

PURA Quarterly Newsletter

2024

Q2



Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

PURA Outlook

April 3, 2024

A robust, active, stakeholder engagement process is an essential component of regulatory procedures and policy development, especially when the regulatory actions will impact a large and diverse population. For the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA or the Authority), its decisions impact Connecticut's businesses and residents, making public outreach and engagement particularly important. Participation in a docket from a diverse set of perspectives helps to ensure a decision is reasonable, equitable, and comprehensive in design.

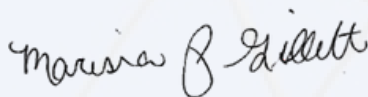
The Office of the Consumer Counsel (OCC) and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) are granted automatic party or participant status in PURA proceedings. The OCC represents the interests of ratepayers as a whole, with DEEP's advocacy focused on the cross-section of energy and environmental issues. Additionally, any affected parties - such as the relevant regulated utility company(ies) who must comply with a decision - are granted party or participant status. Lastly, any person or organization whose interests are not sufficiently represented by the aforementioned entities can also request to participate.

Unfortunately, however, a more robust portfolio of stakeholders may not always elect to participate, given their finite time or lack of resources needed to ensure their viewpoints are adequately heard in PURA proceedings. Without the participation of these stakeholders in a docket, the record may lack evidence that could be influential in the final outcome of an Authority decision.

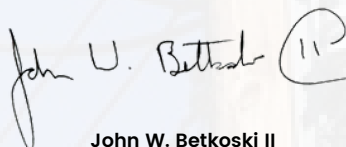
In 2023, Public Act 23-102, An Act Strengthening Protections for Connecticut's Consumers of Energy (Public Act 23-102) directed PURA to establish a process for awarding compensation to eligible stakeholder groups for participation in certain proceedings of the Authority. Specifically, this legislation authorized PURA to distribute up to \$1.2 million per year across proceedings. This important provision will help stakeholders, who otherwise do not have the financial resources or time necessary to participate in PURA proceedings, ensure that their experiences and needs are represented before the Authority.

Stakeholder groups eligible for this funding include those representing residential customers who live in environmental justice communities, residential financial hardship customers, small business customers, or nonprofits representing any of those groups. Through Docket No. 23-09-34, [PURA Implementation of the Stakeholder Group Compensation Provisions of Section 15 of Public Act 23-102](#) (Stakeholder Compensation Docket), PURA established the formal process for groups to apply for and be awarded funds. Additionally, for groups who demonstrate significant financial hardship, there is a process to receive advance funding.

Stakeholders can now find instructions to apply for funding through applicable dockets' Notice of Proceedings or via PURA's [Stakeholder Group Compensation Program](#) webpage. The Authority looks forward to learning from the increased range of perspectives brought to bear in its proceedings, and to the robust outcomes they will help promote. For more information, see [PURA's FAQs](#) on the program.



Marissa P. Gillett
Chairman



John W. Betkoski II
Vice Chairman



Michael Caron
Commissioner

Q1 Docket Decisions



ELECTRIC SECTOR

- 23-09-34 - PURA Implementation of the Stakeholder Group Compensation Provisions of Section 15 of Public Act 23-102
- 23-01-39RE01- PURA Consideration of Civil Penalty and Enforcement Action Against the Connecticut Light and Power d/b/a Eversource Energy After Investigation of the Accident
- 23-05-87 - PURA Investigation into the Fatal Accident that Occurred on May 17, 2023 at 2150 Post Road, Fairfield, CT
- 23-01-32RE01 - PURA Consideration of Civil Penalty and Enforcement Action Against the Connecticut Light and Power d/b/a Eversource Energy After Investigation of Eversource's Manner of Operation and Safety Regarding its Underground Electric Distribution
- 22-10-12 - PURA Proceeding to Investigate Alternative Risk Transfer Programs



GRID MODERNIZATION

- 17-12-03RE02 - PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies – Advanced Metering Infrastructure
- 23-08-01 - 2023 Clean and Renewable Energy Program Data and Report



NATURAL GAS SECTOR

- No natural gas decisions this quarter. Proceedings ongoing.



