

CT Green Energy News - (12/31/21-Issue 251)

CT Green Energy News - (12/24/21-Issue 250)

- [Connecticut's failure to act on climate hurts in more ways than one](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "In my conversations with other young activists, it has long been abundantly clear that we know and care — acutely, often painfully — about these issues, and that we're actively seeking ways to change them. Yet despite all of our action and concern, we're often unsure if elected officials, in their inaction, care nearly as much. It's for this reason — not lack of caring, or ignorance, but quite the opposite — that I've witnessed the greatest shifts towards hopelessness in my few years as a young advocate. It comes from feeling like despite our megaphones, we're speaking to a brick wall; it comes when we watch climate legislation like the Transportation Climate Initiative (TCI) used as take-it-or-leave-it bargaining chips or [punted by leaders](#) at the drop of a hat when the political stars no longer align, rather than built upon and improved as the critical climate measures we need. Plainly, it comes when young people exhaust their capacity to yell."
- [With \\$635M, Stamford company amps up commercial solar plan](#)
 - *Stamford Advocate.* "With more than \$635 million in fresh capital, a local company is pushing ahead with plans to plaster the rooftops of offices, warehouses and shopping centers nationwide with solar panels...'The real answer to the scaling question came in the form of CBRE's interest — if you're a company that's looking to put solar on rooftops, there is probably no better entity on the planet to partner up with than CBRE...CBRE manages seven billion square feet of real estate and hundreds of thousands of rooftops.' "
- [Pushing past 'gas station mentality'](#)
 - *Hartford Courant Digital Edition.* While a connection between real estate and zero-emissions vehicles is not obvious, it shows the diversity of businesses being established to capitalize on rapidly rising demand for nonpolluting cars and trucks. JuiceBar is one of two companies in the Greater Hartford area manufacturing EV chargers. The other company, EVSE LLC, is based in Enfield...Super-chargers placed along highways are one source of power for electric vehicles. However, they account for few opportunities to charge, while malls and supermarkets are ineffective charging sites during brief shopping trips. JuiceBar instead targets hospitals, hotels, office buildings and apartment complexes, 'where people are going to be for a couple of hours.' "
- [Lamont announces a windfall for Connecticut offshore wind](#)
 - *WHSU.* "A coalition of industry leaders and the state submitted six projects that support manufacturing, training and education programs, and would provide waterfront industrial sites for the production and operation of wind turbines."

- [Solar Energy Project Completed At Cheshire Construction Company](#)
 - *Patch.* "A three-part solar energy project at The Lane Construction Corporation in Cheshire has been completed, officials from Hartford-based solar energy developer Verogy announced Monday. The project includes a 210 kW array on Lane's main building, a 129 kW ground-mounted system on the company's property, and a 326 kW system on the company's car port, according to officials. The car port is also equipped with four electric vehicle (EV) charging stations."

CT Green Energy News - (12/17/21-Issue 249)

- [Lamont aims to succeed on climate where the legislature failed](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "Broadly, Lamont's order takes a whole-of-government approach to address meeting greenhouse gas reduction mandates with resiliency and energy-saving measures in place across many state government practices and multiple agencies. It contains building code changes to foster energy efficiency, land-based efforts for agriculture and offers solutions – such as forest maintenance –to help store carbon. It also outlines innovative actions in the areas of public health and climate change, environmental justice, and economic development...'The administration moving forward to do what it can is great, but that doesn't let the legislature off the hook. They still have a responsibility here and a large responsibility to take action. We would certainly hope and urge that the upcoming session really center actions to address the climate crisis as part of that effort.' " Plus: [Lamont Tackles Climate Change On His Own](#) and the full text of [Executive Order No. 21-3](#).
- [Study: Business lobbying a major barrier to clean energy legislation in Connecticut](#)
 - *Energy News Network.* "Brown University researchers found that utility and business interests outspend environmental organizations on lobbying 8-to-1, though an industry group says the study overstates its spending and influence on energy...'Environmental groups and ordinary citizens will never have the money or resources to match what Eversource and the CBIA spend to influence lawmakers. But broad majorities of Americans see climate change as a serious problem and are demanding action from their elected leaders. So the real power is at the polls.' "
- [Creating a Culture of Sustainable Thinkers](#)
 - *TEDxHartford.* In this 17 minute video, Connecticut's own Leticia Colon de Mejias talks about her journey from unawareness to alarm about the dangers of climate change. Her overall message is one of hope and a call to action: climate change is solvable.
- [3 of 5 ex-utility officials guilty of theft in lavish trips](#)

- *AP News*. "Five former utility officials were found not guilty Friday on a charge of conspiracy, while the same federal jury found three guilty of theft stemming from lavish trips they took to the Kentucky Derby and a luxury golf resort. The junkets had been arranged by the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative for dozens of top staff, board members, family members and others from 2013 to 2016. Prosecutors said money used for the trips came from a special account that was intended to be returned to municipalities as rate-stabilization funds."
- [Aiming to expand market reach, CT EV charger manufacturer signs reseller, installation deal](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "...[Juice Bar] said it is partnering with Airware, a transportation management, logistics, aviation and construction management consulting company. Airware is expected to integrate JuiceBar's charging stations into relevant government contracts, company officials said, including those funded under the \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill, which President Joe Biden signed into law in November."

CT Green Energy News - (12/10/21-Issue 248)

- [State Officials See Nuclear Plant as Key to Connecticut's Energy Goals](#)
 - *The Connecticut Examiner*. "A number of state lawmakers have questioned why the burden of supporting a power plant so crucial to the entire New England region should fall entirely on Connecticut. But without a mechanism for the regional grid operator ISO New England to fund the plant regionally, Connecticut officials say they have no choice but to shoulder the burden of keeping Millstone open...According to the recent report, if Millstone had closed in 2019, replacing that electricity would have cost Connecticut electric customers an additional \$1.8 billion. And carbon emissions across New England would have increased by 25 percent as the nuclear plant's production is replaced mainly by gas-fired plants."
- [New England's power system is at 'heightened risk' heading into winter. Grid operator warns of possible power outages if an extended cold snap hits the region.](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "If the risks materialize and threaten the reliability of New England's power system, the ISO said it will turn to several operating procedures to manage the grid, "up to and including controlled power outages." Outages are a "last resort," the ISO said. It wants to "educate the public that if this step were required, it would be used to protect the region's power grid from an overall collapse."...the ISO will urge conservation, asking customers to turn down the thermostat, use appliances less frequently and minimize cooking."
- [Selectmen lend support to 'southern-only' solar proposal in North Stonington](#)

- *The Westerly Sun.* " 'It's a difficult decision but one we have to make. We will have the opportunity to comment again when this is reopened and if we don't take the best plan that is in front of us, then we are going to end up with the second-best plan or the third-best plan, and then we are looking at a far more unfavorable situation.'...The revised plans would require tighter spacing and make it difficult to provide the additional buffers requested...and would reduce the overall development from 9.9 megawatts to 8.35 megawatts."
- [Eversource and UConn Extend Energy Center Partnership](#)
 - *UConn Today.* "The Eversource Energy Center, which got its start in 2015, is a dynamic partnership between UConn faculty, students, and Eversource colleagues in which state-of-the-art research, technology, and software aim to solve real-world challenges for electric customers where weather, climate, and energy intersect. Current research areas include projects on storm outage forecasting, tree and forest management, electric grid reinforcement, resiliency, climate change and flooding, geomagnetic disturbances, integration of renewable generation, and cyber security."
- [Trinity College Goes Green](#)
 - *CT News Junkie.* "Green Campus began their composting initiative with the main dining hall. After collaborating with food service provider Chartwells, the student government, faculty leaders, and local composting company Blue Earth Compost, added two large composting bins...Trinity is not the only school in Connecticut that is interested in composting. Specifically, Yale, Wesleyan, University of Connecticut, and Quinnipiac have all begun to send their food waste products to an anaerobic digester in Southington, Connecticut."

CT Green Energy News - (12/3/21-Issue 247)

- [Despite green efforts, CT's commercial properties are emitting more pollution; Here are ways to fix that](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "Companies that want to go green — or at least greener — can take advantage of incentives from the state's utility companies, arrange financing with the help of the Connecticut Green Bank and contract with a growing number of energy conservation firms to navigate the process. 'It's kind of surprising when people don't want this,' said Jack Cunningham, director of energy solutions sales at West Hartford-based Environmental Systems Corp. 'You're getting free stuff. And once they finally get into it, they're always happy that they did.'"
- [HeatSmart: Residents Eligible For Energy, Money-Saving Home Audit](#)
 - *Patch.* "HeatSmart Guilford, an energy education and outreach program, announced that more than 125 individual homeowners have already signed up for low-cost home energy audits through the program. The town partnered with

Peoples Action for Clean Energy and launched the initiative in summer 2021 to encourage both the audits and the adoption of low emission, heat pump systems to heat and cool homes."

- [Eversource picks its first Connecticut head of operations as it tries to improve its storm response and repair its image battered by Isaias](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "Eversource Energy on Wednesday announced the appointment of its first Connecticut head of operations as it works to repair its image with customers still upset over last year's extended outages following Tropical Storm Isaias. The utility, roundly criticized for its handling of the August 2020 storm when 800,000 customers lost power for days, turned to the head of its transmission system — and a resident of northeast Connecticut — as president of the Connecticut Light & Power Co. "
- [Letter: Dealerships block electric vehicle growth](#)
 - *New Haven Register.* "Tesla is by far the most advanced EV on the market. When Connecticut residents want to test drive a Tesla they have to travel to New York or Massachusetts. When I purchased a Tesla, I did so online. There was no middleman local dealership to take a cut...The future belongs to electric vehicle companies that start with a clean slate. Tesla developed the business model: develop an efficient battery and design the vehicle as a computer on wheels with a minimum of moving parts. Put company showrooms in each state or metropolitan area, with no salesmen, no commissions. Sell the vehicle online at a set price with few add-ons. Tesla set the standard, but there are other EV companies in various stages of development."

CT Green Energy News - (11/26/21-Issue 246)

- [Some Connecticut towns have begun purchasing electric vehicles for their municipal fleets. Why haven't more taken that step?](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* " 'Aside from the fact that it helps to reduce the carbon footprint, it's good for the next generation coming along, it's good for the environment — those are all plus things. But if you want to get very parochial about it, they don't need servicing like other vehicles do. Their operating costs are much lower.' But despite the shift toward electric vehicles in some towns and cities, others are far from giving up their dependency on gasoline. The vast majority of Connecticut municipalities have not purchased electric vehicles, whether due to concern about costs, doubts about their practicality or simply because they haven't gotten around to it."
- [Panelists Look For Solutions Without TCI](#)
 - *CT News Junkie.* " 'We will continue to put our heads together,' Cohen said. She said she would like to pursue legislation that would address emissions for

medium and heavy duty vehicles, a measure that didn't make it out of the House of Representatives last session.'...“If we address transportation-related greenhouse gases, we can also address transportation-related air pollution and transportation-related health impacts.’ ”

- [Selectmen Hear Plan For Making Newtown More ‘Green’](#)

- *Newtown Bee*. "With the goal of a greener, more sustainable Newtown, the Sustainable Energy Commission revealed its ambitious goal of making 95 % of Newtown's energy usage renewable by next year...The energy plan is “designed to guide the town toward greater energy efficiency and stability,” said Quinn, and benefits include reducing the town's carbon footprint and contribution to climate change, gaining savings by reducing energy expenditures, improving air quality with resultant health benefits, reducing weather-related power outages and bringing more comfort to homes and businesses."

- [Verogy installs 835 kW of solar across Connecticut school district](#)

- *Solar Power World*. "West Haven and Verogy made a power purchase agreement (PPA) that makes it possible for West Haven to purchase electricity at a discounted rate. The PPA locks in this lower rate so that if electricity costs rise in the future, West Haven will continue to pay a reduced amount for electricity for the 25-year term of the agreement...'Our West Haven projects not only help in the fight against climate change, but they also deliver renewable power at a reduced cost to West Haven.' "

- [Northeast grid rules could make or break clean energy](#)

- *E&E News*. "States in New England have long been frustrated by what they describe as a mismatch between their own clean energy goals and the rules set by ISO New England, which oversees the six-state power grid with the primary goal of electric reliability. Five New England states have established goals to achieve 100 percent clean power, and several have ambitious plans to scale up electric vehicles and electric heating systems. Rules within the wholesale power market, which covers Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont, have sometimes worked against those targets, including by favoring natural gas and overestimating the cost of renewables, according to observers."

CT Green Energy News - (11/19/21-Issue 245)

- [Rising gas prices are fueling opposition to the Transportation Climate Initiative](#)

- *CT Mirror*. " 'Look, I couldn't get that through when gas prices were at historic low,' the governor replied when asked if he would press lawmakers to reconsider joining the initiative they balked at last spring. 'So I think legislators are pretty clear, it's going to be a tough rock to push when the gas prices are so high, so no'...But rising gas prices aren't the only only obstacle. 'There are some people

who are living on such a tight margin that anything that adds to their regular expenses is going to put a squeeze on them and put them in a tight hardship,” said Senate President Pro Tem Martin M. Looney, D-New Haven, one of the key players wary of the TCI.’ ” Plus: **Mass Governor Steps Away From TCI Following Lamont Comments This Week**

- **The price of energy is going up in CT. Could it have been avoided?**
 - *CT Mirror.* "Fingers are pointing to policy set in 2012 when Connecticut's first Comprehensive Energy Strategy was unveiled. Its backbone was to expand the use of natural gas – then historically cheap and plentiful due to fracking. From climate change and emissions perspectives, it was also cleaner than oil – then the heating fuel of choice and also widely used in power plants in the region...The CES had also called for using weatherization, energy efficiency, equipment upgrades and renewable energy. All could have helped lower energy costs and all have fallen short of expectations for lower-income people. 'It's not working for the people that we serve.' ” Plus: **Oil dealers call on Lamont to end natural gas conversions to heat CT homes**
- **Study: Connecticut could conserve land by installing solar above parking lots**
 - *Energy News Network.* " 'It's not that we can do everything in parking lots — we're still going to need some utility-scale arrays,' said Mark Scully, the president of People's Action for Clean Energy, or PACE, which commissioned the study. 'But there are significant advantages to putting them on this already-degraded real estate. And they can be placed in environmentally disadvantaged and underserved communities.' ”
- **CT to get \$52.5M for EV charging stations**
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "Connecticut is in line to receive \$52.5 million from the recently passed federal infrastructure bill to help expand its electric vehicle charging network. That figure, provided this week by the office of U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn., would be funneled into electric vehicle charging stations, as well as other infrastructure needed to support the state's gradually but steadily increasing fleet of electric cars, trucks, buses and other vehicles."
- **SunPower rolls out new virtual power plant offering to Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island**
 - *Energy Storage News.* "SunPower has launched its ConnectedSolutions virtual power plant (VPP), enabling SunVault battery energy storage system (BESS) customers in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut to earn “hundreds of dollars a year” for allowing utility access to their stored energy during peak demand. Through its VPP, the California-based company will coordinate the charge and discharge of participating customers' SunVault BESS. It will share electricity with the local utility while reserving enough backup power for home

use. Customers will be alerted prior to discharge and can choose to decline, or pre-set their system so their personal backup does not fall below a certain level.."

- [121-kW solar array tops new senior center in Connecticut](#)
 - *Solar Power World.* " 'Sustainability is an important goal in East Hartford. That's why we have taken steps to adopt clean transportation, energy efficiency and other measures,' said Mayor Mike Walsh. 'The completion of the solar array at the Senior Center makes it the 10th solar installation in town, demonstrating our passion for reducing our carbon footprint and investing in renewable energy. The solar panels at the Senior Center are the latest example of how East Hartford is making our community 'greener' while saving taxpayers' money.' "

CT Green Energy News - (11/12/21-Issue 244)

- [Here's what Connecticut will receive under the \\$1 trillion infrastructure bill approved by Congress](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "The massive, tortured \$1 trillion infrastructure bill that Congress finally approved late Friday will bring billions of dollars in federal spending to Connecticut on railroads, highways and bridges, while also expanding internet access and creating a statewide network of electric vehicle charging stations." Plus [Lawmakers Call Federal Infrastructure Dollars 'Transformational'](#)
- [New Haven alders: Helping environment can't be on backs of low-income residents](#)
 - *New Haven Register.* " 'From a public health perspective, TCI makes sense for New Haven and for Connecticut as a whole'...The alders unanimously approved a resolution calling on Connecticut to join the TCI, including 'progressive financial offsets for low- and middle-income families.' " Plus: [TCI: Good for climate, health, jobs](#)
- [SJI, REV LNG announce construction of Connecticut RNG facility](#)
 - *Biomass Magazine.* "Expected to be operational by September 2022, the anaerobic digester will capture raw methane and other greenhouse gases produced by manure. The project will also include constructing additional equipment to transform the collected biogas into commercial-grade, pipeline-quality renewable natural gas that will be integrated into the distribution system of SJI's subsidiary, Elizabethtown Gas."
- [New England electricity use will grow more than 1% annually amid electrification push, says ISO](#)
 - *Utility Dive.* "ISO said it is examining how to meet grid reliability amid changes to its resource mix. The development of renewable resources, efficiency, battery

storage, energy imports and the continued investment in natural gas efficiency measures, "will alleviate reliability risks.'...How to incorporate state greenhouse gas policies that support renewables into wholesale markets with fossil fuel and nuclear generators remains a key question for the region."

- [Lamont nominates Coleman for consumer counsel](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "The consumer counsel serves as an advocate for Connecticut consumers on issues relating to electricity, natural gas, telecommunications and water service, with authority to participate in a range of administrative and judicial forums on their behalf...'Claire's expertise in energy law, investigations and regulatory reform makes her a great fit to effectively advocate for the interests of all customers of electricity, gas, water, telephone and cable services.' "

CT Green Energy News - (11/5/21-Issue 243)

- [Killingly power plant dealt a major setback as ISO-NE abandons plans](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "In a statement, an ISO-NE spokesman explained its action this way: 'Any new resource acquiring a capacity supply obligation is required to meet several development milestones, including, among other things, financing, permitting, major equipment orders, and commercial operation. Developers who face delays in meeting milestone deadlines have the ability to find other resources to cover their obligations for up to two years. After these two years, if a project is still unable to meet their milestone deadlines, the ISO has the right to seek to terminate of the resource's obligation through a filing with the Commission. The ISO is exercising this right with regard to the Killingly Energy Center.' "
- [The potential for community solar in Connecticut: A geospatial analysis of solar canopy siting on parking lots](#)
 - *ScienceDirect*. "...solar canopies provide a promising approach to fostering decentralized community solar. This study develops a novel methodology for assessing the potential for solar canopies on a regional scale. The study uses geospatial approaches to assess all large parking lots in the state for the viability of solar canopies. By applying this methodology to the research setting of Connecticut, the study produces the first estimates of the potential electrical generation from solar canopies in any region and analyzes how solar canopies can contribute to energy justice. The analysis revealed that there are 8,416 sites across the state, capable of producing a total of 9,042 GWh of electricity, which is equivalent to 37.0% of current electricity use in Connecticut. "
- [Gas prices are at historic highs— and are still not high enough](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "A report earlier this year from the International Monetary Fund revealed that global fossil fuel subsidies hit \$5.9 trillion in 2020, a figure that is

only expected to rise. The U.S. government contributes \$730 billion to that figure. This says nothing about the trillions of dollars the United States has spent over the last three decades having a presence in the Middle East and ready its oil reserves."

- [Eversource warns customers of higher heating, electricity prices this winter](#)

- *Hartford Business Journal.* "In November, the average Eversource natural gas residential heating customer could see a 14%, or \$30, increase on their total bill as compared to their average monthly winter heating bill in 2020, the utility said, and because the purchased gas adjustment rate is recalibrated monthly, end users can expect to see incremental changes throughout the winter. The rising cost of natural gas will also impact electricity rates, as natural gas is increasingly used to generate the region's power. Eversource this week will file new electricity rates scheduled to take effect on Jan. 1, 2022, and company officials said prices will likely rise."

- [Verogy installs 77-kW solar project on Connecticut school](#)

- *Solar World.* "...Stone Academy, a career-oriented institution of higher education, in Waterbury received Permission to Operate (PTO) its recently completed, 77-kW rooftop solar energy project. Stone Academy is the owner of the 192-module array and will use the clean energy produced for the school's operations...'In addition to the positive impact this project will have on the environment, the cost savings associated with incorporating renewable energy into Stone Academy's operations is a huge win for the school...Not only will this rooftop array offset 96% of Stone Academy's operating costs, but it will position the school as an innovative leader in the state's education sector.' " Plus: **Danbury Proposes Solar Solution For Wastewater Treatment Plant**

- [Methane emissions in eastern Mass. are 6 times higher than state estimates, study says](#)

- *WBUR.* "We may be playing a bit of Whack-A-Mole in the case of pipeline leakage," says methane study co-author Lucy Hutyra, a professor of Earth and Environment at Boston University. "We're certainly fixing leaks, but unfortunately, new leaks are coming in as fast as we're fixing them. But the study also suggests that pipeline leakage is only part of the problem — "end users" such as household appliances, furnaces and buildings are leaking more natural gas than previously known." What about gas leaks in Connecticut?

CT Green Energy News - (10/29/21-Issue 242)

- [Amid debate over natural gas, Connecticut ratepayers are subsidizing new connections](#)

- *Energy News Network*. "State regulators are exploring ways to modify a program that was designed to convert oil heating customers to natural gas. Consumer and clean energy groups say the program should be scrapped altogether...The idea of natural gas as a cleaner alternative 'has been thoroughly debunked as we've learned just how damaging methane is to the climate,' said Shannon Laun, a Connecticut staff attorney for the Conservation Law Foundation. 'It's now clear that we should not be converting people from oil to gas; we should be converting people to electric heat pumps, which are far more efficient.' "
- [Invest Connecticut's surplus in jobs and climate](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "We can invest our \$3 billion surplus in the most important social program: Jobs! But, simultaneously, we can fund the fight against the biggest threat to our future: Climate change. The \$3 billion can fund the jobs to: Save our coast; Reduce transportation pollution; Generate renewable electricity; and Clean our water. We have shown wisdom to invest in things with long-term benefits to Connecticut. At this critical time, there is no long-term investment more important than fighting climate change and creating jobs for our neighbors to do so. "
- [Regulators split on vote approving \\$103M Eversource storm settlement](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "Marissa Gillett, chair of the state Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, voted against her agency's acceptance of the \$103.4 million plan, which was brokered earlier this month by the administration of Gov. Ned Lamont and Attorney General William Tong...In her dissent, Gillett pointed out that Eversource's Connecticut-based president will remain accountable to an Eversource-controlled board of directors, and that the new "independent" seats will be outnumbered by company executives, making any tangible benefits from the restructuring "nebulous at this stage."
- [CT experts say climate change is the greatest threat to public health](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "Everyone isn't equal when it comes to climate change...On the one hand, no one is going to get away free; it's going to affect everyone eventually. But on the other hand, it's true that it affects some populations much more than others." Plus: [Connecticut is worsening the climate crisis](#)
- [First Look at Managed Charging Incentives \[in CT\]](#)
 - *EV Club of CT*. "The EV Rate Design is a big program that includes incentives for residential, commercial, workplace, fleet, and public charging. The incentives include hardware and installation subsidies, make ready, demand charge mitigation, and financial incentives to avoid charging during peak periods. The grid up above is only the single family residential part. This is not final. It has been submitted by Eversource to PURA for approval. There is a comment period and there could be changes."

- [How New England could demonstrate what a 'clean energy RTO' looks like](#)
 - *Utility Dive.* "But the challenge regional grid operator ISO New England (ISO-NE) now faces is new: how to resolve the growing conflict between market rules and state policies, which threatens to undermine confidence that markets will give the region the clean energy future its policies aim toward. ISO-NE is not unique in this, but could be in a unique position to solve the problem – and provide a model for other RTOs/ISOs that are facing the same challenges."
- [Cinema goes solar at Connecticut movie theater](#)
 - *Solar World.* "Connecticut-based solar developer Verogy completed a 365-kW rooftop solar energy project at Cinemark North Haven and XD in North Haven. Cinemark will own the system and use the clean energy it produces to power a meaningful portion of its operations...'Not only will the system benefit the environment, Cinemark will also realize significant savings on their monthly utility bills.' "

CT Green Energy News - (10/22/21-Issue 241)

- [Connecticut's First 71-Seat Electric School Bus Hits The Road](#)
 - *NBC Connecticut.* "ACES Transportation in North Haven is charging up Connecticut's first full-sized electric bus and getting it ready to hit the road. 'Eventually down the road it will become something that's charged through solar panels, totally sustainable and even the charging we can sell back to the grid,' Tim Howes, deputy executive director of ACES, says. Howes eventually wants to change over his entire fleet to electric vehicles.'It will be less on maintenance. You won't spend the time filling it up. And we won't have to inventory diesel fuel,' Howes says.' "
- [With trash plant at death's door, is it time for state leadership?](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "When the trash-to-energy plant in Hartford's South Meadows broke down in November 2018, garbage started piling up inside the facility's two cavernous storage areas. And kept piling up. And piled up some more...By January 2019, the facility was jammed floor-to-roof with thousands of tons of trash, and officials were days away from a lose-lose decision: either start storing garbage outside in the parking lot, or tell towns not to send any more trash...Also, MIRA's revenues have taken a beating in recent years. Electricity it once sold for 12 cents a kilowatt hour now goes for two to three cents."
- [Octobers Are Warming in Connecticut](#)
 - *NBC Connecticut.* "Temperatures Tuesday morning fell into the 30s for many inland communities of Connecticut. One area that didn't see that happen was Windsor Locks, which is where the official records are kept for the Hartford Area."

In fact, temperatures Hartford area in the month of October have yet to fall below 40 degrees this year. On average we see temperatures fall below 40 degrees in the month of October a total of 12 times and to date, the average is five. This is ultimately resulting in later frosts and freezes."

- [**A big source of carbon pollution is lurking in basements and attics**](#)
 - *Yale Climate Connections.* "Oil- and gas-burning furnaces and HVAC systems produce a vast amount of planet-heating gases. But in many locations, heat pumps offer a solution...Think about it: The lifespan of a gas pack unit is roughly 10 years. If I had decided to replace the old machine with a new one just like it, I would have committed my household to burning natural gas from now until approximately 2031, producing tens of thousands of pounds of carbon pollution in the process."

