals, active (and mass) transportation, and more access to parks!! Thanks to all for their contributions to these goals!
1:30:18	David and Marge Schneider	How can we involve more commercial structures or those business with available grounds to install solar panels?
1:32:33	Sarah Watson   CT DEEP	CT DAS EPP website: <a href="https://portal.ct.gov/das/home/procurement-programs-and-services/environmentally-preferable-purchasing?language=en_US">https://portal.ct.gov/das/home/procurement-programs-and-services/environmentally-preferable-purchasing?language=en_US</a>
1:40:38	Susan Chapin (she/her) CT Coordinator Citizens' Climate Lobby	Francis Brady, the CT Citizens' Climate Lobby would support a bill to increase responsible tree/shrubbery/native plantings/swamps plantings and stewardship. If you would like to introduce a bill through a legislator, I'll have my CT team provide supportive public comment, etc.
1:47:59	Sarah Watson   CT DEEP	If you would like to sign up to speak during the public comment period, please send Allie Brown a direct message.

1:48:58	Francis Brady	Thank you Susan - I would suggest we start with the two I mention above, as these are focused on what the State DOT and our Utilities should do. My legislators in Madison are Rep. John-Michael Parker (Env Chair) and Sen Cohen (DOT Chair) so getting legislation initiated by them is a little complicated. But we will continue dialoging with them. Thank you for your support!
1:56:03	Tracy Gionfriddo	Will the report be available to the public or others that are not on GC3 to review and/or comment?
1:56:54	Peter Millman	Allie, I would like to make a comment on Thermal Energy Networks. Thanks.
1:57:00	Sarah Watson   CT DEEP	If you would like to sign up to speak during public comment, please send a direct message to Allie Brown and she will add you to the list.
2:05:58	Lee Cruz	In partnership with the State, private philanthropy is playing a significant role in changing how we provide early childhood education in CT. I would urge us to look at that model for lessons in how private philanthropy, particularly community foundations can help with the implementation of our plan. Thank you.
2:31:13	Emily Pysh - CT DEEP	In response to a prior question, yes, the Global Warming Solutions Act Report will be posted for public comment
2:35:46	Madison Spremulli	Good morning, my name is Madison Spremulli, representing the CT Zero Waste Coalition. I want to highlight the emissions produced from our current waste management landscape. In particular, trucking waste out-of-state hundreds of miles to Ohio and Pennsylvania is contributing to the transportation sector emissions. We need to prioritize meaningful waste reduction. Building more incinerators and waste-to-energy facilities will emit more pollutants and, therefore, is not a viable solution. We need to reduce the amount of waste we send to landfills and incinerators through food donation, composting, and unit-based pricing. Thank you.
2:41:34	Allie Brown   CT DEEP	We do need to adjourn the meeting after this commenter. We are happy to accept additional public comments in writing by email at <a href="mailto:deep.climatechange@ct.gov">deep.climatechange@ct.gov</a> .
2:41:35	Lance Scott	Yes, "Systems Thinking" and public-private-philanthropic-academia collaborations are the key. Please engage Connecticut's wealth of industry experts in Microgrids, Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), Fuel Cells, Carbon Capture & Utilization (CCUS), Solar, Combined Heat & Power (CHP), Forestation, Soil, Geothermal, and many other nature-based and technological solutions. Thank you for your commitment and genuine progress. Just Google TEN4CT for more information
2:44:54	Peter Millman	



## comments for Climate meeting January 13

From Claire Stadtmueller <claire.stadtmueller@gmail.com>

Date Mon 1/12/2026 7:42 PM

To DEEP ClimateChange <DEEP.ClimateChange@ct.gov>

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

The 'cure' is worse than the 'sickness.'

Whales are driven to beach themselves by the low frequency emitted by off-shore wind turbines. Fishermen report a 40% reduction in catches in the areas of turbines compared to pre-deployment. The turbines leak oil and the very construction of their bases is harmful to the ocean. Then there are the shattering turbines.

"Renewables" such as solar panels require mining for lithium, and then the toxic disposal of lithium batteries. Electric vehicles weigh more, causing more wear and tear on the roads, and require excessive man hours and immense amounts of water to extinguish the fires they cause on collision. And sometimes spontaneously!