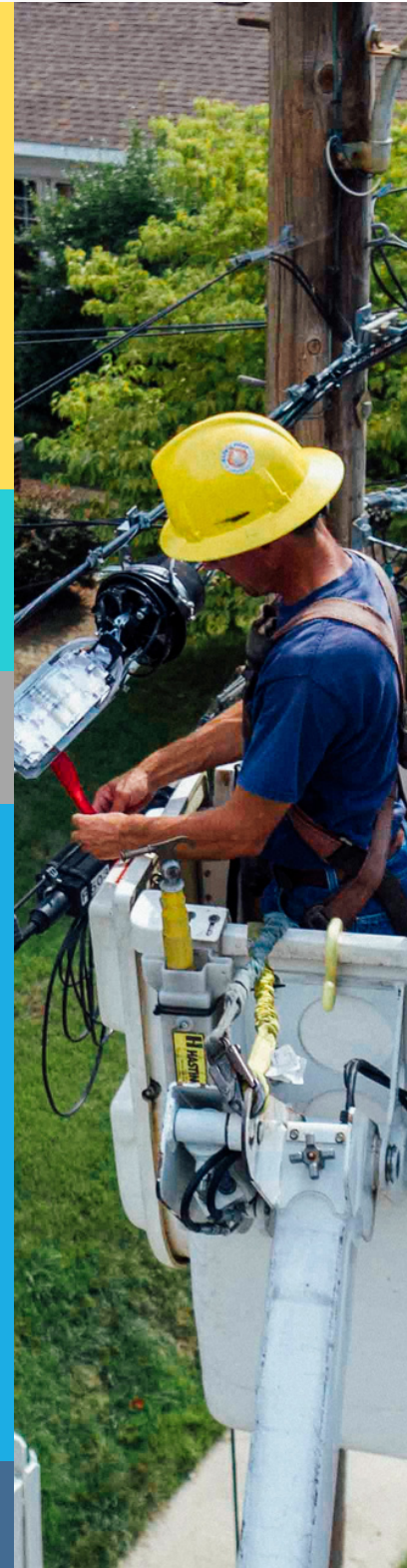
WATER SECTOR

- 23-08-16 - Application of the Connecticut Water Company to Dispose of Approximately 16.1 Acres of Real Property Located South of Mulberry Reservoir in the Borough of Naugatuck, Connecticut
- 23-11-16 - Application of The Connecticut Water Company for Approval of the Issuance of up to \$25,000,000 of Unsecured Notes
- 18-12-32 - PURA and DPH Review of the Application of the Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut and Hillside Water Corporation for Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut to Acquire the Assets of Hillside Water Corporation
- 13-02-20WI25 - Aquarion Water Company Annual WICA Surcharge Reconciliation
- 20-10-31WI02 - Jewett City Water application for approval of Annual WICA Reconciliation
- 10-05-01WI27 - Application of Torrington Water Company for its Annual Reconciliation of its Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment
- 12-07-07WI20 - Application of Hazardville Water Company for Annual WICA Reconciliation
- 20-12-30WI08 - Application of The Connecticut Water Company for its Annual Reconciliation of its Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment



TELECOMM SECTOR (+ UTILITY POLES)

- No telecomm. or utility pole decisions this quarter. Proceedings ongoing.



Electric Sector

Q1 Major Decision Summaries

23-09-34

PURA Implementation of the Stakeholder Group Compensation Provisions of Section 15 of Public Act 23-102

- Section 15 of Public Act 23-102 directed the Authority to establish a program to award compensation to eligible stakeholder groups for participating in proceedings.
- The legislation limits funding to a total of \$1.2 million per year, with a cap of \$300,000 per proceeding and \$100,000 per eligible stakeholder group in a given proceeding.
- A stakeholder group must represent the interests of at least one of the following three types of customers: (1) customers living in environmental justice communities; (2) customers qualifying as financial hardship cases; or (3) small businesses.
- This decision formalizes the application and award processes under this program, which is now in effect.
- Interested stakeholder groups can find instructions for submitting an application in notices of proceeding (NOPs) for eligible dockets or on [PURA's website](#).