CT Green Energy News - (10/15/21-Issue 240)

- [**Connecticut promoted a natural gas expansion plan in 2014 that was supposed to save taxpayers money. Natural gas prices are now soaring, promising a costly winter**](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "Critics of the Malloy administration's energy policies say consumers who spent thousands of dollars to convert to natural gas have little to show for their investment now that gas prices are spiking. As prices fluctuate, with gas and oil taking turns as the more expensive heating fuel, family-owned oil dealerships say that was always their point: Markets, not government, dictate commodity prices...The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority said in December that ratepayers are on the hook for about \$64 million in higher gas costs for the expansion program. Risks of the program are "demonstrably greater" for ratepayers than the utilities' shareholders, regulators said."
- [**Extending Dominion's Millstone nuclear plant a 'critical' part of path to zero carbon, Connecticut finds**](#)
 - *Utility Dive.* "The IRP [Integrated Resource Plan] found Connecticut ratepayers already support, through long-term contracts, more than 600,000 MWh/year of grid-scale renewables and more than 9 million MWh/year of nuclear resources. That's equivalent to almost 65% of the electricity delivered by the state's largest utilities, and puts them on pace to reach 92% clean electricity by 2025...'The significant investments Connecticut has made over the years in robust clean energy and energy efficiency programs have already put the state on a strong path to achieving the 100% Zero Carbon Target...Some additional steps will be necessary, though, possibly including keeping Dominion Energy's Millstone nuclear plant online beyond its current contract.' "
- [**Connecticut, Rhode Island Teeter on TCI Despite Democratic Majorities**](#)

- *CT News Junkie.* " 'We do a really good job here in Connecticut of setting lofty ambitions,' Haskell remarked on the state's so-far unsuccessful efforts to reduce its carbon emissions below an agreed upon threshold. 'Where we're not so good is giving policymakers the tools to actualize those goals.' " Plus: **Now is the best time to protect the climate. Pass the TCI**
- **Eversource asks regulators to approve settlement over Isaias response**
 - *CT Mirror.* "The Public Utilities Regulatory Agency heard Tuesday from Eversource and state officials about a proposed \$103 million settlement tied to the utility's response to Tropical Storm Isaias. State leaders and Eversource said the deal will get the average ratepayer a total credit of about \$35 spread out across their December and January bills." Plus: **'An unethical choice': Eversource withholds millions of dollars in taxes from 87 Massachusetts communities**
- **Leaf Blower Ban Debated**
 - *New Haven Independent.* "Are gas-powered leaf blowers an environmental hazard, or an economic necessity? And do the noise and air pollution dangers they present outweigh their benefits for working-class landscapers? Local land-use commissioners wrestled with those questions during the latest regular monthly meeting of the City Plan Commission...More than 200 cities and towns across the country have already enacted legislation restricting or eliminating the use of these devices..."
- **New solar system installed at East Windsor apartments**
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "The Connecticut Green Bank, which facilitated the setup, said the East Windsor Housing Authority has agreed to buy the electricity generated by the 39.6-kilowatt photovoltaic system under the terms of a 20-year power purchase agreement. That arrangement will save the agency about \$130,000 in avoided energy costs over the next two decades, according to Green Bank officials."

CT Green Energy News - (10/8/21-Issue 239)

- **An interview with Marissa Gillett, Chair of PURA** (Starts at 11:00 mins.)
 - *The Lisa Wexler Show.* "Folks, if you have oil and you're interested in staying with oil...I definitely would not be converting to natural gas home heating right now due to the economics alone."
- **Connecticut hotel cuts energy costs in half with solar installation**
 - *Solar World.* "Econo Lodge is a prime example of how going solar can be a smart way for businesses to reduce their electricity costs and increase customer satisfaction...In addition to cost savings from the rooftop solar project, Econo Lodge received financial support from Connecticut's Zero Emissions Renewable

Energy Credit (ZREC) program. Econo Lodge received a ZREC contract which served as the main funding source for the project, offsetting nearly 80% of its costs."

- [CT landfill expansion plan faces opposition](#)
 - *CT Insider.* "Wheelabrator Putnam takes in ash from "waste-to-energy" plants in Bridgeport and elsewhere, produced as a byproduct of burning garbage and debris to power steam turbines that pump electricity onto the New England grid. The facility produces about 300,000 gallons of wastewater daily that is treated before being released into the Quinebaug River, which flows south into the Shetucket and Thames rivers, emptying into Long Island Sound."
- [Suite Talk: Christina Lampe-Onnerud, founder and CEO of Cadenza Innovation](#)
 - *Westchester and Fairfield County Business Journals.* " 'I would say [Connecticut] has been really amazing. While Silicon Valley is an amazing ecosystem, the ecosystem between Boston and New York is populated with hardware knowledge, hard sciences, chemistry, physics, engineering, electronics — all that good stuff. We live in the hardware world and we collaborate with our colleagues in software. There has been real interest from Connecticut Innovations, which is the venture arm of the state. Because it is a small state, you actually can meet people, which is quite nice. And there's a very active invitation on the table all the time when policy is shaped.' "

CT Green Energy News - (10/1/21-Issue 238)

- [State Supreme Court dismisses an environmental challenge and upholds certificate of operation for a natural gas power plant in Killingly](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "The plant may be a flashpoint in the fight over electric rates and the environment, but the Supreme Court focused narrowly on state law that requires the Connecticut Siting Council to balance environmental and other concerns when deciding whether an electrical generating plant is in the public interest. At issue was whether the siting council was required to consider the pipeline and power plant components of the generation project separately or, on the other hand, whether the two are intertwined and their combined environmental impact was the factor that mattered."
- [Connecticut Democrats say climate change legislation could help save the planet. Republicans dismiss it as just another tax on gas.](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* " 'By calling TCI a tax, Republicans are using "a classic strategy to kill environmental policies," said Kenneth Gillingham, a professor at the Yale School of the Environment. "This goes back decades and sometimes

it's a successful approach." TCI "will raise the price of using fossil fuels," he said. "But the revenue that will be raised will be used for more efficient transportation solutions. The revenue will come right back to Connecticut. The state is incentivizing people to stop using the fuels that both lead to climate change and reduce our air quality.' "

- [Eversource to invest \\$250M in electric vehicle charging in CT, Mass.](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority has said its electric vehicle charging project will provide incentives for the deployment of chargers in various market segments, including residential and workplace settings. Eversource, together with the United Illuminating Co., will administer the program starting in 2022."
- [Flood insurance rules are changing, but some say not enough](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "It may be partly a fundamental failing of the component of insurance that looks at history as a way to gauge the future. It's been likened to driving a car with the front windshield blacked out and two actuaries looking out the back window telling you where to go. Insuring for climate change requires planning for the future, not planning based on history. But with sea level rise a long-term problem and flood insurance policies issued yearly, how to mesh the two is difficult."
- [Temple Bnai Israel and others "sound the call" for climate action](#) (Scroll down to P. 4)
 - *The Jewish Leader*. "About 100 area residents and guests of the local Jewish community gathered outdoors at Congregation B'nai Shalom on Sunday afternoon, inspired by Rosh Hashanah—the Jewish New Year—to call for climate justice and stop construction of the nearby proposed Killingly Energy Center gas power plant."
- [CBIA board member says he's trying to influence CT's largest business association to back the regional gas tax](#)
 - *Bollyinside*. "Grigg said he believes CBIA [CT Business and Industry Association] is becoming more "open-minded" as new, young business owners join the organization and he is using his influence to steer members toward supporting the TCI program during a September 21 meeting of the Governor's Council on Climate Change...The CBIA has not taken a position on the TCI program."

CT Green Energy News - (9/24/21-Issue 237)

- [Sweeping power grid modernization plan hits 2-year mark, with small business interests a top priority](#)

- *Hartford Business Journal*. "Several tracks within PURA's grid modernization effort focus on, or at least touch on, ways in which the grid, and the regulatory environment surrounding it, can be made more responsive to customers' needs. This includes greater adoption of power storage devices, allowing customers to continue to run some parts of their household or businesses when storms knock down power lines, and possibly the development of microgrids, which could power private companies such as grocery stores and gas stations independently, at least for a time. 'Through all these different programs we're standing up, we're trying to send signals to customers...Deploy storage. Deploy storage plus solar. And we're trying to send the same signals to the utilities about shoring up different parts of their grid.' "
- [At Bushnell Park, activists decry environmental racism and call on Connecticut to 'be a leader when it comes to solving the climate crisis'](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. " 'I'm mad that there's a lot of people up the hill mad about masks and vaccines when at the end of the day, that's a passing thing and climate change is going to kill us all. What is going on? Why are there not more people here fighting this fight? Why do we not have this place filled with humans who are concerned about their children and the future of the planet we live on?...' 'I do believe this one thing...If God were to reach his mighty hand or her mighty voice to teach to every single one of us one last commandment, I believe that commandment would be: 'Thou shalt not be a bystander.' "
- [State Regulators Set to Cut Eversource Profits, Trim Customer Rates](#)
 - *CT Examiner*. "In a draft decision this week, state regulators signaled that they would require Eversource to drop its electrical rates starting in November, but also limited the time frame during which the utility would be penalized for what the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority found was an inadequate response in 2020 to Tropical Storm Isaias. Those penalties reportedly played a part in Moody's downgrading the company's credit rating outlook to "negative" in June."
- [Pass the Transportation and Climate Initiative in special session](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "Here in Connecticut we suffered damage from Tropical Storms Isaias, Henri and Ida in the last two years. Climate scientists agree that storms such as these are more severe than similar earlier events because of climate change...The press has noted objections from some legislators that TCI-P would increase gas prices, for example, by about \$0.05/gal. It should be noted, however, that the price of regular gas in New England over the past three years has fluctuated wildly...Connecticut's drivers experience far greater, and more unpredictable, gasoline price fluctuations than the \$0.05 foreseen for TCI-P. "

- [Home solar growing in CT, but consumers should read the fine print](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "Connecticut Public reviewed several dozen complaints filed with the Department of Consumer Protection since last year. It's a relatively small number. But the complaints were from homeowners who said they were promised financial benefits that never materialized. Others signed contracts they didn't fully understand." Plus: [Connecticut seafood restaurant goes solar with PACE financing](#)
- [Mass. is creating a Commission on Clean Heat, a major step toward achieving climate goals](#)
 - *Boston Globe.* "In a move hailed by some climate advocates and experts as a potential leap forward in Massachusetts' handling of the climate crisis, state officials said Monday they have created a governing body that would use emissions caps and financial incentives to drive mass conversions to renewable electric heat...The commission is the first of its kind in the nation..." Plus: [The Massachusetts Commission on Clean Heat: A Priceless Opportunity](#)

CT Green Energy News - (9/17/21-Issue 236)

- [CT Senate leader says emissions initiative will not come up in next special session](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* " 'I'm hoping we can do this in a special session, but it won't be in the September special session,' said Senate President Martin Looney'... "I think our caucus is strongly supportive of environmental initiatives, but at the same time strongly supportive of shielding low- and moderate-income people from a disproportionate burden on the tax side," Looney said. 'We are actively engaging in trying to find a somewhat more progressive way to package it.'...Looney said those ideas may include gasoline tax credits for low-income families or an overhaul of electrical rates, which could benefit lower-income customers."
- [Connecticut losing ground on building emissions despite efficiency programs](#)
 - *Energy News Network.* "The report attributes the increases to greater cold-weather heating demand, but climate activists underscore the state's lack of progress on building emissions, which are roughly the same as they were a decade ago. They say the state lags on the adoption of electric heat pumps relative to the rest of New England, continues to expand its natural gas infrastructure, and doesn't allow municipalities to adopt more stringent efficiency standards for new buildings."
- [West Hartford is First Connecticut Town to Commit to 100% Clean Energy](#)

- *we-ha.com*. "When you commit, you raise the sail of intention to the winds of opportunity...The town continues to lead by example as it adopts renewable energy locally, builds and retrofits in "green" ways, and explores how to improve its own fossil fuel powered fleet of cars, trucks, and public transportation. The town has also recently implemented a new Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), which includes many clean energy and resilience goals."
- [Avangrid, Copenhagen joint wind venture reaches financial close](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. " 'Today's milestone demonstrates the financial community's confidence in Vineyard Wind 1 and Avangrid's sustainability strategy, and more broadly, the U.S. offshore wind industry'...Avangrid is joining forces with Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners, a Danish fund management and investment company, to launch the wind farm, which will consist of 62 wind turbines situated about 15 miles south of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket."
- [Proposed solar project in North Stonington rejected by Connecticut Siting Council](#)
 - *Westerly Sun*. " 'From a town perspective, we are trying to find a balance that will address the concerns of neighbors while still being good partners with the company.' The split decision came last week as a vote by members of the Connecticut Siting Council resulted in a 3-3 tie, leading the project to be rejected because of the lack of a majority. The council had previously indicated during a straw poll in late August that it would pass the project by a 4-3 vote, but the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's designated representative on the council, Robert Hannon, who indicated he would have voted in favor of the project, retired on Sept. 1 and his seat has not yet been filled."
- [Senator Haskell Shares His Thoughts With Us About EVs, Direct Sales, Tesla, & More](#)
 - *Clean Technica*. "But I'm concerned that our state laws, which in order to meet those goals should be doing everything that they possibly can to encourage and facilitate people to leave behind the internal combustion engine and instead get behind the wheel of an EV, are actually and sort of paradoxically making it harder for people to get behind the wheel of an electric vehicle, making it harder for them to buy a Tesla or a Lucid or a Rivian."

CT Green Energy News - (9/10/21-Issue 235)

- [One day after CT announces failure to meet emissions targets, Energy Efficiency Board approves plan to continue fossil fuel subsidies](#)
 - *Sierra Club CT*. " 'The Energy Efficiency Board's approval of plans to use ratepayer money to subsidize using more gas will only fuel more pollution and make it even harder for Connecticut to meet its climate pollution

targets...Department of Energy & Environmental Protection Commissioner Dykes should reject any plan from the EEB that subsidizes dirty fossil fuels and tell them to try again and produce a plan that promotes energy efficiency savings while ending subsidies for climate-destroying fossil fuels'...'Continuing to subsidize polluting fossil fuels defies logic'."

- [**Report: CT not meeting emissions goals; Transportation to blame**](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "This has to be a wake-up call. We are not on track to meet our emissions targets...We need to use every tool at our disposal to decrease emissions across our economy. It means we have to continue the conversation about the need for additional tools."
- [**Lamont: Votes there to reconsider climate initiative as GOP balks over gas tax**](#)
 - *CT Post*. " 'I think the votes are there [for the Transportation Climate Initiative],' Lamont said Tuesday morning when reporters asked whether he would ask fellow Democrats in the legislature to include the issue this month in a special session to consider the extension of his pandemic emergency powers. 'I'm sitting down. I'm talking to the leadership. If they can make it pass, I think it's a good idea. If the Republicans have a better idea, tell me their idea, but give me an alternative. Connecticut has been a leader. I want us to stay a leader.' " Plus: [**Transportation Climate Initiative Up For Debate, Again**](#) and [**TCI-P advances racial justice and is not a gas tax!**](#)
- [**Decision looms for Bridgeport fuel cell plant project facing opposition in South End**](#)
 - *CT Post*. "Opponents claim carbon dioxide and other emissions from the plant will lead to higher rates of asthma in the South End neighborhood, which is already within a "red" zone for asthma related hospitalizations. 'We are home to I-95, a gas plant, 2 other fuel cells, severe flooding, United Illuminating, a garbage dump, a nearby trash burning plant, a solar panel park and until last week a coal plant,' Kate Rivera, a South End resident, said in a letter to the siting council."
- [**Connecticut's moratorium on electricity, gas and water cutoffs that began at the start of the pandemic is coming to an end**](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Companies including Eversource Energy and United Illuminating asked regulators in February for authority to resume shutting off power. The Lamont administration urged then that the moratorium remain in place, saying Connecticut is "too early" in emerging from COVID-19 to begin lifting the ban on utility shutoffs."

CT Green Energy News - (9/3/21-Issue 234)

- [Tong asks CT regulators to decrease Eversource electricity rates](#)
 - *CT Post.* "Connecticut families and consumers cannot afford to pay any more for their utilities," Tong said in a statement Tuesday. "Electricity costs in our state are already the highest in the continental United States and as families continue to work and attend school from home because of the COVID-19 pandemic, they need a break from these oppressive costs. In a brief Tong's office filed with PURA, the attorney general said Eversource's costs have decreased since its last rate case in 2018, but those cost reductions are not reflected in the utility's current rates."
- [After Henri, Eversource partners with CT towns to remove hazardous trees](#)
 - *Newstimes.* "Many towns in the region are burdened by soaring costs to remove a backlog of dead and dying trees. While it is the Department of Transportation's responsibility to clear trees along state-owned roadways, Redding said there are no dedicated federal or state resources to help towns manage the problem along their own streets or property...Eversource will pick up some of that burden under a newly formed partnership with towns by having its crews cut down trees deemed hazardous. The municipalities will still be tasked with hauling away the trees once they are cut..."
- [EV Make and Model Movers](#)
 - *EV Club of CT.* "The chart at the top of the post shows the trend of all EV makes and shows net registrations at each point in time. It makes very obvious the fact that registrations are largely concentrated among a small number of companies...Tesla has continued to have substantial increases. Toyota had a notable pop. Chevrolet reversed the negative momentum and gained modestly. Ford, BMW, Hyundai, Honda, Volvo, Porsche, Chrysler and Jeep all had modest increases. Other makes had very small increases or were flat."
- [Connecticut Dealership Sues Tesla](#)
 - *Clean Technica.* "The lawsuit claims that the permit that Tesla has will allow it to open a facility and do business with its customers — allowing Tesla to compete directly with Hoffman Auto Group. The dealership also claimed to sell electric cars "in virtually all of its dealerships," and claimed that most of the dealers in and around the State of Connecticut do too."
- [Senator Murphy Visits Leading US-Made EV Charger Manufacturer JuiceBar in Connecticut](#)
 - *Global NewsWire.* " 'JuiceBar is leading the country as the only manufacturer of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations made and assembled in the U.S. I was glad to tour their facilities and learn about their mission to help build a

sustainable future – and I'm going to keep pushing for more federal funding for EV infrastructure. Teddy Roosevelt became the first American president to publicly ride in an automobile when he drove through Hartford in an electric car 119 years ago. JuiceBar's work will make sure that EVs are a part of not only Connecticut's past but also our future.' "

CT Green Energy News - (8/27/21-Issue 233)

- [Electric buses are an investment in the future](#)
 - *The Chronicle.* "As part of newly passed bipartisan legislation, the Windham Regional Transit District and the University of Connecticut will each receive three battery-powered buses and funding for charging facilities. In addition to its benefit fighting climate change, converting to electricity has other long-term bonuses for the state. 'The advantage of electric is ... it's much more cost effective than diesel...' "
- [OP-ED | What Treating Climate Change Like a Real Crisis Would Look Like](#)
 - *CT News Junkie.* "The other change, shifting to renewable energy, is already underway as well. Using electric vehicles doesn't help if the power for their batteries is coming from burning fossil fuels. But again, it needs to happen quicker. We need to invest more heavily in wind farms and solar energy to wean us off of coal and gas power plants, and we need to tap the power sources that drove the industrial revolution in our state: our many rushing streams and rivers. Connecticut should ban the production or purchase of power from non-renewable sources by the end of this decade."
- [Rating Action: Moody's changes outlook of Eversource Energy and Connecticut Light & Power to negative](#)
 - *Moody's Investor Service.* " 'The negative outlook for Eversource reflects persistently weak credit metrics for its current Baa1 rating as a result of high capital spending and a reliance on debt financing that we expect will continue'...Furthermore, a less credit supportive Connecticut regulatory environment for CL&P, whose distribution assets account for about 20% of Eversource's consolidated rate base could be sustained, a key driver for CL&P's negative outlook. We expect the recent order by the state's Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA), which includes a financial penalty of approximately \$30 million...will weaken CL&P's financial performance; and, in turn, put further pressure on Eversource's financial profile."
- [Power outages suck. Clean energy can change that.](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "There's a better solution —meet solar-plus-storage. That is, a roof-mounted solar photovoltaic system with an integrated home battery. These

energy systems utilize solar net metering, demand response, state regulations, and the local electrical infrastructure in intelligent ways. In aggregation, they can be programmed into a virtual power plant that automates each battery's charge and —at least— keeps the lights on during extreme weather events."

- [**Greenskies Clean Energy installs 572-kW of solar for Connecticut town**](#)
 - *Solar Power World*. "Saving on energy costs and offsetting our carbon footprint with renewable energy are incredibly important to the Town of North Stonington," North Stonington First Selectman Michael Urgo said. "As a Town we must set the standard for transitioning to more sustainable practices for the long-term. We are happy to have seen this project to completion and to do our part as a community to help reduce carbon emissions."
- [**Massachusetts cities try new legal path toward banning new fossil fuel hookups**](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "Any fossil fuel infrastructure that goes in now is going to have to be torn up," said Anne Wright, an activist in Arlington who helped push for that town's bylaw. "So why not save money and put electric infrastructure in there now? That's the long-term vision and economic argument." Connecticut?

CT Green Energy News - (8/20/21-Issue 232)

- [**What does climate 'Code Red' mean for Connecticut?**](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "The net result is that natural gas is worse for the climate than coal. Yet Connecticut continues to mandate the expansion of its use, and Eversource is only too happy to comply. Its "[Southeast Resiliency Project](#)" is currently pushing through Middletown on its way to cross the Connecticut River and then on toward Montville. Once there, it will be possible for the oil-burning NRG Montville power station to apply to install a gas turbine, just as the NTG Killingly and NRG Middletown power stations have done, locking in decades of new pollution...The bad news is that corporations remain addicted to large-scale projects employing legacy technology whose ongoing revenue streams they can control. Companies such as Eversource are so dedicated to propping up natural gas use that they have resorted to disinformation as part of a campaign to sustain public support for natural gas."
- [**Connecticut regulators plan major growth in battery storage, EV charging**](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "In addition to those plans, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority also recently issued a [draft proposal](#) for how to drive the adoption of "non-wires alternatives" to traditional transmission and distribution methods. Instead of simply expanding substations and replacing transformers, the proposal envisions a method for exploring ways to upgrade less expensively by using such technologies as battery storage, demand response, and

microgrids...The Authority calls for a program overseen by an independent consultant, who will review all proposed distribution system upgrades over \$500,000 and, working with various stakeholders, determine if lower-cost or more resilient alternatives are feasible...Eversource had argued that the process should be run by the utilities, since they already have the expertise."

- [A climate choice we can make](#)

- *CT Mirror*. "The IPCC report says climate change is escalating. The future looks bleak. One response is to 'eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die.' Another response is to band together with others and continue fighting to make it "less worse." There is a lot of joy down that road."

- [Kevin Rennie: Eversource's marketing campaign didn't live up to billing in my neighborhood](#)

- *Hartford Courant*. "Eversource's sustained fear campaign was based on false claims, as fear campaigns often are...Eversource thrives on its ability to influence state officials, especially those with energy issues in their portfolio. That's why the company maintains the state's largest platoon of registered lobbyists. That influence is how it has been able to stymie more competition among energy providers and innovators. That's how it will get away with its hardball marketing in one neighborhood. " Plus: [CT officials, lawmakers call for probe into Eversource marketing](#)

- [New England solar developer's legal wrangling draws praise, criticism](#)

- *Energy News Network*. "Thomas Melone most recently made headlines by suing to overturn approvals for the Vineyard Wind offshore project. Critics say his company's litigious approach is doing harm to the industry's reputation in New England "

CT Green Energy News - (8/13/21-Issue 231)

- [Opinion: Climate emergency requires more from Lamont](#)

- *CT Post*. "Lamont has expressed concern about the accelerating climate crisis while his administration is taking actions that dig our state into a bigger climate problem. Energize CT, our state's energy efficiency program, promotes and incentivizes fossil fuel boilers, furnaces and water heaters, and the Energy Efficiency Board is considering a three-year plan for the program that will continue subsidizing fossil fuels. The Public Utility Regulatory Authority is contemplating funneling more ratepayer funds into gas utility companies to build more pipelines and encourage more customers to use fossil gas rather than clean alternatives like zero-emission heat pumps, and the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection continues to permit unneeded

new fossil fuel power plants despite their climate harms and threats to water and wildlife."

