

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the recent ADM meeting, which I attended remotely in Willimantic.

The most important conclusion I took away from the presentation was that the recent push to expand the use of natural gas is defeating our efforts to meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets. The state embraced the use of natural gas several years ago, without knowing the full story. It is now clear that leakage from production, transmission, and use of gas negates any advantage it might've had over coal.

The state needs to move aggressively towards solar, wind, and other renewable energy sources, and at the same time promote the use of electric cars. While this won't be easy, the good news is that much of what the state needs to do is get out of the way. It is the state's regulations that are standing in the way of shared solar and limit the amount of virtual net metering, for example. Without regulatory impediments, renewable energy production would expand rapidly and another bit of good news is that this would create large amounts of jobs and tax revenues. The antiquated system of regulating the electric industry needs to be changed so the interests of electric companies no longer supersede those of households, renewable energy companies, state coffers, and the climate.

Peter Millman
Sustainability Committee, Mansfield CT
Eastern CT Green Action