23-01-39RE01

PURA Consideration of Civil Penalty and Enforcement Action Against the Connecticut Light and Power d/b/a Eversource Energy After Investigation of the Accident

- On January 20, 2023, Eversource filed an accident report providing notice to the Authority of a motor vehicle accident at 602 Greenwood Road in Norfolk, Connecticut that occurred on January 17, 2023, which resulted in the entrapment of the occupants in a motor vehicle.
- The Authority completed an investigation into the cause of the accident and Eversource's response to it.
- The Authority found that Eversource's response was deficient and that its reporting violated certain statutes and regulations, which subjected the Company to a notice of violation.
- In this decision, the Authority fines Eversource \$12,500 for violation of General Statutes § 16-16 and Conn. Agencies Regs. § 16-16-3 for violations of accident reporting provisions.

23-05-87

PURA Investigation into the Fatal Accident that Occurred on May 17, 2023 at 2150 Post Road, Fairfield, CT

- By statute, public service companies must notify the Authority of major accidents connected with or due to the operation of utility property as soon as possible after the accident occurs.
- This decision investigates a fatal accident reported by The United Illuminating Company (UI) as occurring on May 17, 2023, and examines the causes and circumstances of this tragedy.
- As a result of the investigation, the Authority provides UI with next steps and additional safety measures to implement, which are expected to reduce the risk of similar accidents in the future.

23-01-32RE01

PURA Consideration of Civil Penalty and Enforcement Action Against the Connecticut Light and Power d/b/a Eversource Energy After Investigation of Eversource's Manner of Operation and Safety Regarding its Underground Electric Distribution

- Between April 2022 and February 2023, Eversource filed five major accident reports related to its underground electric distribution infrastructure.
- The Authority issued a decision on November 22, 2023, in Docket No. 23-01-32, Investigation Into Eversource's Manner of Operation and Safety Regarding its Underground Electric Distribution System, which detailed the Authority's findings related to the Company's accident reporting.
- The Authority found that the Company's reporting of the Accidents violated certain applicable statutes and regulations, thereby subjecting the Company to a notice of violation.
- As a result, this decision finds that Eversource violated General Statutes § 16-16 and Conn. Agencies Regs. § 16-16-3 and, consequently, the Authority fined Eversource \$23,000.

22-10-12

PURA Proceeding to Investigate Alternative Risk Transfer Programs

- In Order No. 11 of the August 31, 2022 Decision in Docket No. 17-12-03RE08, PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies – Resilience and Reliability Standards and Programs, the Authority requested that the Connecticut Insurance Department (CID), in conjunction with the EDCs, provide a scope of work for a request for proposals for a feasibility report regarding potential alternative risk transfer programs.
- This proceeding conducted further investigation into a feasibility report regarding potential alternative risk transfer programs.
- This decision directs the EDCs to monitor developments in alternative risk transfer programs on a continuing basis and provide the Authority with any innovative and/or potentially viable options at each company's next general rate case



Grid Modernization

Q1 Major Decision Summaries

17-12-03RE02

PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies – Advanced Metering Infrastructure

- The Authority identified advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) as a key component of achieving a modernized grid through its Equitable Modern Grid Framework established in 2019 through Docket No. 17-12-03.
- In this Decision, the Authority establishes a framework for deploying AMI that provides a clear regulatory road map for the electric distribution companies (EDCs), protects ratepayers, and ensures that this investment will advance the economic, energy, and environmental policy goals of Connecticut.
- This framework was informed by an extensive public process, soliciting ideas from Connecticut stakeholders as well as from leaders in the field with experience deploying or utilizing AMI such as federal agencies, other utilities, and technology providers.
- The framework is designed to directly correlate with regulatory goals established in the Authority's Phase 1 Performance Based Regulation decision and establishes quantifiable metrics to measure the value of AMI investment for ratepayers.
- This Decision formally authorizes the EDCs to proceed with (or, in the case of The United Illuminating Company, continue) AMI deployment such that it maximizes AMI's potential and value.