- [**Greenskies Clean Energy installs 645 kW of solar for Connecticut town**](#)
 - *Solar Power World*. "These four projects alone are expected to save the town an additional \$967,000 in energy costs over the next 20 years. By using a solar power purchase agreement, the installations were completed at no upfront cost to **Glastonbury**, which will also benefit from reduced electricity rates."
- [**Time for Ludicrous Mode - An Opportunity for Large Cuts in Emissions Along With Major Budgetary Savings.**](#)
 - *EV Club of CT*. "When the Westport Police were doing their diligence in advance of the purchase of a Tesla Model 3 for use as a patrol car, they worked with Sustainable Westport (SW) to run a set of estimates for the payback time period...When I initially started the analysis, my expectation was that the SW numbers were reasonable and we would end up somewhere in that neighborhood. I hadn't thought the financials would end up being such a slam-dunk with savings of \$52,000 over 4 years, enough to buy a new Tesla...This Tesla Pilot was only a test, but it begs the question: with such strong results, is there any reason not to go all-in for EVs, and forget gradualism? "
- [**CT upping stake in fuel cell industry with new energy-purchase mandate**](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "...fuel cells often lose out to solar and wind on a price-per-kilowatt basis, and they only tend to get built when there are specific government-mandated procurements. On the other hand, fuel cells, unlike solar panels and wind turbines, can provide continuous power, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They also don't take up as much space as traditional renewable projects and can be built where solar and wind farms can't be. 'There are advantages, but you end up paying for those advantages.' "
- [**Tesla Service Center Approved In East Hartford, Connecticut**](#)
 - *Clean Technica*. "Here is some good news for Tesla owners in Connecticut, a state that's been heavily favoring the whims of dealerships rather than Tesla and other EV makers. The Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) of East Hartford has voted unanimously to approve Tesla's application to build a service center, the Journal Inquirer reports. However, customers who want to buy a Tesla or parts for their Tesla still need to go out of state. So, this is progress — tiny progress, but still worth celebrating."
- [**Medical supply company sees efficiency in switch to solar power**](#)
 - *Solar Build*. "As one of the largest commercial solar projects in the Eversource utility system, Sky's PV install will offset more than half of the Medline facility's

annual electricity usage. The project produces approximately 1,578,430 kWh of clean and renewable electricity annually and will substantially lower Medline's utility costs "

CT Green Energy News - (8/6/21-Issue 230)

- [Cap and Invest Program Still Faces Uphill Battle](#)
 - *CT News Junkie.* " 'When last I checked, gauging the field of my colleagues, we had the votes to pass it,' Gresko said. 'I'm not saying every Democrat would have voted 'Yes' but I think another vote count would be positive as far as the number of votes necessary in the House.'...But the bill appears unlikely to see a vote in the upper chamber, where Senate President Martin Looney has expressed concerns that higher gas prices would hit the wallets of lower and middle income residents harder." Plus: Despite limited participation, advocates see potential for Northeast transportation cap-and-invest plan
- [Lamont celebrates Manchester school's eventual transformation into net-zero building](#)
 - *Journal Inquirer.* "Buckley will be supported by solar panels on the roof and geothermal wells in order to become net-zero, and Thames highlighted other steps being taken throughout town, including solar panels at Manchester High School...'We're really proud of this, taking a 1950 building that has seen its day and renovating it to new for the next 20 years.' "
- [On the Killingly power plant issue, doesn't the buck stop with you, Gov. Lamont?](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "This neatly avoids responsibility if this, the only new fossil fuel plant planned for New England, is approved by your DEEP to emit over two million tons of carbon dioxide, particulate matter and other pollutants, including nitrous oxides, that will be added annually to those emissions already produced about a mile away by the existing Lake Road Generating gas power plant. Maybe your regulations need updating."
- [State Pier offshore wind project in New London gains DEEP approval](#)
 - *New Haven Register.* "Once the renovation is completed, the site will become a staging area for wind energy projects being built off the coast of Rhode Island and New York as part of a joint venture between Eversource Energy and Ørsted. The two companies released a joint statement Wednesday praising the approval of the environmental permit."

- [As Connecticut struggles to boost electric vehicles on the road, Westport punches above its weight](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Westport now aggressively promotes publicly available electric vehicle charging stations, though giving electricity away for free will not be an indefinite policy, First Selectman Jim Marpe said. As the town renovates parking lots, it makes sure conduits are installed to accommodate charging stations added in the future. More than 20 charging stations are available at municipal lots with more planned, he said. And the town owns six electric vehicles for its police department and other town agencies. "
- [Landmark Solar Project Live At West Hartford's Emanuel Synagogue](#)
 - *Patch*. "In addition to generating environmental benefits, the project includes a 20-year power purchase agreement, under which the synagogue will purchase power at a lower rate than what it currently pays its local utility. With the PPA, the synagogue can expect to see savings on its energy costs over the next two decades."

CT Green Energy News - (7/30/21-Issue 229)

- [PURA establishes new energy storage program](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "The program is expected to include a benefit to residential customers of around \$250 per kilowatt-hour, with a maximum per-project incentive of \$7,500. Commercial and industrial customers would be eligible for upfront incentives, with a maximum of 50% of a project's cost." Plus: [Connecticut details incentives, equity goals for energy storage program](#)
- [MIRA says it will ship thousands of tons of old coal out of state](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "Burning coal, basically, is a source of air pollution," said Betsey Wingfield, deputy commissioner for environmental quality at DEEP. "It also contributes greenhouse gas to the atmosphere. There's heavy metals. There's mercury associated with burning coal. And it also contributes to acid rain through the release of sulfur dioxide."
- [Branford animal shelter, CT tech schools awarded solar hot water equipment](#)
 - *New Haven Register*. "The Connecticut Technical Education and Career System in Hartford and the Dan Cosgrove Animal Shelter in Branford are the first two recipients of the equipment, and were selected through a request for proposals. The Green Bank has released an updated RFP seeking applications from other organizations that could use "the remaining solar hot water systems available for donation."

- [Northwest CT air quality group wary about Cricket Valley's conversion plans](#)
 - *New Haven Register.* "The use of hydrogen fuel is not necessarily environmentally benign," he said. "Hydrogen is an energy storage technology — not an energy source — because a different energy source is needed to make hydrogen fuel...If the hydrogen fuel will be produced using low-carbon energy sources such as wind and solar, the conversion to hydrogen fuel could be environmentally beneficial."

CT Green Energy News - (7/23/21-Issue 228)

- [Hamden, Connecticut, Plans Microgrids to Help Meet Energy Goals](#)
 - *Microgrid Knowledge.* "A microgrid in Hamden, a town of about 62,000, could include the town's schools, ice rink, the shopping centers, restaurants, gas stations, banks, emergency care facilities, the town center, a library and the town hall as well as the fire and police headquarters, according to the plan. A microgrid could enable "near total renewable energy" by integrating battery storage and smart controls, according to the plan. It could allow key services to continue running when the wider grid is down, lower energy costs and provide demand response to ISO New England, which runs the wholesale power market in six northeast states."
- [In Connecticut, another boost for fuel cell industry reignites subsidy debate](#)
 - *Energy News Network* "A bill signed into law last week will require electric distribution companies to solicit 30 megawatts of new generation from fuel cells. Critics say the technology should not be considered renewable because of its reliance on natural gas."
- [Opinion: CT can still take action on the climate crisis, but decision makers must act now](#)
 - *The Register Citizen.* "Fortunately, a plan already exists to do just this: the Transportation and Climate Initiative, or TCI. The northeastern, multistate TCI is a climate change-fighting interstate agreement designed to slash the region's greenhouse gas emissions from fossil-fuel powered vehicles. Not only would this program reduce climate-harming emissions by one-third of current levels, it would also save the lives of hundreds of Connecticut residents cut short each year due to air pollution."
- [Park City Wind opening Bridgeport headquarters](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "The central office, situated at 350 Fairfield Ave., will serve as the venture's main hub for project development, workforce training and community outreach, according to state officials...Avangrid and Copenhagen

Infrastructure Partners have said the effort will create thousands of jobs and produce an economic impact of over \$890 million. The companies have also committed to making Bridgeport the home of Park City Wind's operations and maintenance hub for the 25-year or longer duration of the project."

- [**EDITORIAL: Time to get started on charging stations for electric vehicles**](#)

- *myrecordjournal.com*. "The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority has come up with a nine-year program that creates incentives for the building of charging stations for electric vehicles. The plan will encourage the building of fast charging stations at home and at the workplace, and is aimed both at individuals with electric cars and companies with fleets of electric vehicles."

CT Green Energy News - (7/16/21-Issue 227)

- [**PURA greenlights vehicle charging incentives**](#)

- *Hartford Business Journal*. "It could soon be cheaper for Connecticut property owners to invest in electric vehicle chargers, thanks to a new program that could dole out hundreds of millions of dollars in incentives over the next nine years. The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) on Wednesday approved a plan that directs Eversource and United Illuminating to pay homeowners, employers and apartment building owners incentives for electric vehicle supply equipment and fast-charger installations, and to cover a portion of electrical make-ready costs." For more details, see [**PURA's EV Charging Program Summary**](#).

- [**Other Voices: New prevailing wage legislation a win for solar industry workers**](#)

- *Hartford Business Journal*. "New Jersey, which has required prevailing wage on solar development projects 1 megawatt and larger since 2013, is one of the best case studies we have for this type of policy's success. Because labor is a relatively small portion of the total cost of utility-scale solar projects, New Jersey's has successfully protected workers' wages with no evidence of significant costs to developers or ratepayers. Now, New Jersey ranks seventh nationally for installed solar capacity. For comparison, Connecticut ranks 21st."

- [**For CT's environmental agency, Zoom was 'the real hero' of the pandemic**](#)

- *CT Mirror*. " 'It was amazing. Zoom turned out to be one of the most fantastic, I guess technological, accidents for tackling this crisis.'...'Had we tried to do that in the normal course with in-person meetings, I don't think we would have gotten a fraction of the participation that we did.' "

- [**CT Electric Vehicle Registrations Grow 36%**](#)

- *EV Club of CT.* "The new count of EVs as of July 1 has been released by the Department of Motor Vehicles. The new count of 17,217 represents a 36% increase from the 12,624 one year ago. This is an improvement from the 18% 12-month growth rate we saw in January, but it still falls short of the level of growth needed achieve the 2030 goal...One hopeful sign is that the 4335 EVs registered in the first half of 2021 was about the same as the total for all of 2020, which was 4408."
- [Emerging wind energy industry offers CT manufacturers new potential customer base](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "Experts say Connecticut manufacturers, many of which have backgrounds in serving the aerospace and medical device sectors, are well positioned to enter the wind energy supply chain at a time when that industry is poised for significant growth...Turbine maintenance is another space where Cooper sees opportunity for local manufacturers. Once turbines are built, local companies will likely have to maintain them, and manufacturers that make and service things like jet engine turbines could naturally pivot to do some of this work."
- [Avangrid outlines US green hydrogen vision](#)
 - *reNews.Biz.* "Avangrid has submitted green hydrogen project concepts on the US east and west coasts in response to the Department of Energy's request for information (RfI)...In Connecticut Avangrid's RfI response proposes constructing a 20MW electrolyser and hydrogen storage facility for its Connecticut gas and electric utilities, potentially powered by renewable energy from offshore wind and supplemented by additional solar or grid-based renewable electricity."
- [Connecticut Green Bank Celebrates Tenth Anniversary](#)
 - *Patch.* "Over the last decade, the Green Bank and its partners have deployed nearly \$2.3 billion in capital for clean energy projects across the state. Projects recorded through FY 2020 show that for every \$1 of public funds committed by the Green Bank that nearly an additional \$8 in private investment occurred in the economy. As a result, Green Bank supported projects have created thousands of jobs in our communities, reduced the energy burden on thousands of families and businesses, avoided millions of tons of greenhouse gas emissions, and facilitated rapid growth in the deployment of clean energy."

CT Green Energy News - (7/9/21-Issue 226)

- [Driving Electric Is Now a Moral, Fiscal and Climate Imperative](#)
 - *EV Club of CT.* "We're in a climate crisis and each of us should be taking action, regardless of state and federal policy. Driving electric has become a no brainer now that new models are out with longer-range batteries in styles and sizes that

fit varying consumer needs...While an electric vehicle can be more expensive to acquire, the cost of owning one is significantly less than an internal combustion engine (ICE) car according to Consumer Reports. Not only is it less expensive to power a vehicle on electricity, but EVs also need much less maintenance. The bottom line is that it's half as expensive to drive an electric than an internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicle because of the fuel and maintenance savings." Plus: **The age of the electric vehicle is upon us**

- **Officials: Connecticut positioned for federal climate funds**
 - *New Haven Register*. "The new law gives all cities and towns, not just certain ones, the ability to establish stormwater authorities. Those entities would then have the power to assess fees - funds needed to trigger federal matching dollars. The legislation also expands the authority of municipal flood and erosion control boards to include flood prevention and climate resilience."
- **Fishing industry feels stranded as offshore wind gathers momentum**
 - *CT Mirror*. "While offshore wind is new to us in the United States, it's certainly not a new technology in other places...As we actually seek to look at what will we actually lease, we're even further narrowing those areas to try and do our best to avoid conflicts with ocean users.' "
- **Essex Meadows Activates Solar Arrays**
 - *Zip 06*. "A bustling retirement community in Essex has powered up its latest sustainable initiative, more than 1,000 new solar panels in three different locations on its property...'The residents are supportive of anything that is environmentally friendly including the solar and it also has an economic benefit too, which, of course, is helpful to them in managing costs...' "

CT Green Energy News - (7/2/21-Issue 225)

- **CT to convert more buses to electric; unveils new incentives for electric car purchases**
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "Waterbury's bus station would be the first in the state capable of running a 100% electric battery-powered bus transit system...'This project is the first of its kind in Connecticut to prepare an entire transit and paratransit depot fully for electrification, and a major step forward in our push to become the first state with a fully electric bus transit fleet.' " Plus: **State Expands Electric Vehicle Rebates**
- **Nation's 1st "Net Zero" Hotel Takes Form**
 - *New Haven Advocate*. "The building is an example of a global shift to all-electric living — a goal advocated locally by the environmental group New Haven Climate Movement. The group has been pushing for the city to shift to electric

vehicles, to convert all city-owned buildings to electric heating and cooling, and to urge developers to turn their backs on fossil fuels, and is applauding an electrification resolution recently passed by the Board of Alders. 'This project is a great example of what an electric future could look like....It's really looking to reduce air pollution and other types of climate damage, and produce a much healthier future for New Haven and the world.'

- **Opinion: CT takes a big step toward a cleaner energy future**

- *CT Post*. "By pairing new battery storage with hydroelectric generation, we will be able to maximize the clean energy output of these facilities without expanding their physical footprint in the water. This increases our chances to keep these facilities running economically in a challenging market and supports our ability to provide ongoing local economic contributions. Similarly, we see opportunities to replace aging fossil-fired "peaking" units that are only called to generate when the system is extremely strained, with clean emissions-free batteries that serve the same role without the pollution."

- **Rhode Island Senate Ponders Connecticut During Transportation Climate Initiative Debate**

- *CT News Junkie*. "Rhode Island's Democratic-controlled state Senate voted 28 to 7 Tuesday to authorize the multi-state agreement requiring fuel suppliers to buy permits for the pollution that results from the fuel they sell. The plan aims to reduce carbon emissions and would result in fuel sellers passing extra costs to consumers at the pump."

- **University of Connecticut solar tree will offer campus visitors a place to recharge**

- *Energy News Network*. "As they set about planning the tree, the group started by asking, what would separate this solar tree from the others out there? They talked about creating a public sculpture that people could plug into, a meeting place that would also provide shade and seating. They saw the tree as an opportunity to educate people about solar, perhaps with a solar-powered kiosk with an interactive presentation about the tree."

- **PURA approves customer rate credits, compensation for prolonged power outages**

- *Hartford Business Journal*. "State energy regulators today approved the granting of rate credits and compensation for spoiled food and medicine for Connecticut electricity customers who are left without power for a prolonged period of time. Under new rules adopted by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, ratepayers would receive a \$25 rate credit for each 24-hour period they are without electricity following an outage of 96 consecutive hours, or four days."

CT Green Energy News - (6/25/21-Issue 224)

- [Environmental Advocates React to Connecticut's Failure To Pass Regional Climate Agreement](#)
 - *CT Public Radio.* "In 2018, Connecticut announced it would be part of an ambitious multi-state program to cut carbon emissions from transportation. In December 2020, Governor Lamont signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and D.C., committing to launch a regional transportation "cap and invest" program. But now, the regional program has suffered a setback: the Connecticut state legislature failed to bring the Transportation and Climate Initiative up for a vote during the 2021 legislative session." [Recording of the program, [Where We Live](#)]
- [Mansfield breaks ground on groundbreaking school](#)
 - *the Chronicle.* "After a decade-long process, the day finally came Thursday for the groundbreaking of Mansfield's soon-to-be new net-zero energy elementary school...'This has been a learning experience for us and for our management team, especially for our architects and their engineering team, however they did create a net-zero energy building with the use of an extensive geothermal field to reduce energy needs, abundance use of solar panels, appropriate orientation of the building, creation of a tight envelope in the building and finding creative ways to bring in natural light deep into the building.' "
- [The Average Dealership In Connecticut Sold 1.3 EVs In 2020](#)
 - *CleanTechnica.* "Connecticut State Senator Will Haskell shared some interesting dealership facts on Twitter this week. Senator Haskell is pro-EV, anti-carbon emissions, and is pretty neutral on how the cars are sold. However, he stated that when 84% of the EVs in his state are bought directly from the manufacturer, it's clear that customers have a preference." Plus: [Auto Dealerships Win Big In Connecticut — At The Expense Of Tesla, Rivian, And Clean Air](#)
- [Rise In Cremations Opens Unused Cemetery Space To New Solar Projects](#)
 - *Connecticut Public Radio.* " '...the CCA [Catholic Cemeteries Association] did look hard at burials versus cremations and asked a simple question: Would bodies need to go into that unused cemetery space in the next two decades. 'And the answer was no. The answer also is that, we knew in 20 years if we do need the land back, we can get it back,' Pinone said. 'This is just a lease ...It allows us flexibility to create another source of revenue.'"
- [Interconnection issues jeopardize New England's clean energy goals](#)
 - *pv magazine.* "...one area for improvement is the concept of "free-ridership." Projects that can afford the cost of interconnection upgrades are able to move forward, while other projects follow and take advantage of the enabled

capacity...'Projects should be paying their fair share for system access, but there should also be an acknowledgement that those upgrades don't benefit just one facility, but support multiple facilities.' "

- [**Eversource Energy : Partners with UniteCT to Help Eligible Customers Receive Assistance with Energy Bills and Rent**](#)
 - *MarketScreener.* "UniteCT provides utility payment assistance to qualified households that are financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and is specifically designed to help tenants who have fallen behind with rent and utility bills to stay in their homes...The UniteCT program provides eligible renters up to \$1,500 to help with past due electric expenses and up to \$10,000 for past or future rent expenses. The new program is funded through the \$25 billion federal stimulus package passed by Congress for emergency rental and utility assistance"
- [**Waldo Renewable Electric installs 47.52-kW rooftop solar project for Connecticut's Running Brook Farms**](#)
 - *Solar World.* " 'We have chosen to invest in solar technology simply because it is the right thing to do both for our business and the environment. We feel that is our responsibility to adopt more sustainable agricultural practices. In particular given the intense energy demands associated with indoor cannabis production, solar technology should be part of every growers' sustainability plan!'...Running Brook Farms was able to secure a Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) grant that covered 25% of the total project cost, with C-PACE financing covering the remainder." Plus: [**Verogy Solar uses 3 different mounting structures on retirement community PV project**](#)

CT Green Energy News - (6/18/21-Issue 223)

- [**How environmental bills fared during Connecticut's 2021 legislative session**](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "The recently completed legislative session notched a number of wins — but also some losses — for environmentalists. Advocates hailed improvements to Connecticut's "bottle bill" but expressed disappointment with lawmakers' failure to sign on to a multistate program aimed at reducing vehicle emissions." Plus: [**Gov. Ned Lamont rejects veto plea from solar industry, signs labor-backed legislation for higher wages and benefits**](#)
- [**Connecticut lawmakers once again reject Tesla legislation to sell electric vehicles directly to car buyers**](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "Gov. Ned Lamont, who supported the legislation, said Thursday the future of cars is electrification and forcing Connecticut car buyers to shop in New York City's suburbs and western Massachusetts is "not the right way to go. "I think the status quo is pretty tough to change in this state and there

are some very influential lobbyists here," he said...In addition, differences between two labor unions didn't help jump start the legislation in Democratic ranks. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, whose members work on Tesla projects, actively backed the legislation while the United Auto Workers, which has fought Tesla over unionization, opposed the bill."

- [OP-ED | The Most Important Piece of Legislation You Have Never Heard Of](#)

- *CT News Junkie*. "If the TCI-P bill is not passed, it will be because our representatives in Hartford lack the vision and understanding of what is happening in the economy. In three years' time, the voters of Connecticut will be asking some very difficult questions: where did all the jobs go? Why is Connecticut not participating in the largest US manufacturing boom in the last 100 years? Who let this slip from our hands? TCI-P is a pro-jobs, pro-manufacturing, pro-environment piece of legislation and does not put the burden on the taxpayers but on the companies who are freely polluting our air and damaging our and our children's health."

- [Connecticut neighborhood pushes back against planned fuel cell power plant](#)

- *Energy News Network*. "The proposed facility would convert natural gas to electricity through a chemical process that emits carbon but eliminates other air pollution associated with combustion power plants."

- [Town Moves Ahead With Solar Initiative For Schools, Homeowners](#)

- *Patch*. "After asking for an analysis of all town and school buildings in an effort to achieve energy savings through energy efficient projects including the possible installation of solar panels, First Selectman Jamie Cosgrove announced Tuesday that the town is moving forward with "new solar initiatives" for Branford schools, and for homeowners..."

CT Green Energy News - (6/11/21-Issue 222)

- [Transportation Climate Initiative Back In The Mix](#)

- *CT News Junkie*. "The governor signed onto the plan late last year, but implementation required approval from the legislature. He didn't get it. Republicans and fuel suppliers launched an aggressive opposition campaign, arguing the program amounted to a gas tax. During budget negotiations, Democratic leaders of both chambers told Lamont they did not have the votes to pass it this year. But proponents saw a glimmer of hope Wednesday when it became clear lawmakers would have to reconvene sometime in the next few weeks. During a Thursday afternoon press conference, the governor said he would urge legislative leaders to take it up." *Plus (from earlier in the week): It looks like CT's Transportation Climate Initiative bill is dead. Now what?*

- [Key bills that passed and faltered during the 2021 legislative session](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "The 2021 legislative session ended at midnight Wednesday. As usual, some folks came out of the process happy. Others are already plotting their strategies for the special session that could come as early as next week. The impact of these decisions will take years to determine. Here's a rundown of significant bills that passed and some that didn't." Plus: [Connecticut legislators approve 1 GW energy storage target for the end of 2030](#)
- [Tesla Police Vehicle Brings Large Monetary Savings](#)
 - *The EV Club of CT*. "The new headline is that the payback happens in year one. By year four, there are enough savings to buy a new Tesla. The details get a little more complicated and I will lay them all out. All data regarding the purchase, customization, and operating expenses come from the Westport Police. At my request, the analysis was reviewed by the Finance Department of the Town of Westport, which has confirmed the accuracy of the data and supports the conclusions."
- [Loud, polluting gas leaf blowers are under attack in CT by civic activists](#)
 - *New Haven Register*. "Gas-powered two-stroke leaf blowers are inefficient as well, with 30 percent of the gas and oil used going unburned into the atmosphere, according to the group Quiet Communities. A laboratory study by Edmunds found that a two-stroke leaf blower emitted 300 times the hydrocarbons as a Ford Raptor pickup truck over a half-hour."
- [New England states push for governance changes in ISO-NE, ahead of anticipated MOPR reform](#)
 - *Utility Dive*. "But states argue they are not just stakeholders, and having a non-voting seat at the table isn't enough. States are sovereign entities with their own laws that the regulators are tasked with implementing, regulators point out. Those laws, including on decarbonization and renewable portfolio standards, are binding, and "it's not optional" for regulators to simply "walk away" from implementing those laws."
- [Town Moves Ahead With Solar Initiative For Schools, Homeowners](#)
 - *Patch*. "After asking for an analysis of all town and school buildings in an effort to achieve energy savings through energy efficient projects including the possible installation of solar panels, First Selectman Jamie Cosgrove announced Tuesday that the town is moving forward with "new solar initiatives" for Branford schools, and for homeowners..."

CT Green Energy News - (6/4/21-Issue 221)

- [The Transportation Climate Initiative will improve public health, too](#)

- *CT Mirror*. "In light of the broad, necessary and long-term benefits that this law will have on Connecticut residents and their families' health and well-being, the American Lung Association strongly supports TCI-P, and urges the state legislature to codify it into law."
- [Local solar association fights fair wages with disinformation and fear](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "A bipartisan analysis has revealed there are no taxpayer costs, therefore no fiscal note, associated with the bill. SB 999 has the full support of the Energy and Technology Committee Chairs (who would not have backed it if it raised costs for ratepayers). Moreover, the bill would not have garnered so much support from environmental organizations if it had the potential to harm the solar industry."
- [Thousands of new solar panels to save East Haven money, power buildings](#)
 - *New Haven Register*. "The town has a 20-year lease agreement and a no upfront cost, power purchase agreement with Greenskies Clean Energy LLC, which over those two decades is expected to save the town about \$1.4 million in electricity costs and additional revenue in annual lease payments."
- [Eversource, partners to charter offshore wind turbine installation vessel](#)
 - *The Hartford Business Journal*. "Eversource Energy is joining forces with Virginia-based Dominion Energy and Danish power giant Orsted to charter a ship that will help the partner companies erect offshore wind farms along the East Coast. Once completed, the 472-foot Charybdis will be deployed out of New London harbor to support construction of two Eversource-Orsted projects — Revolution Wind and Sunrise Wind — off the coasts of Massachusetts and Long Island, company officials announced Tuesday."
- [Westport adds two electric vehicles to its fleet](#)
 - *CT Post*. "It's a major win for our sustainability goals," said town operations director Sara Harris. "We feel strongly about reducing (our) carbon footprint."

CT Green Energy News - (5/28/21-Issue 220)

- [OP-ED | The Business Case for the Transportation and Climate Initiative](#)
 - *CT News Junkie*. "Whether looking at it from an environmental or business perspective, there is no doubt that the Transportation and Climate Initiative

(TCI) is a winning strategy. TCI will be a catalyst for bolstering manufacturing, spurring innovation, and ushering in clean energy jobs. It will give Connecticut a technological advantage while being a step in the right direction in addressing the threat of climate change."

- [Connecticut auto dealerships say direct EV sales could wipe out franchise model](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "The group's dire economic prediction, however, is based on a worst-case scenario not allowed under the legislation now before the state Senate...Linking that scenario to the legislation currently under consideration is a stretch, proponents say. For one thing, the bill doesn't allow manufacturers with an existing franchise in Connecticut to sell directly to consumers even if they move to an entirely electric fleet...'Any report commissioned by the auto dealers needs to be taken with a healthy degree of skepticism.' "
- [A state mandate to increase labor costs is no way to lower the cost of clean energy](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "House members, this year's installed commercial solar totals won't be any higher than last years. Or next year's total. Or the year after that. The reason is that the growth of commercial programs have been stunted by legislation passed by the General Assembly. Solar programs are capped so low that they don't get bigger than they are now. The Legislature's three major commercial solar programs are either idle (sold out almost two years ago), or capped at levels at insidiously low the programs sell out each year."
- [Connecticut looks to join seven other US states in setting energy storage target](#)
 - *Energy Storage News*. "Importantly, programmes need to meet a number of metrics which include proving the positive net present value of deployments to all electric ratepayers, providing multiple benefits to the electric grid including ancillary services, resilience and peak demand reduction, fostering the development of an electric energy storage industry in the state and maximising the value of participation in capacity markets for storage systems."
- [Derby Aldermen approve leasing city-owned land for proposed fuel cell facility](#)
 - *CT Post*. "If the 2.8 megawatt facility is approved by the state's siting council, which will review it for environmental impact, the city stands to gain \$50,000 a year in revenue for 20 years, the lease agreement states. The 6-2 vote by the Board of Aldermen to allow FuelCell Energy Inc. to lease property on Coon Hollow Road had its critics — including the owner

of a solar development company who said he wasn't allowed to bid on the lease and had concerns about the safety of the proposed facility."

