



**Governor Ned Lamont
State of Connecticut**



FACT SHEET
2022 Legislative Session

**SENATE BILL 10
GOVERNOR'S BILL
*AN ACT CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION***

Climate change is already impacting the residents and businesses of Connecticut. Governor Lamont recognizes that threat and proposes reducing greenhouse gas emissions by achieving a 100% zero-carbon electric grid before 2040.

The Problem

Connecticut's policymakers and electricity sector need a shared goal for fully transitioning the state away from relying on natural gas and oil to power its electric grid. While Connecticut has already made significant progress in decarbonizing its grid, we must accelerate that process to do our part to mitigate climate change and make up for slower progress in other sectors of our economy.

Governor Lamont's Solution

Governor Lamont proposes codifying the 2040 zero-carbon goal established in his Executive Order No. 3 and included as a recommendation in the [2020 Final Integrated Resources Plan \(IRP\)](#). Codifying the goal provides critical direction to DEEP, PURA, the electric utilities, the municipal utilities, and others in planning and implementing energy policy. Many of our peer states have previously adopted their own zero-carbon goals, including our neighbors in Rhode Island by 2030 and New York by 2040.

Connecticut has already made substantial progress toward a zero-carbon electric grid. Through direct investment in the form of long-term contracts, Connecticut ratepayers are supporting zero-carbon resources equivalent to nearly 74% of the electricity consumed by customers of the state's two electric distribution companies: nearly 700,000 MWh/year of grid-scale, zero-emission renewables and nearly 18,000,000 MWh/year of nuclear resources. That's expected to increase to 92% by 2025 as new offshore wind and grid-scale solar projects that have been contracted but not constructed come online.

Extensive modeling in the IRP demonstrates there are a variety of available pathways to achieving the rest of the goal with existing technology and thanks to the rapidly evolving technology for

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carbon-neutral electricity generation, energy efficiency, energy storage, and active demand response measures.

Investments in a zero-carbon electric grid will not only mitigate climate change, but also improve air quality and support clean energy jobs across the state. Under Public Act 21-43, covered renewable energy projects must pay the prevailing wage or the wage determined through a project-labor agreement and include workforce development programs and community benefit agreements.

This proposal restores Connecticut to the forefront of climate change mitigation efforts and positions our state as a model for other jurisdictions planning to tackle this critical issue.