23-08-01

2023 Clean and Renewable Energy Program Data and Report

- This decision issues both the 2023 Clean and Renewable Energy Program (CRE) Data and Report and approves changes to the annual data collection filing requirements of the regulated electric utilities for future CRE Program Reports.
- The CRE Program Report serves as a centralized data source for the status of ratepayer-funded CRE deployment in Connecticut, including cumulative deployment and other key data and metrics.
- All future CRE Reports will be filed in dockets using the numbering convention XX-08-01, with “XX” denoting the last two digits of the year.

Water Sector

Q1 Major Decision Summaries

23-08-16

Application of the Connecticut Water Company to Dispose of Approximately 16.1 Acres of Real Property Located South of Mulberry Reservoir in the Borough of Naugatuck, Connecticut

- In August 2023, the Connecticut Water Company (CWC) submitted an application to PURA to sell 16.1 acres of unimproved land to Naugatuck for public use.
- By statute, public service companies must obtain Authority approval to “dispose of any essential part of its franchise, plant, equipment or other property necessary or useful in the performance of its duty to the public.” General Statutes § 16-43(a).
- In this decision, the Authority finds that the property is neither an essential part of the franchise nor necessary and useful in CWC’s performance of its duty to the public and, therefore, PURA approval is not required for the sale.
- However, the proceeds of the sale remain subject to General Statutes § 16-43(e). Consequently, the Authority approves an 85% allocation of the benefit from the sale of the Property to shareholders and a 15% allocation to ratepayers in accordance with General Statutes § 16-43(e)(4)(C).

23-11-16

Application of The Connecticut Water Company for Approval of the Issuance of up to \$25,000,000 of Unsecured Notes

- On November 14, 2023, CWC submitted an application requesting PURA approval to issue and sell unsecured notes in the aggregate amount up to \$25,000,000.
- By statute, public service companies must obtain Authority approval to issue certain types of debt. General Statutes § 16-43(b).
- In this decision, the Authority approves CWC's request but notes that this approval is not a prudency determination and that CWC's recovery of financing costs is subject to future rate proceedings.

18-12-32

PURA and DPH Review of the Application of the Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut and Hillside Water Corporation for Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut to Acquire the Assets of Hillside Water Corporation

- On October 14, 2020, PURA and the Department of Public Health (DPH) approved Aquarion's acquisition of Hillside's water system and ordered Aquarion to collect a surcharge of \$36.14 per month from Hillside's former customers for 129 months. On April 26, 2023, a customer of Hillside filed a motion alleging that certain short-term improvements were not completed in accordance with the decision.
- In this decision, the Authority determines that the total surcharge applied to the former Hillside customers is to be reduced to account for the difference between the proposed short-term improvements identified in the underlying decision and the actual amount spent by Aquarion.

13-02-20WI25

Aquarion Water Company Annual WICA Surcharge Reconciliation

- On or before February 28th of each year, Aquarion files an annual reconciliation report (ARR) to reconcile the Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment (WICA) Adjustment amounts assessed to customers during the prior year.
- In assessing the ARR, PURA found that Aquarion has an under-collection of \$294,018 in 2023 WICA revenue
- In this Decision, PURA approves a reconciliation surcharge of 0.17% to be applied to customers' bills, effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

20-10-31WI02

Jewett City Water application for approval of Annual WICA Reconciliation

- On February 28, 2024, Jewett City Water submitted an ARR for the 2023 calendar year.
- In assessing the ARR, PURA found that Jewett City Water has an under-collection of \$3,392 in 2023 WICA revenues.
- In this decision, the Authority approves a reconciliation surcharge of 0.16% to be applied to customers' bills, effective April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025.

10-05-01WI27

Application of Torrington Water Company for its Annual Reconciliation of its Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment

- On February 27, 2024, Torrington Water Company submitted an ARR for the 2023 calendar year.
- In assessing the ARR, PURA found that Torrington Water Company has an under-collection of \$79,930 in 2023 WICA revenues.
- In this decision, the Authority approves a reconciliation surcharge of 1.10% to be applied to customers' bills, effective April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025.