CT Green Energy News - (5/21/21-Issue 219)

- **Action Alert! Support the Transportation Climate Initiative**
 - With less than 3 weeks left in the 2021 legislative session, let your state senator and representative know that you support this important initiative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector. To learn more, click here!
- **The Transportation & Climate Initiative is worth it**
 - *CT Mirror*. "Connecticut needs TCI now to reduce the deadly pollution. Exhaust from diesel and gasoline-powered cars and trucks contains toxic chemicals, like carbon monoxide and arsenic, and has been linked to asthma, heart and lung conditions and cancer...TCI will help address these problems by putting a price on vehicle pollution in the Northeast, including in Connecticut, by raising revenue for investments in electric vehicle charging stations, public transit, and safer streets for pedestrians and bicyclists." Plus: Is it a plan to fight climate change, or a gas tax? The TCI is facing fierce pushback
- **The 'gas bridge:' Why Connecticut's green future remains largely out of reach**
 - *CT Mirror*. "Despite ambitious targets, Connecticut's green future remains largely out of reach. Why? Lawmakers, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), and utilities refuse to move away from natural gas, erroneously pegged as a bridge fuel...The state could theoretically reach the 100% supply goal with the 54 polluting fossil fuel plants still active – when there is no reason for them to be."
- **Regulators secure \$9.4M in credits for electricity customers in overbilling probe**
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "...the agency said it investigated allegations that certain third-party electricity companies did not provide information about future rate changes to utilities, resulting in some ratepayers being charged more than the amount displayed on their monthly electricity bill. The probe, which started in late 2018, ultimately determined there was "reason to believe" several electricity suppliers had violated regulations by failing to communicate updated rate cycles in a timely manner."

- [Despite the ballooning cost to redevelop State Pier in New London, supporters say it will create jobs and boost the offshore wind energy industry](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Connecticut has great hopes for the project. It's a key milestone in the state's shift to zero-carbon energy and its role in the offshore wind industry that's increasingly turning to the Atlantic Ocean, particularly off Massachusetts and Rhode Island, as welcoming terrain for wind turbines that will be assembled at the State Pier and towed out to the Atlantic."
- [Is Connecticut Prepared for a Hurricane?](#)
 - *NBC Connecticut*. "According to a report from the Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) it's estimated that a Category 2 hurricane could take down 40% of the trees and result in power outages for a month. A Category 3 Hurricane could take down 50% of trees and result in power outages for months."

CT Green Energy News - (5/14/21-Issue 218)

- [Reducing — not expanding — natural gas use is essential for climate and public health](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "...building more fracked gas (so-called natural gas, which is nearly 100 percent methane) infrastructure is not a bridge to the future, it's a bridge to disaster. Counter to the evidence that methane gas use needs to decline rapidly, our state continues to approve new gas power plants, compressor stations, and pipelines. Here's looking at you, Gov. Ned Lamont."
- [An activist's reality check for legislators](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "...toward the end of the meeting, one of [the legislators] went further, telling us that while he understood that it is our job to be visionary, and push for big changes, legislators have to 'live in reality.'..I just want to be clear: I am living in reality, the activists and advocates I work with, are living in reality. Perhaps it's different from the reality that those legislators are living in, since our reality includes people who are already being affected by climate change."
- [Commentary: Solar canopies need to be a part of Connecticut's energy plan](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "Rhode Island and Massachusetts have already incorporated solar canopies into their energy policy platforms. These states provide incentives to owners of solar canopies by supplementing the baseline credits provided for any form of solar. Importantly, this helps

encourage the adoption of solar canopies by offsetting installation costs and saving consumers money over time.”

- [‘Your Invisible Friend’: Parents outraged by pro-gas booklets made by Eversource used in Mass. school](#)
 - *WHDH TV 7 News Boston*. "Eversource is not a company that should be publishing activity books," Bahmutov said. "It sounds like propaganda and I was born in the Soviet Union, so I don't use that term lightly."
- [Strong bipartisan support for electric vehicles](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "Connecticut isn't flying blind here; we have the collective experience of states that have allowed EV makers to sell directly to consumers to inform us. According to annual reports published by the National Automobile Dealers Association in 2012 and 2019, 17 of the top 20 states for overall franchised dealer growth were states that allowed direct sales by electric car manufacturers."
- [Connecticut's C-PACE Program Surpasses \\$200 Million in Clean Energy Investment for Commercial & Nonprofit Properties](#)
 - *Environmental Leader*. "This \$200 million supported nearly 340 closed projects, which will provide an estimated lifetime energy cost savings of \$300 million, and reducing energy usage by over 5 million MMBTUs through efficiency upgrades and renewables, which resulted in over 42 megawatts of installed solar PV capacity. The implementation of these projects also created more than 2,000 direct and indirect job years. The lifetime energy savings of these projects is equal to the home energy use of 88,000 homes, or the avoidance of the use of 86 million gallons of gasoline for automobiles." Plus [Premium Promotional Product Provider Goes Solar](#)
- [Greenskies helps Connecticut colleges go solar, but further capacity may be in jeopardy](#)
 - *pvmagazine*. "The projects and their associated savings, however, may be in jeopardy, as Connecticut's current VNM [Virtual Net Metering] program has reached its capacity cap, and no further projects can be funded and built without increasing the VNM caps. If the cap is raised and the eight remaining projects are built, CSCU is poised to reap \$64.3 million in savings."

CT Green Energy News - (5/7/21-Issue 217)

- Missing

CT Green Energy News - (4/30/21-Issue 216)

- [A battle to get more clean energy into New England's electric grid is underway. Here's what you need to know.](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* " 'Because of the lack of leadership on carbon at the ISO-New England, we are at the mercy of a regional capacity market that's driving investment in more natural gas and fossil fuel power plants that we don't want and that we don't need...This is forcing us to take a serious look at the costs and benefits of participating in the ISO-New England markets'...Dykes has commandeered the other five New England states, the ISO, system stakeholders and more than a little national interest into a bona fide effort to figure out how to increase renewable power, decrease the use of fossil fuels and lower costs — or at least not let them go through the roof — and keep everyone on civil terms with each other."
- [Connecticut considers stretch code that lets cities push builders on efficiency](#)
 - *Energy News Network.* "Enacting a stretch energy code would put Connecticut in line with Massachusetts, New York, and Vermont, all of which give municipalities the option of going beyond the state building code in the area of efficiency...The cheapest way of reducing future building emissions is to build them efficiently at the start...Kops said she believes some builders are resisting the idea because 'they are worried about the learning curve involved in doing anything new.' "
- [Financial penalties ordered for Eversource, UI for storm Isaias response](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "Their failed response to Isaias put lives in danger and left families in the dark and disconnected during a deadly pandemic. PURA's strong decision correctly concludes that Eversource was ill-prepared and poorly managed throughout the storm crisis. PURA has rightly opened the door to strong penalties and corrective action, and we will continue to advocate for full accountability at every step of this process." Plus: [State Regulator Says Eversource Failed In Its Response to August Outages](#), A CT Public Radio interview with Marissa Gillett, Chair of the Public Utility Regulatory Authority.
- [Overcoming Barriers to Home Weatherization in Connecticut: A Success Story](#)
 - *Acadia Center.* "One significant barrier to installing needed weatherization and efficiency services is that about 23% (almost ¼) of all homes that go through an audit in the programs are deferred and not served due to what are known as 'health and safety barriers' such as mold, asbestos or vermiculite, and knob and tube wiring, which are rampant in older and

neglected housing stock...One idea that emerged from these workshops is to use federal funds from the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to address health and safety remediation in targeted homes."

- [Hartford County's 1st Eco-Friendly, Modern Ride Service Debuts](#)
 - *Patch*. "Corporations, campuses and private-citizens alike are looking for ways to cut emissions across the board. Now, right here in West Hartford, riders can make the zero-emission choice to ride with Electra -the only company with all electric vehicles."
- [Schneider Electric adds microgrid to existing solar array at Connecticut Catholic church campus](#)
 - *Solar Power World*. "The advanced microgrid includes technologies to enable predictive management and optimization of energy usage during grid-connected and island modes, fostering financial and environmental sustainability...Rather than the customer purchasing the microgrid system outright, Citizens Energy is able to develop, finance, own, operate and maintain the system. Meanwhile, the customer, in this case the Daughters of Mary, purchases the electricity and pays for the system via an Energy Service Agreement with no upfront or operating costs."
- [Hartford-based Verogy looking to pair solar and sheep at farms across the state](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Change is always hard. A lot of landowners and farmers looking to put in solar don't want to sell their property to somebody else who would develop it for residential or commercial use. That would take agriculture out of the mix forever," Herchel said. "Solar preserves it for future generations."

CT Green Energy News - (4/23/21-Issue 215)

- [Opposed by GOP, Lamont campaigns for climate initiative](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "It's a pretty simple idea," Haskell said. "It says that if you are going to pump pollutants into the air, then you also have to pay for the asthma that those pollutants create. It says that if you're going to pump pollutants into the air, then you also have to pay to pave the way for green infrastructure. You've got to pay for electric vehicle charging stations, you've got to pay to bring our transportation infrastructure, our public transportation infrastructure into the 21st century."
- [Biden, New England Energy Goals Could Soon Change Regional Energy Mix](#)

- *Connecticut Public Radio.* "He said the shift in resources to power New England should especially help lower electricity prices in the winter, when home heating needs can strain natural gas supplies and costs can spike. "When we're seeing onshore that real energy crunch, that's when wind speeds are the highest and the most consistent offshore here in New England," Ausere said. "And so when we project the expected wind production off these off the wind farms, it actually peaks during the winter.'" Plus: [Connecticut puts a \\$235.5 million price tag on upgrade of state pier](#)
- [Climate action now to insure Connecticut's future](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "Governor Lamont's climate change adaptation bill (HB 6441) provides municipalities with new funding tools to kick start these projects. The bill enables municipalities to create stormwater authorities, expand the scope of flood and erosion control boards, and adopt a buyer's conveyance fee to drive investment in climate-resilient infrastructure. The bill also expands the scope of the Connecticut Green Bank, building upon its success in the clean energy sector to now also include investment in adaptation and resilience projects through the bank, a strategy that has worked well for neighboring Rhode Island."
- [Electric Cars Could 'Electrify The Future' Of Northeast Transportation And Climate Initiative](#)
 - WHUS "...more EVs means less need for fossil fuels at the pump or driving gas-guzzlers that contribute to 40% of greenhouse gas emissions in New England. And states like Massachusetts and New Jersey plan to pour tens of millions into clean transportation projects...now is the time for the rest of New England to release the brakes on EV growth. And he wants Connecticut to pass a law allowing residents to buy EVs directly from manufacturers like Massachusetts and New Hampshire can." Plus: [Amid annual lobbying battle with auto dealers, Tesla to plant its flag in E. Hartford](#)
- [Getaround, Superpedestrian Are Here To Make Transportation More Accessible In Hartford](#)
 - *CT News Junkie.* "The main goal of ride-sharing in Hartford is to help with the city's sustainability efforts, advocates say, specifically to reduce the number of vehicles on the roads...He thinks car-sharing will provide new opportunities for households that identify as low-income or are underrepresented, especially because the rental cars are near transportation avenues like CTtransit."
- [CT utility regulators tentatively reject negotiated electric rate settlement with United Illuminating](#)
 - *New Haven Register.* "Connecticut utility regulators have tentatively rejected an agreement reached in March by Attorney General William Tong and the

administration of Gov. Ned Lamont that would have decreased and stabilized electric rates for customers of The United Illuminating Co. into 2023. Tong responded angrily Friday to a draft ruling from the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority rejecting the \$46.5 million COVID relief bill credit to decrease and stabilize electric rates into 2023. PURA's decision, which was issued late Wednesday, adds \$2.4 million in new costs to ratepayers, the Attorney General said, while rejecting a \$5 million voluntary contribution from UI."

CT Green Energy News - (4/16/21-Issue 214)

- [Why is Connecticut No. 1 in the cost of electricity among the 48 lower states? Here are 7 reasons.](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "Transmission costs have soared more than six-fold between 2004 and 2019, according to the New England Power Generators Association. Costs related to the electricity transmission and distribution systems that connect power plants with consumers are for construction, which is higher in the Northeast where land for generators is costlier and the price of labor is higher; operation and maintenance that includes repairing damage related to accidents or extreme storms; and improving cybersecurity...Transmission costs in New England have risen from \$869 million in 2008 to \$2.3 billion a decade later, DEEP said."
- [CT: The roads, bridges, projects CT hopes Biden infrastructure plan funds](#)
 - *Mass Transit.* "State officials want to nab a bit of the \$621 billion earmarked for transportation projects to reduce congestion on I-84 in Danbury, build new bus systems in New Haven, Bridgeport and Stamford, replace three bridges on the New Haven rail line, and upgrade the Stamford Transportation Center... DOT will also prioritize converting all 700 CTTransit buses around the state from diesel to electric over the next 15 years, improve outdated traffic signal technology such as those along the Berlin Turnpike, and upgrading sidewalks, bike lanes and pedestrian signals to reduce traffic deaths."
- [Eversource raps Connecticut regulators' report on Tropical Storm Isaias response as error-prone and failing to comply with state law](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "However, PURA cited Eversource for poor communications with customers, a failure to manage municipal liaison programs and an inadequate response to weather forecasts. About 800,000 customers lost power for days following the storm. Gov. Ned Lamont and lawmakers, responding to angry customers, criticized the utilities and enacted legislation in the fall that calls for regulators to consider utilities' performance when setting rates."

- [Connecticut Dealerships Are Trying To Block The New EV Freedom Bill — Sign Petition For EV Freedom](#)
 - *Clean Technica.* "Connecticut is fighting for EV freedom, and dealerships are fighting against this just as intently. The EV Club of Connecticut recently launched a new website to help spread awareness and truth about the benefits of allowing people to buy electric vehicles directly from the consumer instead of having to go through an outdated dealership model that only makes the prices of EVs unnecessarily higher." Plus: [The fight for Connecticut's EV Freedom is happening right now,](#)
- [Costs and Benefits Debated as Connecticut Moves Toward Carbon Caps for Gas and Diesel](#)
 - *CT Examiner.* "Backers of the plan within the Lamont administration cite estimates from the Georgetown Climate Center that the program will cost drivers an additional 5 cents at the pump in the first year, planned for 2023, and an additional 9 cents in the program's tenth year. They say the health benefits of cleaner air, and the benefits of \$1 billion in infrastructure projects over a decade, will more than compensate for the cost."
- [\\$15 million renovation ensures historical Madison library will last well into the future](#)
 - *ShoreLineTimes.* "As part of the \$15 million expansion and renovation, the library now draws its energy from two renewable energy resources. The building, expanded from 20,000 square feet to 39,000 square feet, has a photovoltaic solar energy array on the newly added second story, as well as geothermal energy for heating and cooling. "We looked at it as investment by a long-term owner...This building has been around for more than 100 years and we've tried to do what we can to make sure it's around for another 100 years."

CT Green Energy News - (4/9/21-Issue 213)

- [After passing a landmark climate law, Mass. officials now face the hard part: how to wean the state off fossil fuels](#)
 - *Boston Globe.* [Note: to read the story, enter your email address] "Some state lawmakers and environmental advocates have questioned whether utilities are serious about their public commitments to reduce emissions, after officials at Eversource, the region's largest energy provider, delivered a controversial presentation last month at an industry meeting...The slide that most concerned them was one that said Eversource supported a "consortium to combat electrification," suggesting the company and others in the industry sought to blunt the move toward renewable energy. "This is a smoking gun for someone like me...This is distressing, explosive stuff. I worry this represents the real sentiments of Eversource." Connecticut should have the same concerns.

- [Kevin Rennie: The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority should be independent](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Lamont should be pleased that the head of PURA, Marissa Gillett, distinguished herself by standing up to Eversource, the giant and influential utility, in the aftermath of its inept response to Tropical Storm Isaias last summer. It felt like at last there was someone in state government who did not worship at the alter of the insatiable gas, water and electricity behemoth."
- [Eversource appoints new CEO with emphasis on customer service and renewable energy](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Eversource Energy announced Wednesday it has appointed a new chief executive officer with a background in customer service, succeeding CEO Jim Judge, who was forced to defend the utility's response to Tropical Storm Isaias."
- [Solar Company Says It Was 'Sandbagged' During Ansonia Application](#)
 - *Valley Independent Sentinel*. "[Windham Solar] is redoubling its efforts to convince a state council to allow it to install about 6,000 solar panels on land off 31 Benz St. The Connecticut Siting Council rejected the application on March 12...Windham's solar farm application was met with opposition by neighbors in the area and Mayor David Cassetti's administration."
- [Siting Council to Hold Public Hearing on 47-acre North Stonington Solar Project](#)
 - *CT Examiner*. "...when the town was first approached in 2016 about a possible solar project, the plans only included the southern portion of the properties that is a former gravel pit. The town did not resist those plans, because the gravel pit seemed to be a good fit, despite the property being in a residential zone. The North Stonington Board of Selectman said in a [letter to the council](#) that they were concerned that the project would clear trees in an undisturbed section of core forest on the property, rather than use the former gravel pit."

CT Green Energy News - (4/2/21-Issue 212)

- [Opinion: Transportation and Climate Initiative is CT's vehicle for success](#)
 - *The New Haven Register*. "Some in the fossil fuel industry are engaging in "big lie" tactics to create opposition to something that should be entirely uncontroversial: that corporations should be responsible for the harmful impacts of the products they sell. That is not an anti-business idea. Quite the opposite; it's a pro-business idea that incentivizes innovation and rewards the

most efficient and responsible businesses." Plus: **Environment Committee Moves Forward With Multistate Carbon Compact**

- **OP-ED | Hang On, Folks: A Progressive Champions Free Markets**

- *CT News Junkie* "For the uninitiated, as the law currently stands, automobile manufacturers are not allowed to sell directly to consumers. Instead, new vehicles must be sold through franchise dealerships. In other words, a middleman is required to complete the transaction. The dealer therefore takes his cut, whether his service is truly needed or not. We know why that is. The current law protects auto dealerships from meaningful competition,...Naturally, the dealers are apoplectic at the thought of the state allowing new automobiles to be sold directly to consumers, as just about every other product is." Plus: **Are EVs destroying the car dealership?**

- **State bets on renewable energy with shift in investment strategy**

- *Hartford Business Journal*. "Wind and solar projects will make up a bigger portion of the state's investments under a shift in strategy announced today by state Treasurer Shawn Wooden...By investing in renewable energies, Connecticut can be part of the solution to reduce our carbon footprint while also benefiting our economy and saving taxpayer dollars in the long-term."

- **Clean energy activists oppose air permits for Middletown NRG power plant**

- *The Middletown Press*. "First it was Killingly. Now it is Middletown. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection continues to greenlight additional unnecessary fracked gas generation and increased carbon emissions, polluting our communities and speeding up the climate crisis"

- **Connecticut set to become a national leader in offshore wind**

- *CT Mirror Viewpoints*. "State Pier's location near several offshore lease areas presents a strategic opportunity to site wind turbine component assembly and fabrication facilities in Connecticut as the industry continues to grow, and we are working with industry leaders and our state partners to make State Pier the go-to hub for offshore wind in the Northeast." Plus: **Northeast governors need Biden to deliver on offshore wind**

- **Eversource Energy Center research optimizes renewable energy**

- *The Daily Campus*. "The Eversource Energy Center, a partnership between Eversource Inc. and the University of Connecticut, is conducting research on renewable energy integration. Integration involves identifying renewable energy resources and storage to maintain the electric grid against weather hazards."

CT Green Energy News - (3/26/21-Issue 211)

- [Could a catastrophic blackout like the one in Texas happen in Connecticut?](#)
 - *CT Mirror* "First off, Texas sacrificed reliability for cheaper costs as it designed and regulated its electrical grid. Anyone who has paid an electric bill in Connecticut knows that Connecticut's regulators believe in investing in reliability. And our solar fields and wind turbines are winterized, unlike those in the Lone Star State. Another piece of the puzzle is that Connecticut is part of the broader ISO-NE regional transmission organization, which brings with it rigorous standards to participate in the market, unlike Texas."
- [Transportation Committee approves bill to allow direct electric vehicle sales in CT](#)
 - *CT Post*. "Many of us think this state should be doing everything it can to make it easier, more convenient to get behind the wheel of an electric vehicle, and instead our state laws do just the opposite. We force people who want to buy a Tesla, Rivian or Lucid to go out of state to make that purchase." Plus: **The New Green Deal? Connecticut's, on EVs, is old and brown**
- [Neighbors call on developer to move North Stonington solar project south](#)
 - *The Westerly Sun*. "...the solar array would generate 9.9 megawatts of electricity that would then be sold to Eversource and United Illuminating. The size of the array and generation rate are set by contractual obligations with Eversource and would need to be built in Connecticut within close proximity to the current site, said Weaver in response to questions from residents about why the site was chosen."
- [Connecticut regulators sharply criticize Eversource before and after Isaias and say UI's work was 'underwhelming,' though acceptable](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Regulators investigating the utilities' handling of Isaias before and after it slammed into Connecticut on Aug. 4 cited Eversource for poor communications with customers, a failure to manage municipal liaison programs and an inadequate response to weather forecasts. The Berlin-based utility fell short in "meeting its obligation to secure adequate resources in a timely manner to protect the public safety and to provide for the overall public interest."
- [State Pier wind project gets public hearing](#)
 - *The Day*. "Advocates of the project see it as an opportunity for the state to meet its renewable energy goals, modernize the port and provide an economic boost

for the region. Opponents have criticized the use of the pier exclusively for the offshore wind industry."

CT Green Energy News - (3/19/21-Issue 210)

- [Make green jobs good jobs](#)
 - *CT Mirror* "In the 1930s, manufacturing became the dominant driver of the U.S. economy and a major generator of employment. But those jobs were dangerous, exhausting, and low-paid. It was only after the industry unionized that these jobs became the primary path to middle-class membership. Now, as the economy shifts and clean technology jobs increase, we have an opportunity to make energy jobs the new path to economic prosperity instead of settling at poverty wages as many retail jobs have."
- [Opinion: Restoring regulatory integrity in CT](#)
 - *New Haven Register*. "If you would be comfortable with having Connecticut's Superior Court reporting to our attorney general or chief state's attorney, you may be OK with having our utilities regulator report to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, as it does today. Connecticut's Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, or PURA, decides cases where DEEP is a party, but it is also a branch of DEEP. PURA reports to DEEP, which controls PURA's budget, personnel decisions and organizational structure. Yet PURA is expected to be impartial and unbiased in cases involving DEEP."
- [Five to 10 cents a gallon: A small price to pay for meaningful reduction in pollution](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "Ask a parent rushing their child to the emergency room with an asthma attack or an elderly person gasping for air or suffering from a heart attack in a summer heat wave whether they would mind less air pollution in Connecticut's cities in the summers ahead. Ask anybody who loses power from a massive wind storm or hurricane whether they think state government should be doing our fair share to decrease the effects of climate change by decreasing our carbon footprint. We can't solve everything, but a five or ten cent price increase is something this economy is clearly capable of supporting." Plus: **Officials Promote Multi-State Carbon Cap Agreement At School**
- [Solar Panel Work Commences At 3 Vernon Schools](#)
 - *Patch*. "Vernon Superintendent of Schools Joseph Macary said the cost of electricity for the local education system goes down 4 cents per kilowatt hour with the panels. Purcaro said traditional power consumption between the three schools and the police station, ...is projected to go down by 633,296 kilowatt hours each year. That translates to a savings of \$1.299 million over 25 years, Purcaro said."

- [Residents, officials oppose solar farm proposed in North Stonington](#)
 - *The Day*. "A Tennessee company is seeking approval from the Connecticut Siting Council to install 28,971 solar panels on one-third of the 157 acres of forested land it owns off Route 184 west of Boombridge...Silicon Ranch Corp...operates 135 solar facilities in 15 states, plans to clear 47 of the 157 residential zoned acres for the panels...The panels would generate 9.9 megawatts of electricity and the power would be sold to Eversource and United Illuminating." Plus: **State Council Rejects Solar Farm Application In Ansonia**
- [The U.S. East Coast is ripe for offshore wind development](#)
 - *Green Biz*. "New York, New Jersey, Virginia, Massachusetts, **Connecticut**, Rhode Island and Maryland have together committed, through legislation or executive action, to buying about 30,000 megawatts (MW) of offshore electricity by 2035 — enough to power roughly 20 million homes, according to the American Clean Power Association (ACPA), which advocates for renewable energy."

CT Green Energy News - (3/12/21-Issue 209)

- [Opinion: TCI a good investment in Connecticut's future](#)
 - *CT Post*. "The Transportation and Climate Initiative Program, or TCI, is a new, regional market-based program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation and generate proceeds to reinvest in clean transportation options and infrastructure...TCI is good for the climate, good for the economy and good for the health of Connecticut's residents — particularly our most vulnerable...politically disingenuous critics have already started a fearmongering campaign falsely claiming the program will increase gas prices by 17, 38 or even 61 cents per gallon. This is fake news." Plus: **Activists press Connecticut lawmakers for equity on transportation emissions**
- [A new program is making battery storage affordable for affordable housing \(and everyone else\)](#)
 - *Utility Dive*. "However, a battery storage program first launched in Massachusetts, and now available in Rhode Island, **Connecticut** and New Hampshire, is beginning to transform the landscape for battery storage in homes, businesses and nonprofits. Unlike most battery storage programs and incentives, the design of the program, known as ConnectedSolutions in Massachusetts, focuses on supporting the energy needs of the regional electric grid instead of limiting the benefits to individual facilities."