The REAL climate change is intended. As stated in the 44 page document released by the White House in June 2023, 'research' is done by spraying aluminum, sulfuric acid, barium to block out the sun.

[Congressionally Mandated Research Plan and an Initial Research Governance Framework Related to Solar Radiation Management](#)

THIS is pollution. Yet, only two very ineffective bills have been introduced in Connecticut, while 34 other states have introduced bills against weather modification.

Blocking out the sun, while pushing more solar panels, often cutting carbon-sucking trees in the process. Any child could say "The Emperor has no Clothes."

The oft-quoted "97% of scientists agree" has been discovered to be scientists' need to publish the accepted narrative in order to publish. Publish falsity, or perish.

Patrick Moore, Ph.D, Greenpeace Founder:

There is no scientific proof that human emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) are the dominant cause of the minor warming of the Earth's atmosphere over the past 100 years. If there were such a proof it would be written down for all to see. No actual proof, as it is understood in science, exists. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) states: "It is **extremely likely** that human influence has been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century."

I, Claire Stadtmueller, am an environmentalist. I have been vegan for 42 years. I don't have A/C in my home, which is lower than 64 degrees in the winter.

I marched in the NYC climate march years ago before I became informed. I would hope that some of you could relax your grip on the accepted narrative to see how deleterious the 'solutions' are.

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**Sent from my PC connected to the internet with an ethernet cable; using a non-wifi modem, providing speedy internet with no microwave radiation.**

**SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY**

January 12, 2026

Commissioner Katie Dykes  
Chair, Governor's Council on Climate Change  
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Dr. Rebecca French  
Director, Office of Climate Planning  
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

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*Re: Public Comment on GC3 Implementation of Carbon Mitigation Strategies and DEEP's report on progress towards the state's greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets pursuant to CGS Sec. 22a-200a(d) as amended in Section 2 of Public Act 25-125*

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Dear Commissioner Dykes and Dr. French:

Dear Members of the Governor's Council on Climate Change and DEEP staff:

I respectfully submit the following comments for the record in connection with the Governor's Council on Climate Change Phase I Report, *"Taking Action on Climate Change and Building a More Resilient Connecticut for All,"* and its identified Near-Term Actions. I appreciate the opportunity to do so and to recognize the substantial and commendable work of the Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3) and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). Connecticut's Climate Action Plan (CAP), Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP), and GC3 recommendations represent one of the most ambitious and integrated climate policy frameworks in the nation.

Achieving the State's statutory greenhouse-gas reduction targets will require not only significant improvements in efficiency, electrification, and nature-based solutions, but also **deployable, scalable, carbon-negative technologies** capable of operating in real industrial environments—particularly in hard-to-abate sectors identified by the CAP and GC3.

Carbon Capture Machine (CCM) is an award-winning clean-energy and carbon-management company developing modular carbon capture and utilization (CCU) systems for industrial facilities, including power generation, waste-to-energy, ports, wastewater treatment, and heavy industry. These sectors are explicitly identified in Connecticut's climate planning documents as requiring additional tools beyond conventional decarbonization pathways.

CCM has been working closely with City of Bridgeport stakeholders to deploy an initial industrial scale project in a designated underserved community, energy transition area, and Opportunity Zone with deep industrial assets and workforce potential. This project has already undergone **rigorous, multi-stage federal evaluation**, having been competitively awarded a U.S. Department of Energy grant that assessed technical merit, financial controls, workforce planning, community engagement, and implementation risk. Federal courts have since held that DOE's decision to rescind this and similar awards on the basis of state political geography, or "Blue States," was unconstitutional

including in *City of St. Paul, Minnesota v. Wright*. This legal context underscores the strength of the project's substantive merits and prior vetting.

Regardless of federal funding outcomes, CCM is committed to moving forward with this Bridgeport project as expeditiously as possible. Scalable, carbon-negative technologies are essential to achieving Connecticut's climate commitments—a goal the State has reaffirmed through clear leadership actions and public statements by Governor Lamont and DEEP Commissioner Dykes, including in response to federal withdrawal from international climate frameworks.