12-07-07WI20

Application of Hazardville Water Company for Annual WICA Reconciliation

- On February 27, 2024, Hazardville Water Company submitted an ARR for the 2023 calendar year.
- In assessing the ARR, PURA found that Hazardville Water Company has an under-collection of \$37,148 in 2023 WICA revenues.
- In this decision, the Authority approves a reconciliation surcharge of 0.99% to be applied to customers' bills, effective April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025.

13-02-20WI08

Application of The Connecticut Water Company for its Annual Reconciliation of its Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment

- On February 26, 2024 The Connecticut Water Company submitted an ARR for the 2023 calendar year.
- In assessing the ARR, PURA found that The Connecticut Water Company has an over-collection of \$140,635 in 2023 WICA revenues.
- In this decision, the Authority approves a reconciliation surcredit of -0.13% to be applied to customers' bills, effective April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025.

Q2 Upcoming Procedural Events



Planned Procedural Meetings

Date	Docket No.	Docket Name	Event & Registration
04/01/2024 2:00pm	23-08-05	Annual Energy Storage Solutions Program Review - Year 3	Technical Meeting
04/02/2024 11:00am	21-09-17	PURA Investigation into Medium and Heavy-Duty Electric Vehicle Charging	Technical Meeting
04/16/2024 9:00am	24-03-17	Investigation into Video Service Provider customer Service Practices	Technical Meeting In-Person: Legislative Office Building
04/22/2024- 05/10/2024	23-11-02	Application of Connecticut Natural Gas Corporation and The Southern Connecticut Gas Company to Amend Their Rate Schedules	Hearings In-Person Live Stream
04/26/2024 (tent.)	24-02-01	Annual Reconciliation of the Conservation Adjustment Mechanisms Filed by the Connecticut Light and Power Company, the United Illuminating Company, Connecticut Natural Gas Corporation, The Southern Connecticut Gas Company, and Yankee Gas Services Company	Hearing - Zoom, if requested

Planned Procedural Meetings Continued

Date	Docket No.	Docket Name	Event & Registration
05/14/2024 10:00am	21-05-15RE03	PURA Investigation into the Establishment of Integrated Distribution System Planning within a Performance-Based Regulation Framework	Technical Meeting
05/22/2024- 04/24/2024	23-11-02	Application of Connecticut Natural Gas Corporation and The Southern Connecticut Gas Company to Amend Their Rate Schedules	Late Filed Exhibit Hearings In-Person Live Stream
05/30/2024- 05/31/2024 (tent.)	24-01-04	PURA Annual Review of the Rate Adjustment Mechanisms of The United Illuminating Company	Hearings In-Person Live Stream
06/03/2024 & 06/05/2024 (tent.)	24-01-03	PURA Annual Review of the Rate Adjustment Mechanisms of The Connecticut Light and Power Company	Late Filed Exhibit Hearings In-Person Live Stream
06/04/2024	17-10-34RE01	Appeal Petition Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 16-235 Aquarion Water Tank, Westport, CT – Project Review	Hearing
06/07/2024 (tent.)	21-05-15RE01	PURA Investigation into Revenue Adjustment Mechanisms for a Performance-Based Regulation Framework	Technical Meeting
06/10/2024 (tent.)	21-05-15RE02	PURA Investigation into Performance Mechanisms for a Performance-Based Regulation Framework	Technical Meeting (Tent.)
06/12/2024	24-01-04	PURA Annual Review of the Rate Adjustment Mechanisms of The United Illuminating Company	Late Filed Exhibit Hearings In-Person Live Stream
06/14/2024	24-01-03	PURA Annual Review of the Rate Adjustment Mechanisms of The Connecticut Light and Power Company	Late Filed Exhibit Hearings In-Person Live Stream
6/20/2024 (tent.)	24-08-06	Annual EV Charging Program Review - Year 4	Technical Meeting

Click to see the PURA
Calendar of Events:
[Pre- 2018 dockets;](#)
[Post- 2018 dockets](#)

All events are listed in chronological order, categorized by the colors and sectors listed on page 2.