- [Solar MAP guides Connecticut munis through project development process](#)
 - *PV Magazine*. "The Green Bank also arranges for project financing through a power purchase agreement (PPA). Since 2014, the Green Bank Solar PPA has facilitated solar projects at municipal buildings with no upfront installation costs, no new debt to incur, and no operations and maintenance costs. The Green Bank said the PPA allows municipalities to lock in low electricity prices so the project cash flow is positive in year one."
- [Avangrid offshore project moves toward approval](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "Connecticut has not committed to buy electricity from Vineyard Wind 1, though it [has secured 800 megawatts worth of future renewable energy](#) from another of Avangrid's proposed projects, an off-shore wind farm called Park City Wind."
- [Bills Would Require Rooftop Solar on Mass. Buildings](#)
 - *Eco RI*. "The Solar Neighborhoods Act...would require solar panels to be installed on the roofs of newly built homes, apartments, and office buildings. The bill allows for exemptions if a roof is too shaded for solar panels to be effective...requiring rooftop solar panels on all new homes built in Massachusetts would add more than 2,300 megawatts of solar capacity by 2045, nearly doubling the solar capacity that has been installed in Massachusetts to date."

CT Green Energy News - (3/5/21-Issue 208)

- [Largest Solar Farm in the Northeastern United States Approved for East Windsor](#)
 - *CT Examiner*. "Connecticut agreed to buy 20 MW of the project's 120 MW as part of a 2018 solicitation for zero-carbon energy proposals. Rhode Island agreed to purchase 50 MW, and the remainder will be sold to smaller utilities and businesses in New England."
- [Florsheim Announces Sale of NRG Plant, Possible Energy Storage Plan](#)
 - *CT Examiner*. "The announcement comes just over two weeks after NRG failed to [secure funding](#) in a regional energy auction it needed to build a [new turbine](#) to replace two half-century-old turbines at its plant on the Connecticut River in the south of Middletown...NRG indicated it would be looking into a different proposal for the plant that would include energy storage that the company believed would be more competitive with the regional auction price."
- [New Program Rules Adopted by CHEAPR Board](#)

- *EV Club of CT.* A very helpful review of recent changes to the program, including Higher Incentive Levels, Low MSRP Cap, and New Income-Limited Incentives, among others.
- [Connecticut solar developers enlist sheep to cut grass and ease tensions](#)
 - *Energy News Network.* "The proposals reflect the growing interest throughout the region in what's called agrivoltaics — the practice of combining agricultural uses and renewable energy production on the same parcel of land. The idea is that "we essentially utilize the sheep for vegetation maintenance, and it allows the property to continue in an agricultural use."

CT Green Energy News - (2/26/21-Issue 207)

- [Lamont must stop waffling on the Killingly power plant issue](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "The Killingly plant isn't being built to meet Connecticut's energy needs. Rather, it is being built to meet the (supposed) needs of the entire New England energy market. So, although the natural gas plant would be built in Connecticut, impact our air quality, pollute our waters, and complicate our climate change targets, the benefits —extra power to the grid— will be felt by other New England states...Instead of pumping more energy into the grid, we could reduce our energy needs —and our electricity bills— by way of energy efficiency improvements." Plus: **Gas pipeline will threaten water quality, wildlife and wetlands**
- [Investment in electric grid infrastructure is critical to economic progress](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "What many do not realize is that the foundation for electricity and broadband are the same: they are both delivered via utility poles, wires, underground conduit, and increasingly, sub-sea cables. A major federal investment in that joint use infrastructure — the magnitude as seen in earlier economic crises — would create millions of new jobs, harness the power of renewable energy, and bring equal access to education, telehealth, government services, employment opportunities, and the digital economy delivered by the Internet."
- [Natural Gas Companies Have Their Own Plans To Go Low-Carbon](#)
 - *CT Public Radio.* "But Sasan Saadat, research and policy analyst with the environmental group Earthjustice, says renewable gas from waste methane and hydrogen simply can't replace all the natural gas we're using today. His group analyzed gas industry data and found only enough waste methane potential to cover 13% of current natural gas use in the U.S. 'You don't even have enough of this gas to make more than a dent in overall gas demand,' he says. 'So, it's sort of a dead end solution.'"

- [Unpaid Electric Bills May Leave Eversource Customers on the Hook for Further Rate Hikes](#)
 - *CT Examiner.* "Residential electric customers owe \$276 million to Eversource for bills that haven't been paid in over a month...That debt amounts to about \$250 for each of Eversource's 1.1 million residential customers across Connecticut, and the company has told shareholders that it expects state regulators will approve rate increases to compensate for the unpaid bills."
- [VW settlement funding shifts to electric vehicle charging stations](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "Much of the pending money is slated for EV charging infrastructure, which is a shift from the first two rounds of VW-settlement funding in 2018 and 2019, when money largely went to replacing diesel vehicles with cleaner technologies. Installing more chargers is seen as crucial for Connecticut to meet its aggressive EV adoption goals, because it helps alleviate "range anxiety" felt by drivers worried they'll run out of power on the road." Plus: **Bullish homegrown electric vehicle charger manufacturers could see major growth from CT policy shift**

CT Green Energy News - (2/19/21-Issue 206)

- [Five takeaways from Connecticut's new residential solar program changes](#)
 - *Energy News Network.* "After years of debate over reforming the state's solar program, stakeholders widely praised the new rules released last week. Connecticut utility regulators have reconfigured the state's residential solar program in an effort to ensure its growth and drive innovation." Plus: **PURA Establishes New Residential Renewable Energy Program** (FAQs from PURA)
- [Could Rolling Blackouts Happen In New England?](#)
 - *NHPR.* "I think the biggest single issue is that winter is normal in New Hampshire and across the Northeast. We are used to seeing these types of intense winter storms and multiple low-degree days. The problem in Texas is, that's not normal there. This is a once-in-fifty, one-in-one-hundred-years type of event. And given that, the overall energy infrastructure system has not been developed and constructed with this type of severe weather in mind."
- [Amid unprecedented storm damage, Eversource's 2020 profits rise to \\$1.21B](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "Eversource said a lower effective tax rate also benefited its fourth-quarter bottom line."
- [Lamont Defends Environmental, Transportation Agenda](#)

- *CT News Junkie*. "Lamont dismissed as "nonsense" the idea that drivers and truckers may avoid Connecticut roadways in an effort to avoid new user fees or high gas prices. He said drivers would need to travel through states with even higher fees to avoid Connecticut. You're paying for that the whole way up the East Coast, it's only when you get to Connecticut that everybody gets a free ride except for the poor taxpayers of our state," he said." Plus: **Connecticut Gov. Lamont unveils environmental priorities amid dispute over impact on gasoline prices**
- **As Boston gets on board, community power compacts gain steam**
 - *22 News WWLP.com*. "...the program is part of the city's commitment to environmental justice and one of its goals is to make renewable energy more accessible to residents who are socially vulnerable and have likely been disproportionately impacted by climate change...With a lot of aggregation programs we're seeing them go five percentage points, 10 percentage points, much higher beyond that standard to procure more green electricity for their consumers. And that's, from a local level, probably one of the most if not the most impactful ways to reduce emissions if you're trying to meet climate goals."

CT Green Energy News - (2/12/21-Issue 205)

- **CT has big plans for tackling climate change. Now it has to make them happen.**
 - *CT Mirror*. "While the GC3 report in particular is receiving praise for its breadth – there is also concern that its sprawling array of options offers no blueprint for what the state should do next. And there is concern that even with the more than 230 people who participated in preparing the report, some key voices were left out. All of which raises the question: Now what?"
- **Democrats Split Over Proposed Moratorium on Fossil Fuel Plants in Connecticut**
 - *CT Examiner*. "We have an initiative to move to 100 percent, carbon-free electricity, so why are we powering up new plants that burn fossil fuels?" [Representative] Cohen said. "We have an existential crisis on our hands with climate change, and we need to start getting serious about shutting down dirty energy and moving to cleaner options, such as wind and solar." Plus: **As Finger-Pointing Over Unloved Gas Plant Continues, Who Really Gets To Call The Shots?**
- **Report: Connecticut ranked 13th in encouraging electric vehicle use**
 - *New Haven Register*. "Connecticut has taken a number of important steps to encourage and enable residents to use electric vehicles...But (the state) should rapidly step up its efforts, which could in turn reduce greenhouse gas

emissions that cause climate change, decrease air pollution, and cut fueling and maintenance costs for individuals and businesses." Plus: **Cruising to Electric Cars**

- **Middletown first in CT to have all-electric school bus**
 - *Middletown Press*. "We like to be first here in Middletown," Mayor Ben Florsheim said. "We like to be the leaders when it comes to new, progressive ideas that are going to not only help our environment, not only protect our future, but also it makes sense for our school district budget, our city budget, and for our taxpayers."
- **Plus Power Breaks Open Market for Massive Batteries in New England**
 - *GreenTech Media*. "Large standalone battery plants had not succeeded in New England's capacity market. Until now. The upshot is that a region with big climate goals and physical constraints on its natural-gas supply will meet its hours of greatest electricity demand with a bit more battery power and a bit less gas-fired power."
- **Report assesses solar impact on ISOs and reliability**
 - *pv magazine* "The New England Independent System Operator (ISO-NE) had the second-highest penetration, with solar generation equivalent to 4.3% of annual load in 2019. All other ISOs had annual solar generation shares at or below 2%, the report said." **Note:** Solar accounted for 0.3% of Connecticut's electricity in 2019, but 5.3% in Massachusetts.

CT Green Energy News - (2/5/21-Issue 204)

- **Eyeing Obstacles, Dykes Offers Optimism for State's Green Energy Goals**
 - *CT Examiner*. "Whether Millstone continues to run after its ratepayer-subsidized state contract ends in 2029 also plays a major factor in Connecticut's renewable energy goals, considering it meets about half of the state's energy needs and is the largest zero-carbon generator in New England. The fate of Millstone is one of the biggest question marks, and it weighs heavily on the plan – referenced 130 times in the 173- page document."
- **Newington considering solar power switch which could save town over \$5 million**
 - *New Britain Herald*. "The portfolio of Newington sites the company examined would provide a cumulative energy cost savings over a 20-year term of \$5.17 million or an average annual savings to the town of \$258,446."

- [Historic Inn Replaces Oil Burning System with Energy Efficient Electric Heat Pumps](#)
 - *Renewable Energy Magazine.* "We are always excited when a new type of property, in this case a boutique inn, takes advantage of C-PACE to improve their energy efficiency. This is also a great example of progress toward the State's goal of electrifying buildings," said Mackey Dykes, Vice President of Financing Programs at the Connecticut Green Bank. "Commercial properties of all sizes should look at their HVAC systems for opportunities to unlock savings.."
- [Emanuel Synagogue in West Hartford Partnering with Verogy for Solar Installation](#)
 - *we-ha.com.* "Once operational, the synagogue can expect to see savings on their energy costs throughout the next two decades...This project enables us to devote more resources to important synagogue missions, including fulfilling our obligation to preserve and improve the world around us by reducing the purchase of electricity produced by fossil-fueled power plants." Plus: **Solar Array Completed at West Hartford's King Philip Middle School**
- [Boston kicks off community choice electricity program, aiming to surpass state's renewables requirement](#)
 - *Utility Dive.* "The opt-out program leverages Boston's collective buying power in a bid to deliver greener, locally sourced and more affordable electricity to customers — appealing to some consumer protection groups and environmental justice advocates alike."
- [Providence rule would require energy benchmarking for all large buildings](#)
 - Energy News Network. "The goal of benchmarking and reducing our energy is not going to stop us from doing what we need to do for business," he says. "But we want to source that energy responsibly as well...Over 30 cities and two states in the U.S. have already adopted very similar policies," Elorza said. "And it works — what gets measured gets managed"

CT Green Energy News - (1/29/21-Issue 203)

- [A shocker in the plan to finally update residential solar rates: No complaints](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "How a homeowner is paid for the power it sends to the grid has been a flashpoint for years. The battle has been between the utilities and just about everyone else...Cited as one of the plan's most creative components is allowing solar purchasers to build systems larger than their current electric needs to accommodate up to two electric vehicle chargers and/or conversion of the home to electric heat. The existing program is supposed to limit system sizes to avoid

owners using their solar power to essentially become generators and make money from them."

- [**Dominion officials discuss future of Millstone Nuclear Power Station**](#)

- *The Day*. "Last week, the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission convened to discuss the possibility of expanding license renewal for nuclear reactors to 11 years, potentially opening the door for Millstone's reactors to remain licensed until 2075 and 2085, respectively. The exploratory meeting was meant to begin an official discussion regarding license renewal for 100 years of plant operation. Nuclear plants originally were licensed for 40 years, which was later extended another 20 years to 60, and a subsequent renewal brought that number to 80 years."

- [**Middletown questions energy company's plans during 'climate emergency'**](#)

- *Middletown Press*. "Local environmentalists are opposing a plan by NRG Energy to replace two turbines at the Middletown natural gas plant, saying increasing generation has the potential to increase pollution by up to 76 tons per year, as well as release five times more carbon dioxide."

- [**Environmental Priorities — Solar Energy and Land Conservation — Compete in the Legislature**](#)

- *CT Examiner*. "It's holding solar projects to a higher standard than other forms of development. It's really frustrating that these ideas are getting traction. Policy like this isn't considering the magnitude of the climate crisis." [On the other hand...] "I know that seems like a small amount, but we don't have a lot of prime and important farmland left in Connecticut, and we're losing a lot to development. So we need to save as much as we can."

- [**Manchester officials consider allowing electric vehicle charging stations with ads**](#)

- *The Hartford Courant*. "The proposed changes would open much of the town to the charging stations. Volta, which runs stations in Waterbury, Milford and Norwalk, offers electricity for free in exchange for running ads at each station."

- [**Aquarion proposes solar panels on roof, carport as part of parking lot expansion**](#)

- *The Monroe Sun*. "We're all doing what we can for the environment these days and this is gonna offset close to 70 percent of the energy presently being used by this facility...The roof mounted system would account for about 60 percent of the energy production for this project and the carport would provide around 40 percent."

CT Green Energy News - (1/22/21-Issue 202)

- [Editorial: Take concrete steps to meet climate goals](#)
 - *CT Insider*. "Connecticut has been fighting a long battle over yet another giant power plant, this one in Killingly, near the Rhode Island border, that would produce 650 megawatts of power. Environmentalists have been against it for five years, but the state had allowed it to proceed along the approval pathway until recently despite energy policies that seem to argue against its construction."
- [Final plans approved for Mansfield school](#)
 - *The Chronicle*. "The goal is to make the school **the first net-zero public school in the state**, meaning it will return as much energy to the grid as it uses in one year. [Architect] Szczypek said, "until recently, school buildings were being built at a rate of using 100 kilowatts per square foot per year. That has changed over time and it was reduced to 50 kilowatts per square foot per year. Szczypek said there is a goal of getting the energy usage down to under 20 kilowatts per square foot per year, noting it is "very, very efficient.""
- [Lamont: 'I don't want to build Killingly' Energy Center](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "The governor hinted at slowing permitting and being able to "play some games there." He also hinted that market forces may ultimately take over. "I'm not positive you're going to see Killingly built at all," he said."
- [Mass. building gas ban movement expands after 2020 setback](#)
 - *S&P Global*. "A dozen towns and cities across Massachusetts have partnered with the Rocky Mountain Institute, or RMI, to advocate for the right to require all-electric construction in their communities. The communities ultimately aim to change Massachusetts law, allowing local governments to pursue climate goals through building electrification." Plus: **Boston zoning change would require net-zero emissions from new buildings**. Connecticut?
- [Uber launches electric vehicle program in Fairfield County](#)
 - *CT Post*. "Uber users in Fairfield County and 1,400 cities around North America now have the ability to specifically request an eco-friendly car...The program, called **Uber Green**, allows riders to pay an extra \$1 for an electric or hybrid car, beginning on Wednesday, and the fee will go towards helping more drivers transition to electric vehicles."

CT Green Energy News - (1/15/21-Issue 201)

- [Connecticut plan lays out options for reaching zero-carbon power by 2040](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "State energy officials conclude that eliminating emissions in two decades is feasible and affordable, but it will require changes from grid operator ISO New England...The market structure has come under criticism for

over-procuring capacity, and effectively barring clean energy investments from the capacity market while favoring fossil-fueled generation."

- **Not just environmental problem; Killingly plant is a great target**
 - *CT Mirror*. "Back then I considered climate change a national security issue... and I still do. Much of this centers upon the need to decentralize the power grid. Decentralization entails using many smaller power plants located close to the points of end use rather than using large plants requiring extensive transmission facilities. The latter also creates more energy losses as well as making us more vulnerable. So, as we prepare as best we can for climate change mitigation and adaptation, decentralization of the electric grid is a must." Plus: **Student activists protest in Hartford and demand state action to cancel natural gas plant in Killingly**
- **Connecticut regulators want to pay utility customers to sync storage with demand**
 - *Energy News Network*. "Connecticut utility regulators are proposing the state's first electric storage program, hoping to get batteries widely deployed to serve both as emergency backup power in ratepayers' homes and virtual power plants that can feed the grid during times of peak demand."
- **It Is Time for EV Freedom**
 - *EV Club of CT*. "Consumers deserve to come first and should be able to freely choose EVs that fit their lifestyles, needs, and budgets to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) and more rapidly transition to a zero-carbon economy. Outdated dealer franchise laws have been used as protectionism to prevent Tesla and other new EV manufacturers from opening stores in CT."
- **Food could hold the key to fixing the state's waste disposal problems**
 - *CT Mirror*. "Getting food waste out of the trash may also provide the key to how Connecticut repairs the dated, expensive, fragmented and environmentally fraught waste systems in the state. But the question is whether it makes more sense to get the food out of the waste stream first or whether other parts of the system get fixed first so the food part follows. It's a chicken-egg problem, and which comes first isn't clear. What is clear, officials say, is that food waste cannot be ignored any longer." Plus: **Could 'Pay As You Throw' Be The Future Of Connecticut's Trash?**
- **Hartford's Verogy aims to soothe growing friction between solar developers, farmland advocates**
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "Sheep grazing will occur at its recently approved East Windsor and Bristol solar farms, and potentially at a Southington project it has pending before the Connecticut Siting Council, which has purview over energy generation projects of 2 megawatts or greater. Verogy has also pledged

to create native pollinator habitats at those three sites, as well as others, by planting specific seed mixes."

CT Green Energy News - (1/8/21-Issue 200)

- [Climate science demands a halt to Killingly power plant](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "I want to live in a state where climate science wins, and policy is determined by what we know about the toxic role of fossil fuels. Going forward with [the Killingly Energy Center] would amount to climate denial as glaring as the COVID-19 denial seen in the refusal to wear a mask or to observe physical distancing."
- [We Already Have the Key to a Clean Energy Economy. We're Just Not Using It](#)
 - *Clean Tech Media*. "However, the real question that regulators should be asking — and are asking in **Connecticut**, New Jersey, New York and elsewhere — is: "How can we get maximum value from smart meters for customers, our economy and clean energy goals?"
- [New London harbor redevelopment stalls as relationship between city and Connecticut Port Authority sours](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "This project will bring a significant number of direct and indirect jobs to the region, which will benefit New London and the surrounding communities, and the Lamont Administration agrees, that the city of New London is entitled to adequate support from the state, and beyond."
- [Renewed Investment in Gas-Fired Energy Spurs Debate in Middletown](#)
 - *CT Examiner*. "According to Martha Klein, communications chair for Connecticut Sierra Club, the new turbine will provide some benefit in terms of emissions, but she said regulators underestimate the amount of methane gas that leaks from natural gas pipelines, as well as the massive upstream effects of fracking to extract that gas in the first place."
- [Plug In Your Electric Vehicle in Downtown Essex](#)
 - *Patch*. "The brainchild of the Sustainable Essex Committee, the EV charging station project cost \$14,084, half of which was raised by Sustainable Essex who had a goal of raising \$7,042 but ended up raising \$7,717. The additional funds came from Sustainable Connecticut's Community Match Fund program."

CT Green Energy News - (1/1/21-Issue 199)

- [As permits for Killingly gas plant advance, environmentalists step up demands to pull the plug](#)

- *Hartford Courant*. "Activists say the urgency of climate change and reducing greenhouse gases require Lamont to bring consistency to his own policies that call for greater reliance on offshore wind and a drive to cut auto emissions along congested interstate corridors."
- [Climate change in Connecticut in 2020: A massive storm, drought and a push to develop more wind energy](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "A destructive tropical storm, drought, power outages and a push to develop more wind energy defined a changing climate, and the response from Connecticut officials, in 2020."
- [West Hartford: New solar array on middle school to save taxpayers \\$250,000 while cutting carbon output](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Solar power projects on municipal roofs isn't a new idea, but it's been gaining popularity in Connecticut recently. Darien and New Canaan did those installations on their town halls last year, and communities in California were putting them up more than a decade ago. West Haven recently announced it will add solar panels when reconstructing its high school, with estimated savings of \$1 million over the next 25 years."

CT Green Energy News - (12/25/20-Issue 198)

- [CT signs on to regional plan to cut transportation emissions](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "But the biggest to-be-determined task for each state – and arguably the most dramatic part of TCI — is the environmental justice and equity component. The regional structure requires that at least 35% of each state's auction proceeds be re-invested in the over-burdened and under-served communities that typically suffer disproportionately from the impacts of climate change and pollution and often have the most limited, and frequently the dirtiest, transportation options. That can often mean an old car that uses a lot of gas, which means the owner will pay more than someone who has a newer, more efficient one."
- [Mayors and Climate Protection Best Practices](#)
 - *United States Conference of Mayors*. Each year the United States Conference of Mayors sponsors the Mayor's Climate Protection award. They make awards in two categories - for cities greater than 100,000 in population and for cities under 100,000 in population. This year in the large city award Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania won the award and **Hartford was one of 5 finalists for Hartford's work in Energy Justice. Mayor Shari Cantor of West Hartford won the small municipality award** for the town's work in Virtual Net Metering. Connecticut was well represented!

- [Solar-Powered Box Mountain Communications Tower Is 1st Of Its Kind — Uses PACE Financing](#)
 - *Clean Technica.* "As the first use of PACE on a communications tower, this innovative project is a model for how PACE can be used to increase the sustainability of our critical infrastructure. We applaud the work of the Green Bank in completing this project and look forward to seeing more deals like this one."

CT Green Energy News - (12/18/20-Issue 197)

- [Gillett nudges PURA into spotlight as challenges mount](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "When there's a void, when consumers are not getting access to information in a transparent or timely fashion, it's incumbent on me to fill that void...In the past year, Gillett has given PURA a new profile as she seeks to both modernize the state's electric grid and hold utilities accountable for storm preparedness and pandemic policies."
- [As Officials Ponder, Advocates Provide Clear Message: Stop Killingly Gas Plant](#)
 - *CT Public Radio.* "It clearly does not fall in line with our targets for Connecticut for moving towards green energy and clean energy. It's the absolute opposite of that," Flexer said. "If we say Connecticut is committed to green energy, why is this power plant moving forward? It makes absolutely no sense."
- [Solar panels to be installed atop nine public buildings in Manchester to build solar sites](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "Solar panels are to be installed on nine public buildings in Manchester, saving the town a projected \$150,000 a year in power costs...The town will host the solar panels and buy electricity from the Green Bank, a quasi-public agency created by the state legislature in 2011. The Green Bank in turn gets tax credits and income from the sale of electricity to Eversource."
- [Solar panels likely to cover 60% of historic Bristol farmland next year. The panels are expected to power the equivalent of 733 homes](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "Preservationists warn that the state has lost thousands of acres of agricultural property to solar development in the last decade. But advocates for solar power point out that in many cases, there were no buyers to run a profitable farm on the property...The solar power is substantially less expensive than electricity purchased off the power grid, so Bristol would end up saving money on its energy bill."
- [Connecticut Green Bank targeting climate change](#)

- *The Bond Buyer*. "Climate change is real and there is so much more to do," the bank's chief executive, Bryan Garcia, said on an investor call in the summer. "We wanted to create a financial instrument that allows Americans to invest in the climate economy and the future they want to see."
- [Solar Project Completed At West Hartford School](#)
 - *Patch*. "Recent increases in our utility costs make it even more important that we take control of our energy expenses," said Catherine Diviney, the energy specialist for West Hartford. "Partnering with Verogy again is helping West Hartford save money and support clean, renewable locally-generated energy; it's a real win-win."
- [A Danbury battery startup business faces its first big test](#)
 - *CT Post*. "A Danbury startup flipped the switch on a bank of batteries in New York that could be built out over time to cap electricity prices — with Connecticut currently studying systems toward the same goal. "

CT Green Energy News - (12/11/20-Issue 196)

- [Poll suggests strong support for Northeast cap-and-invest transportation initiative](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "The Transportation and Climate Initiative, or TCI, is modeled after the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, a cooperative cap-and-trade effort that has helped drive down power plant emissions in the region. Participating states would set a cap on emissions from cars, trucks and other vehicles. Transportation fuel suppliers would have to buy allowances at auction for every ton of carbon dioxide their fuel will generate beyond the cap."
- [Opinion: Avert climate and financial disaster. Get off fracked gas](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Connecticut is falling behind in moving from leak-prone fracked gas to cleaner solutions like renewables for electricity generation and heat pumps for heating. These technologies are readily available and affordable. Yet Connecticut is still expanding the use of fracked gas by approving the new gas power plant in Killingly and supporting the expansion of major fracked-gas interstate pipelines."
- [Two sides to the Hamden solar farm issue](#)
 - *CT Mirror Viewpoints*. "Clearly operation of the solar farm provides a climate-related benefit that far outweighs the damage from the loss of the forest, clearly beyond the reasonable error estimates provided. It may be concluded that this solar farm provides a great net benefit to the climate, promoting the state's renewable energy goals."