This Phase I effort incorporates extensive, pre-vetted plans for:

- Workforce development and training;
- Broad community engagement;
- City of Bridgeport support;
- Academic collaboration spanning K-12 through PhD programs;
- Philanthropic participation; and
- Partnerships with Connecticut-based technology and construction leaders, including O&G Industries, Triangle Digital, the Pequot Group, the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA), and numerous Bridgeport suppliers, contractors, non-profits, and service businesses.

CCM is not seeking a one-for-one replacement of any prior federal award, but rather, we respectfully seek GC3's support in facilitating cross-agency funding coordination and alignment – including DECD, CT Green Bank, CT DEEP, the Workforce Development Council, CIF, MIF, and municipal partners – to ensure seamless execution of a project that already aligns squarely with Connecticut's climate, economic-development, and equity objectives.

Connecticut has the opportunity to translate its climate plans into deployed infrastructure, skilled jobs, and replicable industrial solutions. CCM's Bridgeport project and prospective plans to establish large-scale manufacturing operations in Fairfield County, Connecticut, offer a practical, accountable, and scalable pathway to do so.

Respectfully submitted,

Carbon Capture Machine (CCM)



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## **Carbon Capture Machine (CCM) – Bridgeport Phase 1 Project Synopsis**

Advanced Manufacturing · Climate Action · Workforce & Community Development

### **Project Overview**

Carbon Capture Machine (CCM) is an award-winning clean-energy and carbon-management company developing modular carbon capture and utilization (CCUS) systems for hard-to-abate industrial sectors. CCM proposes a Bridgeport-based Phase 1 project capturing approximately 1,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year at small industrial scale.

This Phase 1 effort is intentionally designed as a commercialization milestone and demonstration platform, and as a precursor to larger deployments at major industrial facilities in Bridgeport and across Connecticut.

### **Strategic Importance to Connecticut**

- Direct implementation of the CT Climate Action Plan (CAP), PCAP, and GC3 recommendations
- Addresses hard-to-abate industrial emissions beyond electrification and efficiency
- Supports deployment of carbon-negative green-chemistry solutions at real industrial sites
- Anchors advanced manufacturing, supply-chain resilience, and foreign direct investment in Connecticut
- Federal Vetting & Project Readiness
- Previously competitively awarded a U.S. Department of Energy grant following rigorous federal review of:
  - technical merit and feasibility
  - financial controls and project management
  - workforce and community engagement plans
  - Originally planned for deployment in Bridgeport, Connecticut
  - Federal courts have since ruled that rescission of awards based on state geography was unconstitutional (*City of St. Paul, MN v. Wright*), underscoring the project's substantive merits

### **Why Bridgeport**

- Designated underserved energy community and Opportunity Zone
- Industrial zoning and legacy infrastructure suitable for pilot manufacturing
- Proximity to ports, rail, and off-road transportation assets
- Strong local workforce and academic partners
- Opportunity to deliver climate action alongside economic equity and job creation
- Partnerships & Community Engagement
- Phase 1 incorporates extensive, pre-vetted collaboration, including: - City of Bridgeport support
- Workforce development pathways - Academic engagement from K-12 through PhD programs
- Philanthropic participation - Connecticut-based partners such as O&G Industries, Triangle Digital, Pequot Group, NECA, and numerous Bridgeport suppliers, contractors, non-profits, and service businesses

### **Phased Pathway to Scale**

- Phase 1: ~1,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>/year pilot capture, modular assembly, workforce training
- Phase 2: Repeatable manufacturing capacity for regional deployments
- Phase 3: Large-scale installations at facilities such as Bridgeport Harbor Station Unit 5, WIN Waste Wheelabrator, and other major emitters statewide

### **Requested GC3 Role**

- CCM respectfully seeks GC3 support for cross-agency funding coordination and alignment, including: - DEEP (climate alignment, pilot oversight) - DECD (advanced manufacturing and jobs), CT Green Bank (capital de-risking), Workforce Development Council, CIF, MIF, Municipal partners
- Goal: Seamless execution of a policy-aligned, job-creating, and scalable climate project in Bridgeport.

### **Bottom Line**

- CCM's Bridgeport Phase 1 project offers Connecticut a practical opportunity to translate climate plans into deployed industrial solutions, while creating durable, high-quality jobs in a community that needs them most.