Planned Final Opportunities to Comment

Date	Docket	Docket Title	Event Type
04/19/2024	23-11-04	PURA Implementation of the Legal Services Funding Provisions of Section 30 of Public Act 23-102	Written Comments Due
04/26/2024	21-09-17	PURA Investigation into Medium and Heavy-Duty Electric Vehicle Charging	Briefs Due
05/17/2024	24-01-15	Petition of Office of Consumer Counsel for Investigation of Quality of Service Standards for The Southern New England Telephone Company d/b/a Frontier Communications	Briefs Due
06/10/2024	23-11-02	Application of Connecticut Natural Gas Corporation and The Southern Connecticut Gas Company to Amend Their Rate Schedules	Briefs Due
06/20/2024	24-01-03	PURA Annual Review of the Rate Adjustment Mechanisms of The Connecticut Light and Power Company	Briefs Due
06/20/2024	24-01-04	PURA Annual Review of the Rate Adjustment Mechanisms of The United Illuminating Company	Briefs Due

Click to see the PURA
Calendar of Events:
[Pre- 2018 dockets;](#)
[Post- 2018 dockets](#)

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PURA Regular Meeting Dates & Planned Final Decisions

Regular Meeting Date	Docket No.	Docket Title
04/03/2024	20-12-30WI07	Application of The Connecticut Water Company for a Water Infrastructure Conservation Adjustment
04/17/2024	24-01-03	PURA Annual Review of the Rate Adjustment Mechanisms of The Connecticut Light and Power Company
	24-10-04	PURA Annual Review of the Rate Adjustment Mechanisms of The United Illuminating Company
04/24/2024	18-06-02RE02	Investigation of Appropriate Limitations on All Customer Contracts with Electric Suppliers Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-245o(m)
05/01/2024	23-10-02	Annual Allocation of Public Educational and Governmental Programming and Education Technology Investment Account pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-331cc
05/15/2024	23-11-24	Application of the Connecticut Water Company to Dispose of Approximately 0.2+ Acres of Real Property Located at 14 West Main Street in the Town of Avon, Connecticut
05/29/2024	24-01-06	Annual Community Access Support Review
06/05/2024	23-05-78	Application of Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless for Approval of a Construction Plan to Install Wireless Facilities Within Certain Public Rights-of-Way – FAIRFIELD SC15 CT
06/12/2024	23-12-20	PURA Review and Approval of Pro Forma Tariffs Pursuant to Section 16-243a-2 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies
06/26/2024	24-02-01	Annual Reconciliation of the Conservation Adjustment Mechanisms Filed by the Connecticut Light and Power Company, the United Illuminating Company, Connecticut Natural Gas Corporation, The Southern Connecticut Gas Company, and Yankee Gas Services Company
	23-11-04	PURA Implementation of the Legal Services Funding Provisions of Section 30 of Public Act 23-102
06/28/2024	23-08-32	Application of Connecticut Water Company to Amend its Rate Schedule

[Click here to stream PURA's Regular Meetings](#)

All planned final decisions are listed in chronological order, categorized by the colors and sectors listed on page 2.

PURA 101 Workshops



The Authority will resume the PURA 101 Workshop series this spring. To request a PURA 101 presentation on site or via Zoom, compose an email to Joe.Cooper@ct.gov. In the request, please include a preferred time, date range, location, target audience, and topics you would like the Authority to cover. Organizers are responsible for securing in-person locations.

Watch the Below Videos to Help You Interpret Your Electric Bill

[EVERSOURCE CUSTOMERS](#)



[UI CUSTOMERS](#)



[PURA 101](#)



Learn more: ct.gov/PURA

PURA In the News

01/05/2024 CT News Junkie

[PURA Establishes Program to Help Eligible Groups Challenge Utilities](#)

02/26/2024 CT News Junkie

[CT Supreme Court Upholds PURA Decision](#)

01/22/2024 Westfair Online

[PURA expands battery storage program incentives for Connecticut](#)

03/12/2024 Energy News Network

[CT will tap clean energy technology to find emission-cutting efficiencies on grid](#)

02/12/2024 CT News Junkie

[Office of Education, Outreach and Enforcement Helps Utility Customers Where PURA Can't](#)

03/26/2024 NBC Connecticut

[CT Superior Court upholds PURA's rate decrease for Aquarion water customers](#)

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