- [DEEP should make solving the puzzle of siting large scale solar a priority](#)
 - *CT Mirror Viewpoints.* "Environmental protection demands that we find a balance between competing resources. When we consider a renewable energy such as large-scale solar, we need to balance the value of reduction in greenhouse gasses with carbon storage/sequestration and other eco-system services of soil and forest resources."
- [Pollinator-friendly solar projects move forward with new initiative led by Encore Renewable Energy and Greenbacker Capital to build solar sites](#)
 - *Encore Renewable Energy.* "The new pollinator-friendly solar sites will support diverse and healthy pollinator populations with a diverse mix of native grasses and flowering plants. The higher upfront costs of establishing pollinator-friendly ground cover in Vermont and Maine are offset by long term savings for vegetative management. Pollinator-friendly ground cover at solar sites also allows for healthy plant ground cover that shades the soil, creating cooler ground conditions that may mitigate the negative effects of heat on solar energy production."
- [Closure Of MIRA Plant Sets Off Scramble To Recycle Thousands Of Tons Of Wasted Food](#)
 - *WNPR.* "After decades of burning trash, the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) will close its Hartford incinerator by July 2022. That means hundreds of thousands of tons of trash will be destined for out-of-state landfills, a costly reality that has state and municipal officials questioning how to quickly reduce trash volumes. One solution? Recycling leftover food. "

CT Green Energy News - (12/4/20-Issue 195)

- [PURA overhauls electric rate process, restricts costs utilities can recoup](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "PURA has begun demystifying and unwinding decades of ratemaking policies that have evolved into a less customer-friendly, less transparent framework...Moving forward, we are focused on making sure the risk borne almost exclusively right now by our ratepayers is shifted and shared equitably with utilities and their shareholders."
- [A clean energy reversal in the works](#)
 - *The News-Times.* "For FuelCell Energy, a company that has long struggled to gain a foothold in the clean power market with its technology based on chemical conversion of hydrogen, it could become another in a long line of

snubs by the state in awarding contracts for renewable energy projects...Fuel cells do consume natural gas — which some environmental activists oppose in any form for new plants."

- [**‘A huge setback’: Candlewood Mountain solar project dealt blow**](#)
 - *News-Times*. "Companies planning to buy power from a proposed solar farm on Candlewood Mountain have indicated they're canceling agreements to do..."
- [**‘No net loss!’ Don’t cut down forests to build solar sites**](#)
 - *CT Mirror Viewpoints*. "The value of forest ecosystem services must also be considered. A forest is not just a bunch of trees but a biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment. One of the most important ecosystem services provided by a forest is the protection of drinking water supplies. "
- [**Report finds small-scale solar has saved New Englanders more than \\$1.1 billion over six years**](#)
 - *Solar Power World*. "Notably, these savings were enjoyed not only by people who own solar panels, but by everyone who relies on a utility company for their electricity...The new report also shows just how much money local solar saves by reducing the total amount of pollution associated with our electricity usage. "

CT Green Energy News - (11/27/20-Issue 194)

- [**Retroactive energy efficiency loans offer pandemic lifeline for some businesses**](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "The Connecticut Green Bank, which administers that state's C-PACE program, offers retroactive financing for qualifying projects completed within the previous year, but hasn't done any since the pandemic hit...They have developed two separate incentive programs to help out business owners. One allows the borrower to defer the first two payments on their C-PACE loan, "so you're getting money right into your pocket from the energy savings and increasing your cash flow."
- [**Work begins on Torrington solar array project**](#)
 - *The Register Citizen*. "Although the siting council is the ultimate authority on such projects, applicants such as Verogy are required to work with the municipality on any concerns or problems during the application process. Once these concerns are addressed to the council's satisfaction, its members vote on the plan."
- [**Conn. Attorney General Scrutinizes Eversource Outage System**](#)

- **WHSU.** "We paid for them to upgrade their communication systems. We expect those communication systems to work and to work well. And time and again these systems continue to fail us."
- [**Bristol officials highlight new solar power and energy efficient-lead program**](#)
 - **WTNH News 8.** "The Solar For All program offers solar power and energy efficiency measures to all homeowners regardless of income or credit score. One family in Bristol had their solar system installed Tuesday."

CT Green Energy News - (11/20/20-Issue 193)

- [**New Study Shows Methane Leaks Prevalent In Connecticut Cities**](#)
 - **WNPR.** "We drill wells. We hydraulically fracture the wells. We pull the gas up. We process the gas. We store it. We then put it in high-transmission pipelines," Howarth said. "We finally get toward cities and suburbs, where we put it into lower-pressure transmission pipelines, and the fact is, that methane is emitted at each and every one of those steps."
- [**Connecticut's first dairy biogas project almost complete**](#)
 - **Bioenergy Insight.** "The new facility at Fort Hill Farms in Thompson will recycle food waste and manure into renewable energy and soil products. Once complete, the digester is expected to produce 550 kW of electricity and reduce 25,000 tons of organic waste annually."
- [**State approves 75-acre solar energy facility in Waterford**](#)
 - **The Day.** "The [Siting] council ruled that the project would not have a "substantial adverse environmental effect" and would not create unreasonable pollution or impair natural resources...[Save the River, Save the Hills] disagreed, citing the possible negative effects to local trout from clear-cutting the land. 'We feel that the final stormwater mitigation plan is still inadequate to capture the runoff from 75 acres of clear-cut land.'"
- [**Considerable power market design changes needed to decarbonize New England: study**](#)
 - **S&P Global.** "Power demand is expected to increase by about 90% by 2050 as the electricity sector takes a bigger load in transportation and space heating, he said, which will shift the power system to winter peaking instead of summer. By 2050, the study envisions 22 GW of offshore wind capacity will be needed, along with 22 GW of utility solar, 13 GW of distributed solar, 13 GW of battery storage, and more."
- [**Hotels Lag in Energy Sustainability. One Project May Change That.**](#)

- *New York Times*. "The hotel industry has fallen behind other real estate sectors in adopting energy-efficiency measures, but a **Connecticut** developer hopes to change that by converting a [New Haven] office building into what could be the most energy-efficient hotel in the country."

CT Green Energy News - (11/13/20-Issue 192)

- [52 Connecticut Environmental Leaders Win Election](#)
 - *Connecticut League of Conservation Voters*. "A record number of candidates earned our support this election, as well as targeted investments in their campaigns by CTLCV's Independent Expenditure PAC. This is reflective of the growing awareness about the climate crisis and the importance of addressing environmental concerns. When an issue is important in an election, it is important at the legislature."
- [Scaled back solar farm still a threat to watershed, Connecticut group says](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "Greenskies originally proposed a larger project: 16.78 MW on 98 acres. The Siting Council denied that petition, citing state environmental regulators' concerns about the adequacy of stormwater management controls. The developer subsequently hired a more experienced engineer, modified the design and presented the council with the new plan...But if the redesign satisfied the Siting Council, it does not impress the project's most vocal critic, Save the River-Save the Hills, a nonprofit focused on protecting the Niantic River watershed, which extends across Waterford, East Lyme, Salem and Montville."
- [ISO-NE commits to address regional energy security challenges as FERC rejects proposal](#)
 - *Utility Dive*. "The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Oct. 30 rejected an Energy Security Improvements (ESI) plan proposed by the New England Independent System Operator (ISO-NE), concluding it would "impose substantial costs" without meaningful improvements to the region's grid resilience."
- [Massive E. Windsor solar project gets hearing, draws agricultural concerns](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "The loss of 230 acres of actively used prime farmland soils will likely put additional farms at risk for conversion to non-agricultural use, including development," Hurlburt wrote this month. "Permitting such large-scale projects on prime farmland would set a poor example for demonstrating the state's stewardship of its agricultural resources."

- [Green Bank to move home base to Hartford](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "In addition to providing an efficient layout for collaboration space, the new location needed to align with our mission and provide opportunities for community engagement...We wanted to be in a building that we can showcase as an example of the value of clean energy retrofits and the importance of sustainability."

CT Green Energy News - (11/6/20-Issue 191)

- [Offshore wind advocates want better coordination on electric grid upgrades](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "Currently, developers pay for upgrading transmission lines to accommodate their projects, though that cost is ultimately shared by electricity customers. The price tag is expected to grow as the region adds as much as 40 gigawatts of generation to meet state renewable goals. That has some calling for a different, more planned approach to expanding the region's electric grid capacity."
- [Electric Vehicles are Bipartisan](#)
 - *EV Club of CT*. "There is not a significant correlation between voter registration profile and EV incidence. The two top EV cities, Westport and Weston, are Democratic redoubts. The next two cities are New Canaan, where registered Republicans outnumber Democrats by 2:1, and Greenwich which also has a Republican skew. This is followed by Wilton, which is evenly divided, and then Darien, which has a similar profile to New Canaan. We regard this bipartisan profile to be encouraging and feel that this, and the environment in general, shouldn't be a partisan issue."
- [As storms become more frequent, CT grocers want battery incentives](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "...most generators run on fossil fuels like diesel or gas, meaning they emit pollution and contribute to climate change. Battery storage technology offers a cleaner backup power source, but it's also more expensive than (already costly) polluting generators. Now, grocers are hoping for new state-level incentives to entice operators to invest in battery backup power."
- [Eversource: Tropical Storm Isaias restoration topped \\$275 million, still counting costs](#)
 - *CT Post*. "Massachusetts regulators have ordered Bay State utilities to propose pathways to decarbonizing their natural gas distribution systems, warning that companies may have to overhaul their business models to help achieve state climate goals...The order follows a steady drumbeat of pressure to reduce gas's role in home and commercial building heating in Massachusetts. Several

Boston-area communities have attempted to replicate a movement in California to ban gas hookups in new construction."

CT Green Energy News - (10/30/20-Issue 190)

- ['Everything related to the environment is at stake'](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "Not to put too fine a point on it, but everything related to the environment is at stake," Tong said. "Over the past three-and-a-half years, we have an unprecedented attack on clean air, clean water, the climate...Many warn that while the big publicized actions, such as pulling the U.S. out of the Paris climate change agreement and rolling back a host of motor vehicle regulations, are huge setbacks for climate change mitigation, the public is less aware of the many administrative changes intended to dismantle the underpinnings of how agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are allowed to operate."
- [Advocates press state regulators to extend moratoriums on power utility shut-offs](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "With temperatures projected to fall into the mid-20s Friday night, advocates for Connecticut's vulnerable are waiting for state regulators to extend key moratoriums on electricity and other utility shut-offs. And Eversource Energy, which has had a tempestuous relationship with Connecticut's Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, also urged the panel Wednesday for direction. Without an order from PURA to extend shut-off moratoriums, Eversource could be taking a financial risk by continuing the practice." Update: **PURA orders utilities to maintain payment plans to delinquent consumers**
- [Mold, asbestos may put Connecticut weatherization goal out of reach](#)
 - *Energy News Newswork*. "State leaders are looking for funding sources for remediation work that needs to happen before many energy efficiency upgrades can be completed...nearly a third of those customers are not able to weatherize their houses or apartments, and lose out on energy savings. That's because mold, asbestos, and other health hazards discovered in their homes must be cleaned up before contractors can safely seal the space, an undertaking that easily runs into the thousands of dollars."
- [Mass. regulators open investigation into gas utilities' future in the staten plans](#)
 - *S&P Global* "Massachusetts regulators have ordered Bay State utilities to propose pathways to decarbonizing their natural gas distribution systems, warning that companies may have to overhaul their business models to help achieve state climate goals...The order follows a steady drumbeat of pressure to reduce gas's role in home and commercial building heating in Massachusetts."

Several Boston-area communities have attempted to replicate a movement in California to ban gas hookups in new construction."

CT Green Energy News - (10/23/20-Issue 189)

- [At PURA hearing, customers get their turn to criticize Eversource and UI over outages caused by Isaias; power companies face fines](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Melvin Garelick of Trumbull said in written comments that he and his wife, who are both 75 and have chronic medical conditions, discarded food valued at \$500 and were "living on bread, peanuts, peanut butter and cereal" during the outage that lasted more than three days."
- [Study: Solar can hurt home values if it displaces scarce suburban greenspace](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "The analysis by University of Rhode Island researchers did not account for aesthetic treatments, and found no impact from arrays in rural areas."
- [CT's Avangrid to expand into Texas, New Mexico through \\$8.3B acquisition](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "This merger...is a strategic fit and helps us further our growth in both clean energy distribution and transmission, as well as helping to expand our growing leadership position in renewables."
- [Budderfly raises \\$7.8M to fund expansion plans](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "At no upfront cost to customers, Budderfly implements energy intelligence software and energy efficiency upgrades. This may include steps like installing LED lights, HVAC controls, variable frequency drives and refrigeration controls, for example. It offers proactive maintenance for a building's energy infrastructure."
- [Branford Launches Residential Energy Efficiency Program](#)
 - *Zip06*. "Heat pumps are an eco-friendly solution that efficiently heat in the winter and cool in the summer. Contact information for a qualified heat pump installer will also be provided and the homeowner can decide whether to proceed. Prime candidates for saving money with a heat pump include residents who: heat with electrical baseboard, propane, or oil; are installing a new furnace; are adding air conditioning; and/or are constructing an addition or a new home. Grants, rebates, and attractive financing are available for qualified residents."

CT Green Energy News - (10/16/20-Issue 188)

- [Governors want sunlight on the secretive ISO New England](#)
 - *CT Mirror* "ISO New England is not a country club and its Board is not the Skull and Bones Club at Yale. Electing new Board members should happen in the sunshine. And it is time to appoint a director with a history of fighting for ratepayers," Kreis wrote. "In darkness or in light, keep an eye on ISO New England and its Board. No utility, no regulator, indeed, no other entity wields such a gargantuan influence on our electric grid and, ultimately, your electric rates."
- [After Isaias, a call to "take back our grid"](#)
 - *The Day* "The state Public Utilities Regulatory Authority is hearing calls to break up Eversource and even to consider a publicly owned state-based utility, as some states use. It's far too soon in the review process to decide what's best for the state and the ratepayers, but nothing should be off the table."
- [America's highways have significant solar potential](#)
 - *PV Magazine*. "A report just released by the University of Texas at Austin's Webber Energy Group has tackled how much solar each state could develop along interstate interchange and exit locations and how much this solar could potentially be worth." Connecticut has space for solar panels that could produce over 500 GWh/yr.

CT Green Energy News - (10/9/20-Issue 187)

- [A new bill requires Connecticut utility companies to pay up when the power is out for an extended period. Here are 7 ways it affects customers.](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "In a special session, lawmakers overwhelmingly approved a bill that emerged largely from criticism over Eversource's response to Tropical Storm Isaias this summer, which left thousands of residents without power for up to nine days." Plus: **Electric rate hikes as a result of new law? 'Ludicrous...propaganda'**
- [Net-zero energy schools offer CT a glimpse of future green development](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "Affordable renewables have made the cost of zero-energy developments on par with, or up 10% more than, a regular build. Long-term energy savings and reimbursements from state governments on public buildings more than offset the added costs, proponents say."
- [After a summer of widespread outages and rising rates, anger at utility companies explodes on the campaign trail](#)

- *Hartford Courant*. "Public fury at Eversource over rising utility costs and widespread power disruptions this summer has spilled onto the campaign trail, where candidates running for the General Assembly are hammering the company and touting new accountability legislation."
- [Take the first step toward responsible, efficient waste disposal](#)
 - *CT Mirror* "Environmental justice advocates have called for an early shut down of the MIRA trash plant in Hartford and argued out-of- state landfill is a viable alternative. Zero waste is offered as a way to eliminate the need for any incineration. But there is no discussion of practical details on implementing these zero-waste strategies."

CT Green Energy News - (10/2/20-Issue 186)

- [Energy bill takes on storm response and grid reform challenges](#)
 - *The Connecticut Mirror*. "The latest version of the bill is eliciting few objections to what's in it. It's what it doesn't contain that may cause problems. What didn't make it into the bill – now down to a mere 20 pages from its 40-page original – is a way to help stabilize the state's solar industry as COVID continues its economic slash and burn. Also MIA is expansion of a wildly popular program to help municipalities benefit from clean and renewable energy even if they can't site it in their own town." Plus: **Senators take tough stand on Eversource. Even the ones who work there.**
- [Southington project would pit solar energy against farmland](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Both the preservation of farmland and development of renewable energy sources are essential to the state's future," the Council on Environmental Quality wrote in a recent letter."
- [Lamont Unveils Connecticut's First Battery-Electric Public Transit Buses](#)
 - *Hamlet Hub*. "These are the first [two] buses to enter service under CTDOT's electric bus initiative. CTDOT is looking forward to a future where all transit vehicles are powered by electricity. This will be a gradual transition at first, but will accelerate as the costs for battery electric buses and facility upgrades become more affordable at scale. These programs will not only improve the customer experience, but will improve air quality and noise levels for those who live in the communities served by these buses."
- [Energy New England procures 50 MW of new solar energy for municipal utility members](#)
 - *Solar Power World*. "That kind of healthy competition will ensure that we have the best delivery of these very important programs, with the potential to help drive

down administrative costs,” Dykes said. “We think that as the energy efficiency industry has matured and expanded, there are some good models that we could entertain.”

- [New Haven residents protest for environmental justice](#)
 - *Yale News*. “Over 100 protestors gathered at the corner of Church and Chapel Streets Friday afternoon to demand greater city cooperation on environmental justice issues and a Connecticut Green New Deal.”

CT Green Energy News - (9/25/20-Issue 185)

- [A utility microgrid system would divide — and protect](#)
 - *The Connecticut Mirror*. “A recent article featured a discussion centered on how Connecticut ought to bury all of its major power lines in order to avoid future outages such as we have recently experienced. Same old. Same old. This maintains the frail heavily centralized nature of the grid with widely spaced generators joined by long stretches of transmission wire. Just putting the lines underground is not only very costly but still maintains that frail centralized structure of a few huge generators many miles apart.”
- [Insure Our Future Connecticut 2020](#)
 - A video from the [Insure Our Future Connecticut](#) campaign, which is a coalition of Climate activists from all over the state that has come together to demand that insurance companies that operate in our backyard #InsureOurFuture and stop investing in fossil fuels.
- [Connecticut bill would invite competition to run efficiency programs](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. “That kind of healthy competition will ensure that we have the best delivery of these very important programs, with the potential to help drive down administrative costs,” Dykes said. “We think that as the energy efficiency industry has matured and expanded, there are some good models that we could entertain.”
- [Environmentalists split in their opposition to New England’s latest power transmission line](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. “The Sierra Club, Natural Resources Council of Maine and other groups oppose the project, arguing it would disrupt animal habitats and wetlands in the Northern Appalachian and Acadian forests...[But] One environmental advocacy group says New England would benefit from the project. Greg Cunningham, director of the Clean Energy and Climate Change program at the Conservation Law Foundation, said the Avangrid project’s 1,200 megawatts will contribute to shutting some of the “worst polluting coal and oil generators” in New England.”

- [Republicans, time to reevaluate stance on climate change](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "In the spring of 2019, I introduced a bill to require the teaching of climate change in all Connecticut public schools. Although it eventually passed the House on a bipartisan basis, my bill was met with ferocious resistance from several Republican legislators whose climate change denial would have been laughable, had it not been so dangerous."

CT Green Energy News - (9/18/20-Issue 184)

- [Fresh Talk: Shutting down MIRA incinerator is the right step](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Environmental justice advocates say incineration is among the dirtiest ways to produce energy, surpassing coal powered plants in harmful particulate matter production. What is actually happening is that waste is turned into toxic ash and toxic air emissions while a small fraction of the energy in the waste is recovered in the process.."
- [Middletown Common Council Unanimously Approves Climate Emergency Resolution](#)
 - *The Wesleyan Argus*. "The resolution requires the Common Council to work with [Mayor] Florsheim to establish an emergency mobilization effort to end city-generated greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 at the latest. To this end, the council urged Florsheim to direct all City department heads, committees, and commissions to establish greenhouse gas reduction plans."
- [Eversource quietly pitches \\$700M in borrowing to CT](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "For them to even offer that at this time is a joke...The theory behind securitization plans is simple: Rather than hit ratepayers with a big increase due to extraordinary losses by a utility, spread out the impact over time through borrowing that Eversource would call "rate reduction bonds." Plus **Eversource says its response to Isaias was stronger than Connecticut officials realize**
- [Jon Lender: Eversource sued for \\$10M, as consultant says big utility crushed his small firm by refusing to pay for work performed](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Eversource spent months "obfuscating, inveigling, and otherwise deceptively avoiding payment on plaintiffs' past-due invoices under the pretense of claiming said invoices were insufficiently detailed despite containing the same level of detail that they had for the previous three years in which [the utility] timely paid all of plaintiffs' invoices," the suit says."
- [Streetlight Conversion Project Begins In Middletown](#)

- *Patch*. "The project will result in significant energy cost savings, estimated at over \$200,000 per year, with additional savings through reduced maintenance costs associated with this type of energy-efficient lighting."

CT Green Energy News - (9/11/20-Issue 183)

- [Connecticut weighs options for making electric vehicle rebates more equitable](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "The state is considering proposals to make electric vehicles more accessible to lower-income buyers."
- [3 Letters to the Editor](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. 1. Solar energy needs battery storage plan; 2. Fossil fuel industry isn't impartial about new gas plant; and 3. We won't need gas for long."
- [Op-Ed | COVID-19 Gave Connecticut A Taste Of Cleaner Air – Can We Keep It That Way?](#)
- *CT News Junkie*. "The state has a purchase incentive program for electric vehicles known by the acronym, CHEAPR, and we have an opportunity to consider expanding it to include a pilot test for e-bikes." Plus: [Should There Be An Incentive for E-bikes](#)
- [Utilities: Mandating outage fixes within three days would drive up electric rates](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "...if utilities were forced to reverse most major outages within 72 hours — or face more financial penalties — it would have to add thousands of staffers, also at ratepayers' expense."
- [Opinion: CT senate candidate Ryan Fazio wants to build more nuclear reactors](#)
 - *Stamford Advocate*. "Research shows that the unsubsidized levelized cost of energy (LCOE) of large scale wind and solar is a fraction of the cost of new nuclear generators. So nuclear power, which Fazio wants foist on Connecticut ratepayers, is actually not an "affordable power source" at all, but one that can only operate with massive subsidies."

CT Green Energy News - (9/4/20-Issue 182)

- [Solar energy makes more sense all the time. Why build another gas plant?](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Connecticut is poised to build one last fossil-fueled power plant, one it doesn't need, doesn't want and one for which a clean, viable alternative exists...Before the Killingly Energy Center reaches the point of no return, the state must commission a study of the alternatives. Solar-plus-storage is competing and winning against gas-fired power elsewhere in the country. We

owe it to ourselves to see if it could win here too. Building another fossil fuel plant, knowing all the while that a cleaner, cheaper alternative existed, would be a tragic mistake. Future generations will take us to task."

- [Connecticut customers who lose power for three days or more would receive \\$500 in compensation for spoiled food or medicine under draft legislation](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "My hope is it wakes Eversource and [United Illuminating] up to the reality of what it means to have unhappy customers," he said. "Our job is to make sure that the ratepayers feel like they're well served. I don't have obligations to anyone's stockholders; I have an obligation to Connecticut residents, people who are struggling to make ends meet."
- [Where Should I Buy an EV?](#)
 - *EV Club of CT*. "It has been well documented, in the NY Times, in 2 Sierra Club shopper studies, and other reporting, that many dealers are indifferent or even hostile to EVs. But there are some dealerships that make an effort to sell EVs. To help guide consumers interested in non-Tesla EVs, we obtained ...the number of rebates by dealership from the [CHEAPR] program's inception in 2015 through August 11, 2020."
- [Connecticut Green Bank has open request for proposals to support clean energy investment](#)
 - *Solar Builder*. "Through its open request for proposals for Green Bank Capital Solutions, the [Connecticut Green Bank](#) plans to further catalyze the green energy economy in Connecticut by providing access by project developers and others to capital. Projects financed through the request for proposals would either not happen or be realized at a much slower pace or with less impact without the Green Bank's participation."
- [EGEB: Connecticut gets a geothermal energy boost](#)
 - *Electrek*. "Dandelion Energy, a rapidly-growing residential geothermal company that was originally a project at Google's parent company Alphabet, is expanding into Connecticut from New York, where it partners with Con Edison."
- [Groups say Boston electric grid upgrades should anticipate offshore wind](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "Critics say ISO New England was too quick to dismiss a more expensive plan that would have helped prepare the Boston-area electric grid for future offshore wind."

- [CT keeps losing power when storms strike. But that doesn't have to happen.](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "Utilities do what they're allowed to do. If you want to do things differently – then you have to change the regulatory environment...That means providing the right incentives, creating avenues to make longer term investments, and thinking about customer service differently...Regulators have to catch up. The utilities probably have to take a pretty long hard look in the mirror and say 'OK, how can we do this better; how can we be better prepared?' There's a role for climate and clean energy advocates, legislators."
- [Leading the way in wind energy development for healthier future](#)
 - *New Fairfield's HamletHub.* "With partners from each New England state we are advocating for enough offshore wind to power one-third of our electric grid, or every single household in New England. Now is not the time for continued investment in new fracked gas pipelines and power plants. Fossil fuels are more costly, unneeded and pollute our air and water." See also, [Coalition forms around regional approach to offshore wind](#)
- [A new voice at PURA at a pivotal time in energy oversight](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "My understanding of why the governor recruited me to Connecticut was to tackle a number of challenges with the energy landscape in Connecticut, including the need to modernize the grid," she said. "I don't think Connecticut is unique in this. Most of New England's infrastructure, if not the whole country, is in desperate need of modernizing."
- [Connecticut's first 'net-zero' schools, tapping solar and geothermal energy, to be built in Manchester and Mansfield](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "Five years from now, net zero is going to be standard language in every (request for proposal)," TSKP partner Randall Luther said. "We've always been known for straightforward, compact, efficient buildings, and net zero is single-mindedly focused on getting your energy usage down and your carbon usage down."
- [Break up Eversource? Or just closely regulate?](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "I think the time for tinkering is over," said Blumenthal, the first witness Monday before the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority. "We need to think big about becoming smaller, more responsive and smarter about the way we do public utilities and deliver power." Plus: [Just hours before Tropical Storm Isaias hit, Eversource received a dramatically different prediction from forecasters at UConn, warning of substantial outages](#)
- [Facing scrutiny over rate increases, power outages, Eversource quietly files \\$500M smart-meter plan](#)

- *Hartford Business Journal*. "most utilities don't use the meter technology to its fullest potential...he is hoping PURA learns from such mistakes and mandates clear directives up front for what Connecticut's utilities must do with their smart meters. For example, he'd like to see clear targets and metrics related to transitioning away from fossil fuels and towards renewable energy."

