

Dear Ms. Morrell,

Sadly, CT is on the wrong track to reducing greenhouse emissions and curbing global warming impacts.

Increased gas conversions and build out of gas infrastructure exacerbates the problem due to fugitive raw methane emissions and venting at expanded pipelines, compressor and metering stations, fueling stations, pipes leaking underground and residential meters. Consideration must be given to the fact that raw methane has an 86x more potent warming potential when measured over a 20 year period, and the build-out of gas infrastructure that the State of CT has been supporting includes infrastructure that will last 40-60 years or longer.

The models that CTDEEP are using, based on flawed EPA metrics, should be corrected.

The state should only be looking at renewable fuels, relying mostly on offshore wind, PV panels and shared solar systems, local distributed energy to avoid transmission loss, and support from newly developed vanadium battery energy storage. Geothermal and high-efficiency heat pump system conversions are needed, not conversions to fracked gas. These efforts combined with increased energy conservation efforts and conversion to non-gas alternative fuel vehicles are the only reliable solutions to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

There needs to be a comprehensive plan, including mandating all new building, both residential and commercial, to be equipped with renewable technologies. Changes in financing and local energy investment opportunities are needed. All state property and facilities should be mapped for expanded installations, including overhead PV panel installations of parking lots, sides of highways and over the FastTrack bus line from New Britain to CT.

A radically different system is needed, and so far the GC3 has failed to provide the necessary leadership to move Connecticut to this system.

Signed,

Jennifer Siskind
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