CT Green Energy News - (8/21/20-Issue 180)

- [Connecticut needs to make big changes in 'who does what' in the electric power industry](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "Eversource has...failed to invest in the infrastructure we need to support demand flexibility, renewable integration and community decarbonization efforts. Recent problems with preparing for Tropical Storm Isaias show that Eversource has enough on its plate just planning for and maintaining the infrastructure that delivers electricity to us. Community power agencies should take over the procurement of electricity and the delivery of modern energy services and products..."
- [Connecticut regulator isn't interested in utilities' 'excuses' on power grid failures](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "Since becoming chair of the state's Public Utilities Regulatory Authority last year, Marissa Gillett has supercharged efforts around grid modernization...Grid modernization is about more than modernizing the grid," she said. "It's also thinking about the way we regulate the utilities and invite third parties into the conversation."
- [Regulators issue fines to Eversource and UI over shared solar program](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "The opaque world of energy policy continues to roil the surface of state government this week as regulators again chastised the state's two biggest utilities: Eversource and United Illuminating. This time, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority is fining both companies, alleging an "insufficient" rollout of a program called shared solar."
- [Following outrage over Hurricane Isaias response, Connecticut bill would put utilities on the hook for outage costs](#)
 - *Utility Dive*. "Current state law essentially absolves electric distribution companies from being held liable for costs incurred by citizens during extended power outages...That must change. Electric distribution companies are a critical infrastructure supplier, and our legislation will hold them liable for any interruption of service."

- [Lamont Announces Connecticut Receives \\$6.7M Grant for Electric Bus Facility Upgrades in Stamford](#)
 - *New Fairfield's HamletHub*. "Clean, green energy bus transportation reduces pollution and global warming...These federal funds will help spur much-needed upgrades and repairs for the existing fleet, and pay for new electric buses. Benefiting our environment and the economy, Connecticut is one step closer to making eco-friendly the go-to public transportation option for all residents."
- [Middletown resolution would take a hard stance on climate change](#)
 - *CT Post*. "Successfully reducing carbon emissions would mean the ability to convert energy to renewable sources, such as solar and wind...We need much more robust and adequate forms of energy storage for those to work."

CT Green Energy News - (8/14/20-Issue 179)

- [State Rep. John Frey Calls for Eversource to be Dismantled](#)
 - *Ridgefield's Hamlet Hub*. "There's little doubt that the complexities of the energy industry combined with regulatory bureaucracy, and even the sheer footprint of the company's Connecticut customer base, would pose challenges to breaking it up," Frey said. "But it's not impossible, and I think my colleagues and I need to have that conversation in Hartford because even the average guy who will be sitting at home in the dark tonight can see that Eversource is so big that its right hand has no idea what its left is doing." Plus, from Rep. Holly Cheeseman: **Eversource proves neither affordable nor reliable**
- [State officials considering new performance-based regulation system for energy companies](#)
 - *WTNH*. "It seems to me if you do really well, you deserve a better rate of return, and if you don't perform, if you leave tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands of people without service for days on end...there should be penalties to pay." Plus: **As Connecticut municipal leaders mull legal action over Eversource's handling of Tropical Storm Isaias utility says final customers will get power back by midnight Thursday**
- [Opinion: Natural gas is not part of state's future](#)
 - *CT Post*. "A new report from the Acadia Center concludes that under any scenario, New England's traditional reliance on natural gas to fuel electrical plants will diminish from 45 percent to approximately 10 percent by 2030, making any investment in new gas pipelines or plants unnecessary and costly to ratepayers."
- [Electricity bill sticker shock points to the need for more competition, and that means renewable energy](#)

- *Hartford Courant*. "That answer lies in allowing the energy market to deliver solutions through more competition, and not by handing out customer-funded giveaways to large suppliers. The undeniable truth is competition drives prices down. By fixing the pervasive structural issues that give an unfair advantage to fossil fuel power plants, we can see more competition and achieve Connecticut's clean energy goals."
- [Vernon to install solar panels at police station, 3 schools](#)
 - *Journal Inquirer*. "Solar panels that are projected to save the town over \$1.2 million over the next 25 years could be installed before the winter."

CT Green Energy News - (8/7/20-Issue 178)

- [Stop investing in natural gas. Invest more in renewable energy.](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Choosing between renewable and conventional energy is no longer about weighing faraway climate impacts with the desire for inexpensive and reliable technologies. We can actually have it all, and we're heading that way right now with costs of wind and solar at an all-time low and dropping".
- [Eversource was on a victory lap. Then came Isaias](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "Since moving to Connecticut last year to take the helm of PURA, I've heard the utilities tout significant investments in grid hardening and vegetation management made at the ratepayers' expense over the past decade," Gillett said in a statement. "Frankly, I am deeply disappointed in seeing this play out in real time. Utilities are in the business of delivering reliable service, and the public should know that I'm not interested in their excuses. This is fresh off the heels of PURA's announcement last week about our investigation into the pending rate increase requests."
- [Public Utilities Regulatory Authority Tells Eversource to Suspend Rate Increase Amid Investigation](#)
 - *NBC CT*. "Today's decision by PURA is good news for ratepayers across our state. PURA's pause today on delivery rate hikes reassures our residents that the reconsideration of requests by utilities can happen, and – most importantly of all – that customers won't be overpaying in the meantime." Plus: [PURA: Eversource was unprepared for its 800,000 outages](#)
- [How Connecticut's cautious first step on shared solar turned into a false start](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "The state is moving forward with a full-fledged shared solar program even as a pilot program continues to limp along...Many clean energy advocates objected to lawmakers' toe-in-the-water approach, however,

and argued that it was a waste of time, as states with existing robust shared solar programs offered successful templates to work from."

- [**CT's largest ever renewable energy investment nears final approval**](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "Connecticut ratepayers are one step closer to funding the state's largest ever purchase of renewable electricity, an offshore wind farm off the coast of Massachusetts that is expected to provide 14% of Connecticut's electricity once it's completed in 2025...It is not yet clear how the project will impact consumer electric bills. However, state officials said late last year that Vineyard Wind's bid price was lower than any other publicly announced offshore wind project in North America." Plus **Despite economic downturn due to coronavirus, wind power projects boom, keeping Bridgeport and New London projects on track**

CT Green Energy News - (7/31/20-Issue 177)

- [**Eversource customers in Connecticut are noticing higher bills than usual. The electricity provider points to a deal between the state and Millstone.**](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "The bill increase, which will continue through the end of the year, comes as hundreds of thousands of state residents are unemployed or have been furloughed because businesses were forced to shut to slow the coronavirus. In addition, many more are working at home and using their computers and charging their phones and Connecticut is sweltering through a heat wave, driving up electricity use for air conditioners and dehumidifiers." Plus: **State regulators say they will investigate Eversource rate hike**, and this: **Facing heat over CT bill increases, Eversource reports major spike in second-quarter profits**
- [**Access To Air Conditioning Is Critical. It's Also Making Climate Change Worse.**](#)
 - *Connecticut Public Radio.* "Here in Connecticut, not all residents can afford to run air conditioners in the heat of summer because of sky-high electricity costs. We talk about how energy efficient homes are important not only for our state's carbon footprint, but also for racial and socioeconomic equity."
- [**Despite economic downturn due to coronavirus, wind power projects boom, keeping Bridgeport and New London projects on track**](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "With state contracts in place in Connecticut and elsewhere along the East Coast and investors enthusiastic about wind-generated energy, the industry is not lacking for money. It's good news for two offshore wind projects in Bridgeport and New London promoted as major Connecticut projects bringing capital and creating jobs."

- [Why peak electricity usage matters](#)
 - *Commonwealth.* "Peaks have out-sized importance because [New England] needs enough power plants to meet demand when demand is at its highest point. Lowering the peak is beneficial since it means the region can get by with fewer power plants."
- [Energy developers behind Southington solar field have three similar proposals awaiting state approval](#)
 - *myrecordjournal.com.* "According to Connecticut Siting Council records, Verogy has submitted applications for smaller solar farms in Bristol, Torrington and Watertown."

CT Green Energy News - (7/24/20-Issue 176)

- [Connecticut Passed an Environmental Justice Law 12 Years Ago, but Not That Much Has Changed](#)
 - *Inside Climate News.* "Even with Connecticut's environmental justice law... people in low-income neighborhoods don't know a major facility is being proposed nearby until after the construction starts. Whereas in middle class and wealthier communities, they tend to find out sooner...And if you find out about it, you're likely to have access to people who can tell you more about it."
- [We need green jobs, not a fracked gas power plant in Killingly](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "Gov. Ned Lamont is on the record saying he doesn't want the plant, but seems unwilling to stop it. He should take a page from our neighbor, New York, where Gov. Andrew Cuomo's administration killed two proposed fracked gas pipelines in the past few years by declining to issue required permits."
- [Torrington council approves agreement to lease landfill to US Solar](#)
 - *The Register Citizen.* "'We build a long-term, quality project...When we're done, we restore the land underneath. The soil will be improved. We have to work with the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and we have a lot of strong, national allies to bring in more pollinator-friendly projects like this one...Along with the environmental benefits, Torrington will be paid \$2,000 per acre for leasing the 15-acre landfill, or about \$30,000 annually, plus about \$8,000 in property taxes each year."
- [Plan submitted for another solar facility in East Windsor](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "Green Skies is proposing a solar facility on two parcels within the town's A-1 agricultural/residential zoning district. The solar array would use approximately 28.7 acres of the 39 total acres, the application says."

- [Sweet Sunlight: Connecticut Green Bank program helps pastry shop go solar](#)
 - *Solar Builder.* "Going solar is sweet! We're saving money, helping the environment and I think our customers appreciate how we're leading the way into the future with our new solar system."

CT Green Energy News - (7/17/20-Issue 175)

- [Never let a good crisis go to waste. Can clean energy power CT's economic recovery?](#)
 - *CT Mirror* "While states like Connecticut included the solar sector in their stay-at-home ranks – contributing to what would become a more than 620,500 loss of clean energy jobs nationally by the end of May – Massachusetts kept its solar people working."
- [15 states \[including Connecticut\], DC will collaborate on 100% electric truck sales by 2050](#)
 - *Utility Dive.* "...a multi-state approach "is required" given the "significant challenges around higher upfront costs, range, weight, charging time, and infrastructure deployment" for commercial EVs.
- [The Future For Connecticut's Trash Remains Uncertain](#)
 - *WNPR.* "After years of debate and study, the future of Hartford's aging trash-to-energy facility is finally beginning to crystalize. And Connecticut's trash future may end up looking a lot like a step into the past: sending garbage to landfills."
- [Siting Council hears revised plan, environmental concerns on proposed Waterford solar facility](#)
 - *The Day.* "Bringing grid-scale renewable energy projects online is an important step forward towards a cheaper, cleaner, and more reliable energy future for the ratepayers of Connecticut as we move to decarbonize our electric grid,...the petitioner has pulled construction away from the property boundaries and proposes to install 15 stormwater management basins throughout the project."
- [Massachusetts Finalizes Distributed Solar Rules with Fewer Restrictions on Land Use](#)
 - *Greentech Media.* "The state backed off some land restrictions, but the solar industry remains concerned about the impact on development...In adopting the new regulations, Massachusetts seeks to spur further distributed solar development while encouraging projects on already-developed land and parking

structures or buildings with large rooftops. But it's cheaper to develop solar projects on greenfields, making them preferable for many developers."

CT Green Energy News - (7/10/20-Issue 174)

- [Connecticut's vehicle fleet should be all electric. There's no reason to wait.](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "Many will wonder who's going to pay for this investment in our sustainable future. Any answer needs to keep the fuller picture of the true cost in mind. Electric vehicles have a lower total cost of ownership than gas and diesel-burning vehicles, and they don't externalize costs to society in the form of air pollution and greenhouse gases."
- [Closing MIRA plant gives Connecticut an opportunity to adopt zero waste policies and fight environmental injustice](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "In Connecticut, food waste and other organics make up about 33% of the waste stream. This can be eliminated by diverting organics into composting or anaerobic digestion facilities. Another 40% of trash is paper, plastic, glass, and metal, which can be captured by improved recycling efforts."
- [Connecticut green bonds offer residents a chance to fund war on climate change](#)
 - *Energy News Network.* "...the program is intended to inspire a collective public effort on behalf of combating climate change in the same way that the federal government's sale of Series-E bonds during World War II tapped into a sense of patriotism to support the war effort."
- [Solar company eyes Torrington landfill property for new array](#)
 - *The Register Citizen.* "...US Solar sells energy from its solar sites directly to Eversource, and establishes a long-term lease with the property owner, paying rent in exchange for using the land."

CT Green Energy News - (7/3/20-Issue 173)

- [The Declining Role of Natural Gas Power in New England](#)
 - *Acadia Center.* "Over the next decade in New England, gas will play a much smaller role in electricity generation. As a result, existing gas-fired plants will be underused, and new plants, as well as new supply infrastructure like pipelines, will be unnecessary."

- [DEEP Commissioner: Trucking Waste Out-of-state Can't Be A Long-term Solution](#)
 - *CT News Junkie* . "It's the last publicly owned trash-to-energy plant in Connecticut, and it has been converting waste from dozens of towns into energy for decades. But its operator, Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA), says it will not have the funds to continue operating the plant after Aug. 31."
- [Massachusetts expands electric vehicle rebates to nonprofit, business fleets](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "It's a big step forward', supporters say, because fleet vehicles drive more miles than the average private car."
- [New England energy transition could require 71 GW of new clean energy capacity](#)
 - *S&P Global*. "Will our current market designs support a reliable, low-carbon system? And if not, what should we do about it?"

CT Green Energy News - (6/26/20-Issue 172)

- [Action Alert: Tell Governor Lamont: Reject the Killingly Fracked Gas Pipeline.](#)
 - *Sierra Club*. "Sierra Club lawyers recently submitted comments detailing how the 2.8 mile fracked gas pipeline proposed for the Killingly dirty power plant violates Connecticut's Water Quality Standards by harming water quality and disrupting wildlife habitat of endangered species. **Now we need to follow-up with public opposition to show Governor Lamont and Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Commissioner Katie Dykes that this is an important issue for Connecticut residents. To send a message to the Governor, [click here](#).**
- [First full-sized automated buses to operate in Connecticut in a U.S. first](#)
 - *Intelligent Transport*. "The programme will launch to the public in 2021, bringing three automated full-sized New Flyer electric buses to Connecticut's CTfastrak BRT corridor."
- [Advocates seek solar on all new houses in ten states](#)
 - *pv magazine*. "The most efficient time to install solar panels is when the builders are on the roof in the first place." Connecticut?
- [A prescription for a post-COVID economy: A national climate bank](#)
 - *The Grist*. "Over a dozen states and municipalities formed green banks after the last financial crisis. **Connecticut** was first out of the gate, launching its program

in 2011...The **Connecticut Green Bank** offered some of the first loans and leases for solar installations on homes and offices, a model that's since proliferated nationwide."

- [New London and Connecticut Port Authority again at odds on funding](#)
 - *The Day*. "Passero has been frustrated about New London being sidelined from discussions surrounding the \$157 million development of State Pier into an offshore wind hub and a lack of a substantial state funding commitment to offset costs of hosting a massive offshore wind facility that does not pay

CT Green Energy News - (6/19/20-Issue 171)

- [Why Every Environmentalist Should Be Anti-Racist](#)
 - *Vogue*. "Intersectional environmentalism is an inclusive version of environmentalism that advocates for both the protection of people and the planet. It identifies the ways in which injustices happening to marginalized communities and the earth are interconnected. It brings injustices done to the most vulnerable communities, and the earth, to the forefront and does not minimize or silence social inequality." See also, **It's Time for Environmental Studies to Own Up to Erasing Black People**, by Wanjiku "Wawa" Gatheru, a recent graduate from the University of Connecticut.
- [East Windsor gravel pits could host largest solar project in the Northeast](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "[The town] doesn't expect much opposition to the project from residents for several reasons...Gravel Pit Solar is expected to become the town's largest taxpayer...there are only a handful of properties with sightlines to the proposed solar panels. Finally, the project will produce renewable energy."
- [In New England, declining car sales prompt call for electric bike rebates](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "Supporters in Connecticut argue that e-bike incentives, like those in Vermont, would be a timely investment...The state's existing electric vehicle rebate program is "inequitable...because it only applies to electric cars, which are unaffordable for many middle- to lower-income households."
- [Bill would pay home batteries for peak shaving and avoiding power-line buildout](#)
 - *Granite Geek*. "[There] are the two huge benefits that distributed storage can provide: Peak-shaving and reducing the need for more power lines. They are worth money and that money should go to the people who install the batteries."

- [Op-Ed: Energy Efficiency Will Save Money and Create Jobs](#)
 - *NJSpotlight*. "New Jersey [and Connecticut] can create a prosperous future for all by focusing on energy efficiency and a green jobs recovery. These good, local jobs cannot be outsourced and will provide a fair wage that can sustain a middle-class lifestyle."

CT Green Energy News - (6/12/20-Issue 170)

- [New England business groups make case to suspend energy efficiency surcharges](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "Clean energy advocates are pushing back against the proposal... halting the programs would cause further harm to a sector that is already struggling as a result of a drop-off in home and business energy audits and efficiency improvements."
- [Putting land for solar off-limits could hurt farmers](#)
 - *Commonwealth*. "...Massachusetts is threatening to tie the hands of its farmers by making it much more difficult for them to host solar farms to help stay in business."
- [Significant Drop in Air Pollution During COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
 - *NBC CT*. "The Connecticut Department of Environmental Energy and Protection recently released new information about the positive impact on air quality amid COVID-19."
- [New Hampshire considering vehicle charging as gateway to time-of-use rates](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "State regulatory staff recently recommended that utilities offer discounts for charging vehicles during off-peak hours."

CT Green Energy News - (6/5/20-Issue 169)

- [On PACE, Organization offers energy use tool](#)
 - *Valley Life*. "We want to reach out to towns to tell them that this (a clean energy plan) is doable. They don't have to reinvent it. We also want to go back to towns that are already engaged and give them more tools. A scorecard and road map are in development. We would love to work with more towns."
- [Massachusetts' Solar Industry Chafes at New Land-Use Restrictions](#)
 - *GTM*. "The Bay State has big ambitions for solar but not a lot of places to build it. New rules make things worse, the industry says." What do we want for Connecticut?

- [Healey calls for orderly transition away from natural gas](#)
 - *CommonWealth*. "As electrification and decarbonization of heating increases, [Massachusetts's] natural gas demand and usage from thermal heating requirements will decline substantially and could be near zero by 2050..."

CT Green Energy News - (5/29/20-Issue 168)

- [Connecticut churches, nonprofits band together on electricity purchases](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "More than 70 organizations have worked together to help each other navigate the market's notorious complexities...Working closely with the Community Purchasing Alliance, an experienced purchasing cooperative based in Washington, D.C., the organizations eventually signed a contract collectively saving them around \$50,000 over the standard offer rate from the utilities."
- [New England Grid Operator Misses the Mark on Clean Energy](#)
 - *NRDC*. "Rather than facilitating the growth of 21st century alternatives to fossil fuel generators, the grid operator seeks to double down on dirty and outdated 20th century technologies. According to the grid operator itself, its proposed changes could funnel millions of customer dollars a year to fossil fuel power plant owners."
- [Solar Farm Would Clear 15 Acres Of Forest](#)
 - *New Haven Independent*. "Community engagement and community involvement is core to our philosophy at [the developer] DSD...the team will go back to the drawing board to try to incorporate neighbors' feedback into the project as much as possible"
- [The state's waste management is in dire straits. Now, its Hartford plant overhaul is uncertain](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "I did not join this board to be in a position of recommending that we be on our way to shipping our waste out of state ... It's not a pretty picture, no matter how you look at it."
- [Park City Wind files delayed PPA](#)
 - *reNEWS*. "Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority will now review the contract for the 804MW offshore wind farm"

CT Green Energy News - (5/22/20-Issue 167)

- [COVID-19 should be a wake-up call to Connecticut insurers](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "It's time for them to help mitigate and prepare for the impacts of climate change."

- [With CT's trash future in flux, food-waste recycler hopes for bigger role](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "Connecticut has provided various incentives to encourage development of anaerobic digesters. The state has placed the technology into its highest tier of renewable energy generation, alongside solar and wind, allowing digester owners to receive valuable energy credits they can sell."
- [New England Takes Key Step to 1.2 GW of Quebec Hydro as Maine Approves Transmission Line](#)
 - *Utility Dive*. "The \$950 million project is being paid for by Massachusetts electric customers. Total net benefits to Massachusetts ratepayers over the 20-year contract, including both direct and indirect benefits, are expected to be approximately \$4 billion."
- [DEEP rejects Candlewood Solar permit in New Milford](#)
 - *Stamford Advocate*. "DEEP's approval is the last step before the project can be built. The Connecticut Siting Council approved the project in December 2017 and the management plan last June, just three months after DEEP rejected the initial stormwater management plan because it didn't meet the permit requirements."
- [Rooftop solar is becoming a big deal in New England](#)
 - *Granite Geek*. "One sunny afternoon earlier this month, reports [ISO-New England](#), the six-state region had roughly 3,200 MW of "behind the meter" solar – the rooftop stuff, as compared to stand-alone solar farms that feed straight to the grid. This was a record, says the folks who run our power system, although it's a record that will be falling frequently in coming years, since they expect many thousands more megawatts of solar to be added."

CT Green Energy News - (5/15/20-Issue 166)

- [Urge Commissioner Of DEEP To Reject Killingly Permit](#)
 - *CT Sierra Club*. "The Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection announced it plans to give the proposed KEC fossil fuel power plant a permit to discharge up to 90,000 gallons of wastewater daily containing oil and heavy metals into the local Killingly water treatment plant. Urge the Commissioner of DEEP to protect the residents of the state from the polluted dirty water discharge and expense related to this unnecessary power plant, and reject this permit."
- [Killingly gas plant wastewater discharges are another reason for worry](#)

- *Hartford Courant*. "[No other New England state](#) is building new fossil fuel power plants. We shouldn't either.
- [Multi-user US offshore grid could 'save \\$1bn'](#)
 - *reBIZ*. "By relying on landing points closer to [New England] population centres and at robust onshore grid locations, a planned system reduces grid congestion and the need for expensive, disruptive onshore transmission projects that could hinder the growth of offshore wind."
- [Torrington site chosen for solar array project](#)
 - *CT Post*. "If a resident came to us and they were concerned about it, we'd try to figure out why, and try to give them the information they need so they can understand it and what we're doing."

CT Green Energy News - (5/8/20-Issue 165)

- [States should leave markets that don't work for families and businesses after bad FERC decisions](#)
 - *Utility Dive*. "ISO-NE [Independent System Operator-New England delivered one of the latest blows to the pocketbooks of families and businesses with its Energy Security Initiative filing on April 15, a massive overreaction to an imaginary gas shortage problem from ISO-NE's own deeply flawed study. The fact is that more clean energy helps winter reliability, not subsidizing dirty power plants."
- [Against headwinds, Connecticut lays out path to put more electric vehicles on the road](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "Folks may not be all that interested in spending money so freely [on electric vehicles], so incentives are going to be even more important...The state does have the wherewithal to increase the incentives available."
- [Towns balk at cost of overhauling Hartford trash plant](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "A crucial modernization project for Connecticut's largest waste-to-energy plant, which has been delayed a number of times in recent years, now faces further uncertainty after municipalities that send garbage to the facility declined to commit to higher costs to help finance the redevelopment."
- [CT regulators toughen rules on energy suppliers](#)
 - *greenwich time*. "Once these marketing standards are fully implemented, Connecticut consumers will be more protected from duplicitous marketing tactics and third-party suppliers who engage in such activity will be more accountable than ever before."

- [Solar farm proposed in Southington](#)
 - *Record-Journal*. "A Hartford-based solar energy developer is seeking state approval to build a solar farm on more than 100-acres owned by the Archdiocese of Hartford."

CT Green Energy News - (5/1/20-Issue 164)

- [Transportation Climate Initiative Moves Ahead Amid Pandemic Uncertainty](#)
 - *ecoRI*. "The Mid-Atlantic and Northeast states, including Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and **Connecticut**, working on a regional compact to reduce vehicle emissions are still hoping to produce a final memorandum of understanding before summer, despite the pandemic shutdown."
- [Ban on biz utility shut-offs extended a month, but payment plans are coming](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "Citing the need for Connecticut's electric, natural gas and water companies to provide reasonably priced and reliable service now and in the future, state regulators have ordered utilities to launch a new repayment program for ratepayers having trouble paying their bills due to the COVID-19 pandemic."
- [Torrington's O&G debuts 1.3 megawatt solar array at Southbury quarry](#)
 - *Litchfield County Times*. "When we looked at how we could best utilize solar, we were also concerned with our energy consumption during peak demand cycles. Like all businesses, we start up our operations in the morning. This creates a huge energy demand on the regional power grid. That was the reasoning behind the battery technology we implemented. That way we could draw from our own reserves, reduce the demand during our supplier's highest demand cycles and take some stress off the power grid."
- [Insurgent board candidates are pushing Yale and Harvard to divest from fossil fuels](#)
 - *Quartz*. "Backed by the climate activist group [Yale Forward](#) (inspired by a [similar group at Harvard](#)), Thomas hopes to rally alumni behind an "ethical investment strategy" that calls for rapid, full divestment of all university assets from fossil fuels and greater consideration of environmental, racial, and social justice."
- [Wait til 8](#)

- **Energize CT.** "You can have a positive impact on air quality and the cost of electricity in Connecticut simply by waiting until later in the day to run major appliances that don't impact comfort. Controlling electricity use during Connecticut's peak electric demand periods - weekdays, between noon and 8 p.m. - minimizes the use of expensive, fossil fuel, "peaking" power plants." [Look for the **Wait til 8** button below the photo]

CT Green Energy News - (4/24/20-Issue 163)

- [**Solar Net Metering Under Threat as Shadowy Group Demands Intervention in State Policies**](#)
 - **Greentech Media.** "A fast-tracked FERC petition during a pandemic could 'end net metering as we know it,' one legal expert warns." See also, **Petition seeks to force New England anti-renewable group to disclose its donors**
- [**Coronavirus is hitting Connecticut hard. Climate change will strike next.**](#)
 - **Hartford Courant.** "This is a question of leadership. And in the case of this pandemic, it is local government — mayors and governors — who have shown steady, competent and honest leadership. The takeaway? In the absence of federal leadership on climate over the last two decades, states, cities and local institutions can still achieve meaningful change."
- [**Clean energy can drive the coronavirus recovery, Massachusetts advocates say**](#)
 - **Energy News Network.** "Activists and businesses in Massachusetts say clean energy could be a powerful engine for job creation and economic growth as the country grapples with an economic slump brought on by the coronavirus pandemic." See also, **In 'Emergency' Revision, Massachusetts Doubles Solar Incentive Program**. What about here in Connecticut?
- [**Emissions Drop Nearly 40% During COVID-19 Pandemic**](#)
 - **CT News Junkie.** "Sustaining these reductions by implementing more permanent programs to further reduce power plant emissions, increase energy efficiency investments, increase deployment of renewable energy sources, eliminate unnecessary vehicle trips, and deploying more electric vehicles on the road would all have positive impacts on improving air quality and public health throughout Connecticut."
- [**ANALYSIS | Thinking Outside the Box – COVID-19 for Families Without Cars**](#)

- *CT News Junkie*. "In the past, bus transit, bike lanes, and sidewalks were too often overlooked as critical components of the region's transportation system. The City of Hartford has done an admirable job responding to those zero-car household needs during this crisis."

CT Green Energy News - (4/17/20-Issue 162)

- [Electricity prices pushed to new lows as coronavirus cuts New England demand with businesses closed and employees at home](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "In response to the coronavirus, residents and businesses across New England are using electricity at different times than before. Mike Knowland, manager of ISO's forecasting and scheduling, said electricity load patterns resemble those of snow days when schools are closed and many are home during the day."
- [CT Public Utilities Regulatory Authority - New Website](#)
 - Take a look at PURA's new website. Whether you are new to PURA or have followed this important state agency for years, the new website makes it easier to understand and participate in PURA's work.
- [Jon Lender: Norfolk family fights 646-foot wind turbine, approved by state council without public hearing. It 'will be looming over us.'](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "This project was approved by the Siting Council in 2011 for three wind turbines. Only two have been built to date, so what BNE has sought with this D&M Plan modification is to finish the construction of that which was already approved, namely a third wind turbine."
- [East Haven aims for 'sustainable' certification](#)
 - *Stamford Advocate*. "East Haven has joined the **Sustainable CT** initiative, following more than 50 percent of Connecticut's cities and towns into the program, which encourages sustainable practices within communities."

CT Green Energy News - (4/10/20-Issue 161)

- [Connecticut Insurers: Ensuring the Climate Crisis](#)
 - *CT Citizens Action Group, Sierra Club CT, and others*. "Connecticut is a leader in climate action, yet our insurance industry is failing to take the action necessary to avoid climate catastrophe. Instead, the top insurers in our state are investing billions in fossil fuels, and insuring an untold number of fossil fuel projects."
- [Transportation and Climate Initiative moves ahead amid pandemic uncertainty](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "The aim is to reduce transportation emissions — which account for about 40% of all greenhouse gas emissions in the region — by as

much as 25% by 2032. The participating jurisdictions are **Connecticut**, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia and Washington, D.C."

- [How New England Is Keeping The Lights On During The Pandemic](#)
 - *WBUR*. "What makes this crisis so unique is, it's not about that supply chain. It's about people...It's about making sure the workers are healthy, that they're able to get to the facility and keep the lights on for the rest of us."

CT Green Energy News - (4/3/20-Issue 160)

- [Most NE nuclear power offline due to timing fluke and problem](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "All but unnoticed as the coronavirus pandemic tears through the Northeast: the New England power grid is without 75% of its nuclear power – with more to go."
- [Lendlease sells 16-MW Connecticut solar project to NextEra Energy](#)
 - *Solar Power World*. "The solar project is located in Wallingford, Connecticut, with a portion of the project to be built on a landfill. The project has 20-year power purchase agreements in place with two Connecticut utilities, Eversource Energy and The United Illuminating Company."
- [Co-housing project rethinks residential energy use with shared walls, amenities](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "Called [Rocky Corner](#), the community is designed around conservation and sustainability, with collaborative living as its core focus."
- [State OKs plan to buy power from Conn. solar project](#)
 - *Providence Journal*. "The commission determined the contract to be "commercially reasonable," the standard set under the state's long-term contracting law for renewable energy, and found that the bundled price of power and renewable energy certificates from the project was below market price. The project is expected to save consumers more than \$30 million..."
- [FuelCell Energy closes Connecticut facility over COVID-19 concerns](#)
 - *Renewable Now*. "Projects under construction and maintenance services will continue, while finished goods on hand will be used for near-term in-flight projects. The company added it will re-evaluate its decisions as new information on the COVID-19 pandemic arrives."

CT Green Energy News - (3/20/20-Issue 158)

- [More energy-efficient buildings should be a priority](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Better buildings would reduce everyone's electric bills. They would also help the state achieve its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions"

by 45% by 2030. Yet lobbyists are quietly working to kill House Bill 5008, arguing it will cause housing costs to skyrocket."

- [Pandemic prompts request to delay Connecticut renewable bid deadline](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "A clean energy funder says a one-month delay would help accommodate projects disrupted by the coronavirus outbreak."
- [Utility service-shutoff moratorium extended to biz ratepayers](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "The ruling, which came in response to a petition from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), also temporarily bars utilities from requiring security deposits or balance reduction payments to restore utility service to customers who need it."

CT Green Energy News - (3/13/20-Issue 157)

- [Editorial: Natural gas wrong for state's power future](#)
 - *CT Post* "...high on the list of priorities is to stop causing harm, and that means no more gas-fired power plants. It's too late to stop the recently completed facilities, but the state can still head off the Killingly plant. It needs to do just that."
- [Wind, solar and storage take up 95% of ISO-New England interconnection queue, marking 'dramatic shift'](#)
 - *Utility*. "C-PACE is a program that helps commercial, industrial, and multifamily property owners access affordable, long-term financing to make smart energy upgrades to their buildings that can create immediate savings."
- [Electric suppliers to issue credits following Connecticut probe into rate violations](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Gillett said PURA levied multimillion-dollar fines last summer and authorities have "open-ended investigations" into deceptive marketing practices that typically involve electric suppliers making promises that the rate would be the lowest available and that a utility has endorsed them, which is false."
- [Waterford Reconsiders 75-Acre Solar Farm](#)
 - *WSHU*. "They're under an initiative from the state and the federal government to look at alternative energy sources, so we're not saying that's wrong. What we're saying is we want to be heard, we want our residents to be heard. And they granted that." Also see: [New England Solar Booms—But Erosion and Other Problems Pile Up](#)

- [Connecticut Green Bank launches free EV charging stations for commercial properties through C-PACE](#)
 - *New England Re.* "...building owners will not only make their buildings more modern and attractive, but their customers, tenants, and employees will be able to charge up and enjoy the benefits of electric vehicles. An EV charging station can help owners and businesses to distinguish their property from others, showing leadership and commitment to sustainability."

CT Green Energy News - (3/6/20-Issue 156)

- [We've Got One Chance](#)
 - *CT News Junkie.* "The transportation sector in Connecticut generates 38% of the state's greenhouse gas emissions, the largest emitting sector by far and similar to other states in the region. If there were not proven, equitable, and effective ways to address those emissions, I wouldn't be bothering to write this article."
- [Connecticut bill would give homebuyers, renters more transparency on energy costs](#)
 - *Energy News Network.* "The legislation is backed by state environmental groups and regulators but opposed by the real estate lobby." An opportunity to do something before Massachusetts. Hats off to DEEP.
- [Lawmaker wants Connecticut insurers to 'turbocharge' dash from fossil fuels](#)
 - *S&P Global.* "The bill would require the commissioner to determine if Connecticut-based or licensed insurers disclosed investments in fossil fuels and whether or not they were involved in underwriting for fossil fuels, including coal and tar sands projects. It would also require a study of whether insurers engaged a third party to assess their investment portfolios for exposure to climate risk."
- [Uber-like service in the works for Westport train stations](#)
 - *The Hour.* "Microtransit is a new thing within the public transit industry. We've been studying it pretty carefully...Microtransit, which focuses on an on-demand group ride service, provides advantages for riders over the current fixed routes of shuttles."
- [Connecticut's C-PACE Program Reached \\$163 Million in Clean Energy Financing for 2019](#)
 - *Environment + Energy Leader.* "C-PACE is a program that helps commercial, industrial, and multifamily property owners access affordable, long-term

financing to make smart energy upgrades to their buildings that can create immediate savings."

CT Green Energy News - (2/28/20-Issue 155)

- [Action Alert - Ask Governor Lamont to sign onto the Transportation Climate Initiative \(TCI\)](#)
 - *CTLCV*. "TCI is a regional, multi-state effort to reduce emissions in the transportation sector. TCI has the ability to drastically reduce air and water pollution from dirty fossil fuels, improve public health, and grow our economy." Take 2 minutes to send an [email](#) to the Governor.
- [State Regulators Threaten Fines For Electric Utilities Over Rollout Of 'Shared Solar'](#)
 - *WNPR*. "PURA's letter said recent paperwork from UI and Eversource failed to adequately comply with state timelines for developing rules around the program...I think the letter is encouraging...as it really underscores PURA's interest in having this program up and running in a timely fashion."
- [Energy shift is pushing down prices](#)
 - *Hartford Courant-Digital Edition*. "There's just a lot of electricity capacity on the market...This shows a very substantial shift in the nature of our electricity grid, away from traditional fossil fuels to renewables. What states have been investing in over the years is coming to fruition...Critics, however, say conventional, carbon-based sources of energy such as natural gas, the region's overwhelming favorite, still play too large a role as climate change is seen as an increasing threat."
- [Connecticut cities, solar installers locked in legal fight over property taxes](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "Since 2017, nearly 200 lawsuits involving hundreds of properties around the state have been filed in the state Superior Court. At the root of the challenges is a [state statute](#) granting a property tax exemption to renewable energy sources that generate electricity for "private residential use."
- [Construction Begins On Solar Farm In Eastern Enfield](#)
 - *Patch*. "Connecticut had 2,234 solar jobs in 2019, an increase of 41 jobs, or 1.9 percent, from the year prior, according to the survey." Plus, [Solar Farm Growing on Route 17 in North Haven](#).
- [Municipal aggregation savings 'shattering expectations' in Massachusetts](#)

- *Energy News Network.* "The growing number of Massachusetts cities and towns that have negotiated community-wide rates for green energy have saved millions of dollars while also shrinking their carbon footprints, according to a new report released last week." Why not in Connecticut?

CT Green Energy News - (2/21/20-Issue 154)

- [In Connecticut, low-income customers will see solar savings appear on bills](#)
 - *Energy News Network.* "Utilities — not solar developers — will be tasked with signing up lower-income customers under final rules for a Connecticut shared solar program...The model, recently adopted by state regulators, is meant to simplify the subscription process and better protect consumers while improving access to solar savings for low- to moderate-income households."
- [Coast Guard Academy Completes Project to Cut Down Energy Consumption by Nearly 50%](#)
 - *Military.com.* "The academy partnered with energy companies Eversource and Ameresco on the largest energy savings project in the history of the [Coast Guard](#), which resulted in \$39 million in capital improvements to the 87-year-old campus, such as replacing an oil-fired boiler with a natural gas plant and installing solar panels and new light fixtures."
- [Connecticut Concedes, Allows Tesla to Lease in State](#)
 - *Governing.* "The electric vehicle maker operated a service center at 881 Boston Post Road [Milford] for six years, but hadn't been able to lease any of its cars in Connecticut because of opposition from the state Department of Motor Vehicles. But in December, DMV officials reversed that stance and issued the company the necessary approvals to begin leasing vehicles."
- [CT solar jobs hold steady as U.S. industry stems losses](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "Connecticut had 2,234 solar jobs in 2019, an increase of 41 jobs, or 1.9 percent, from the year prior, according to the survey."
- [Electric buses are part of our future](#)
 - *Hartford Courant-Digital Edition.* "Unfortunately, financing opportunities such as the VW settlement, as well as federal Diesel Emissions Reduction Act money, can be allocated towards a wide category of heavy-duty diesel [bus] upgrades, as opposed to strictly electric retrofitting. We know that diesel is one of the worst air polluters, so why does our government continue to allow state and federal financing of new diesel vehicles?"

CT Green Energy News - (2/14/20-Issue 153)

- [Action Alert: Connecticut, let's get serious on climate!](#)

- *Sierra Club*. "The Connecticut legislature is back in session and considering legislation that will move Connecticut to 100% clean energy. **Ask your legislators to support a Green New Deal for Connecticut.**"
- **A tool for more local control over renewable energy**
 - *CT Mirror*. "Through the use of a tool called Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), Connecticut cities and towns can do more to direct their energy purchases toward renewable sources — while saving money at the same time." See also, **More cities buy electricity in bulk**, from Yale Climate Connections.
- **Students lobby state lawmakers at the Capitol on climate preservation issues**
 - *WTNH News 8*. "They're calling for a moratorium on new fossil fuel power plants and specifically want to stop a proposed plant in Killingly. They're also calling on state lawmakers to help expand renewable energy and efficiency and pass a law requiring access to climate education in public schools."
- **Lamont unveils New London harbor deal as quasi-public debate heats up**
 - *CT Mirror*. "Economic growth has remained a top priority throughout my administration, and this agreement paves the way for a surge in activity in New London and eastern Connecticut that will cement the state's position as a leader in the industry."
- **Wholesale Electricity Price Drop Reduces Demand for Fossil Fuels**
 - *ecoRI*. "There's a glut of (electricity) supply on the [ISO-NE] market...The big lesson there is there no need for new fossil fuel plants and I don't think you'll see any in the near future." The case for Killingly gets more and more shaky.
- **Regional Energy Markets And Climate Change**
 - *WHSU*. "Connecticut and other New England states may back out of the regional energy market because they want to fight climate change more aggressively. We'll discuss how that move could affect energy deals, from natural gas to offshore wind." A 46 minute discussion with representatives from CT DEEP, ISO-NE, Acadia Center and Sierra Club.

CT Green Energy News - (2/7/20-Issue 152)

- **Fund CT's Transit Improvement Plans - Action Alert**
 - *CT Roundtable for Climate and Jobs*. Tell Governor Lamont and the Senate and House co-chairs of the Transportation Committee that you appreciate their efforts to secure stable funding for transportation in CT. Now it's time to make sure we're investing those dollars in ways that will improve transit to significantly

increase transit ridership in our metro regions AND reduce emissions from transportation. Just [click here](#) to send your message.

- [Is natural gas essential for the state to reach zero-carbon goals?](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Tim Eves is living in a past that is both obsolete and dangerous...It is not surprising that a manager from NTE Energy who wants to build the Killingly Energy Center chose specific facts in order to rationalize building a polluting fracked gas plant in Killingly." Also see **Fight to stop gas-powered generation plant may be futile.**
- [New utility cooperative CEO calls for focus on future planning](#)
 - *The Day*. "Renewables are typically a premium product...It's all in more cost per megawatt hour than you would pay just taking energy from the market. Not being subject to a legal mandate [the , it becomes a strategic question for us: What is that analysis? What is the breakdown for us? How much do you lure customers? How much are they pushing you, or how much do your individual strategic plans call for increasing renewables?"
- [Middletown state Rep. participates in energy-saving Eversource home service](#)
 - *CT Post*. "Like many Connecticut homes, our house is older and has several inefficiencies. My wife and I saw this as an opportunity to not only be an example for our community, but as an investment to save money and energy, improve the comfort of our home and reduce the impact on our environment." **Starting March 1, 2020, the Home Energy Solutions co-pay will be just \$75 and fuel blind.**
- [R.I. electric utilities agree to buy power from new Connecticut solar project](#)
 - *Providence Journal*. "The utilities will pay a fixed rate of 5.3 cents per kilowatt hour for power and environmental benefits from the solar project under the 20-year contract that requires approval from the state Public Utilities Commission. It is expected to save consumers more than \$30 million when compared with projections for energy prices over the life of the contract."

CT Green Energy News - (1/31/20-Issue 151)

- [A bad decision by a half-empty oversight board](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "Why was this project approved when there were three vacancies on the CSC [CT Siting Council]? Would the outcome have been different if the Council had been fully appointed? Did the tiny group voting have all viewpoints represented?"
- [CT right to reconsider future power needs](#)

- *CT Post*. "As in many states, Connecticut talks a good game when it comes to climate change, and has enacted policies that aim to limit emissions while preparing resilience plans for coastal communities that are likely to be the hardest hit by rising global temperatures. But the state also continues to follow old policies that exacerbate the problem, whether by encouraging suburban sprawl by focusing transit plans on highways or by continuing to build power plants that rely on fossil fuels."
- [Connecticut solar group wins fight for transparency on 'value of solar' study](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "But when regulators announced last August that they were waiving the usual prohibition on what's known as ex parte communications in the matter — essentially allowing communications between themselves and interested parties to take place outside of public view — the state's solar lobby immediately cried foul."
- [VW, Dieselgate and Connecticut's electric buses](#)
 - *CT Mirror Viewpoints*. "Aside from being much quieter, these new electric buses will be an environmentalist's delight. Even factoring in the emissions from the additional utility generation of electricity to charge these buses, just two electric buses in the GBTA fleet will mean almost a half-million pounds less of CO2 in the environment." See also, [EV Club: CT electric vehicle registrations increased 26% in 2019](#).
- [Major Issues 2020 Legislative Session](#)
 - *Office of Legislative Research, CT General Assembly*. The issues listed for Energy and Technology are Community Choice Aggregation and Utility Shut-offs. For Environment, the issue is Solid Waste Management. See also, [State Sen. Norm Needleman Lays Out an Agenda for the Legislative Session](#)

CT Green Energy News - (1/24/20-Issue 150)

- [Power plant emissions down 47% under the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative](#)
 - *Yale Climate Connections*. "...I am surprised by just how strong the direction is. The fact that we're outpacing the rest of the country in electric sector emission reductions by 90% is staggering. ... It's an important demonstration that taking on climate change doesn't mean economic sacrifice." Connecticut is a member of RGGI.
- [What businesses should know about the evolution of rural solar](#)
 - *Rocky Mountain Institute*. "Connecticut and Oregon, as well as counties in North Carolina and Washington, have restricted solar development on prime agricultural land, citing concerns over the loss of farmland and impacts on food

production. Yet solar development does not have to engender a food-vs-fuel trade-off."

- [Amid cold winter temperatures, utilities launch outreach to ID hardship customers](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "The 10 events...come at the behest of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, which is in the midst of a major grid-modernization planning effort, one component of which is energy affordability for consumers."
- [Three cheers for tolls](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "Connecticut urgently needs to shift its transportation system away from its dependence on fossil fuels. The governor's CT2030 transportation spending plan, as commentators have pointed out..., does not go nearly far enough to develop the kind of sustainable transportation system necessary to respond to the climate crisis. Much more funding is needed for transit and for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure."
- [Old Lyme solar project moves forward despite environmental concerns](#)
 - *The Day*. "The project was selected by Eversource and awarded a 15-year contract to participate in its Low Emission Renewable Energy Credit program, helping Connecticut meet its emissions-reduction targets."

CT Green Energy News - (1/17/20-Issue 149)

- [Conn. taking 'a serious look' at exiting regional power market](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "We are at the mercy of a regional capacity market that is driving investment in more natural gas and fossil fuel power plants that we don't want and we don't need," Dykes said. "This is forcing us to take a serious look at the cost and benefits of participating in the ISO New England markets."
- [Connecticut towns want permission to buy clean power on behalf of residents](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "More organizations and towns in Connecticut are seeing the benefit of having local control over electricity in the context of environmental concerns and affordability."
- [Gillett leads CT's massive grid-modernization effort](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "...affordability is top of mind as the grid-modernization process gets underway, but ratepayers should also understand that if society fails to decarbonize, they will ultimately pay for it in other, potentially more costly ways."

- [How A Climate Change Nonprofit Got Eversource Thinking About A Geothermal Future](#)
 - *WBUR*. "The idea is that a gas utility takes out its leaky gas pipe and, instead of putting in new gas pipe, we put in a hot water loop...If we're going to invest in infrastructure, let's invest in infrastructure for the next century. Let's not invest in infrastructure that was hot in 1850."
- [Reducing electric-vehicle purchase incentive wrong-minded](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "In the recent changes, along with lower rebate levels, the price cap for eligible vehicles was lowered to a maximum MSRP of \$42,000 from \$50,000. Our EV Club published a blog post on Oct. 27, forecasting that this would cause a steep decline in rebates, and it has."

CT Green Energy News - (1/10/20-Issue 148)

- [MIRA plant a symbol of state's struggle to move into 21st century](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "While the practice of burning trash for energy arguably remains the most environmentally-friendly and commercially viable means for dealing with whatever can't be removed from the waste stream, its emissions still contribute to climate change, though other forms of disposal are less environmentally friendly. The key to making trash-to-energy less detrimental – it does create energy, after all – is to get a whole lot more out of the waste stream first."
- [Capped Landfill Site Gets a Second Life Through Solar Energy Farm](#)
 - *Zip06.com*. "Thanks to virtual net metering legislation...the town will also have the opportunity to purchase the energy produced by the solar farm at a reduced rate for use by high energy-using facilities like the town's ice rink and high school."
- [2 Vernon Industrial Buildings Going Solar](#)
 - *Patch*. "The 1.4 Megawatt array of solar panels, which was completed in the spring of this year, will offset nearly 70 percent of the company's annual energy use and "dramatically" reduce its carbon footprint."
- [Stratford's Sterling House gets solar power](#)
 - *CT Post*. "Through utilization of zero initial cost energy upgrade programs, partnerships with long-time supporters like Encon, and the good fortune of having a large roof on Erin's Gym face oriented perfectly for solar gain, we at Sterling House are proud to have installed a solar array that will produce more than 75 percent of the required energy for our beloved old home."

CT Green Energy News - (1/3/20-Issue 147)

- [Connecticut could be known for a modern transportation system, instead of asthma](#)

- *Hartford Courant*. "We need to begin the work of building a modern transportation system that is less reliant on fossil fuels and more protective of public health. That's why we're encouraged to see that [Connecticut has embraced](#) the Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI) as an opportunity to accelerate the transition to a cleaner, modern, more equitable transportation system."
- [Lamont Declines To Commit To Regional Gas Price Hike](#)
 - *CT News Junkie*. "The increase in gas prices [17 cents per gallon] is the result of charging fuel and oil distributors for violations of new carbon emission limits in the member states. The timing of the proposal is not ideal for Lamont. Increasing gas taxes at the same time as he's trying to get the legislature to approve truck-only tolling could prove difficult for Connecticut's governor."
- [Clocktower Close Award for Solar Energy with Plaza R&M & MHR](#)
 - *Patch.com*. "It's the largest rooftop solar installation for a residential condominium building in the New England region...The project represents a first year 70% reduction in the cost of energy and exponential savings in the years to come."
- [Mayor: Solar Farm Coming To Old Landfill](#)
 - *Patch.com*. "The solar farm, which will be comprised of about 4,000 solar panels on a 20-acre capped landfill site, will generate just under 1 megawatt of power per year. The project's clean energy production will offset a significant amount of carbon, equal to the amount sequestered by 950 acres of forest a year."
- [Certain environmental groups, and the legislature, are the biggest obstacles to renewable energy.](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "The end result of this is that there are now greater regulations being placed on the development of solar and on-shore wind projects in Connecticut than there are on certain fossil fuel fired electric generators. The people who eschew development in their neighborhoods now use these added requirements as a cudgel against developers of clean energy resources."
- [Finding hope after the lost decade on climate change](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Our country's only hope to lead on climate in the next decade is by following the examples set by leading states, cities, companies and institutions over the past decade. We've run the experiments and know what works."

CT Green Energy News - (12/20/19-Issue 146)

- [Multi-State Pact Could Curb Transportation Carbon Emissions](#)
 - *New York Times*. "You can use those resources to do a variety of things, but some of the things I think you'll see states use it for are charging stations, more money in public transportation, more investments in things that would encourage the development of electric vehicles." See also, [Transportation Climate Initiative releases controversial draft plan to cut emissions](#).
- [Greening Of Massachusetts Building Codes Faces Uncertain Future](#)
 - *NE Public Radio*. "This is a big push-and-pull between green building and affordable housing." When will Connecticut green its building codes?
- [Utilities required to boost protections for hardship customers after power shut-offs double in portions of Connecticut](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "But despite a well-publicized run-up to what advocates are calling an extraordinarily responsive ruling by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, people who are eligible for long established hardship programs are still losing service without being told of their options by the utilities."
- [UConn gets high ranking for sustainable initiatives](#)
 - *the Chronicle*. "It is expected that by drawing the attention of university leaders and stakeholders, more attention will be given to combating global climate change, energy and water conservation, waste recycling and green transportation."
- [Tesla leasing electric cars at Milford showroom](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Because it is a manufacturer, Tesla is not eligible to apply for a dealer license under state law, but Tesla is eligible to hold a leasing license and thus is authorized to offer leases in Connecticut."

CT Green Energy News - (12/13/19-Issue 145)

- [Eversource wants to be carbon neutral by 2030](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "The company's effort to neutralize net emissions from its own operations doesn't mean the electricity it sells from power plants will be carbon neutral, at least not yet."
- [Healey takes on grid operator](#)
 - *Commonwealth*. "Right now those [ISO NE] rules give a leg up to older, dirtier, energy sources and make it harder for new, cleaner sources to provide electricity...In New England, our current energy system is more expensive and more polluting than it should be." This applies as much to Connecticut as any other New England state, so Attorney General Tong, please take note.

- [New London Makes Sense of Connecticut's Selection of a Bridgeport-based Wind Deal](#)
 - *CT Examiner*. "Despite some of the misperceptions I've been reading in the press in the last 24 hours or so, the selection of Vineyard Wind by no means terminates the ongoing discussion with Ørsted."
- [New group urges stricter regulations for proposed Old Lyme solar project](#)
 - *The Day*. "Our hope isn't to get (the project) denied," said the group's leader...We are just trying to make sure they do it right. We don't want to deny this farmer the right to use his property how he wants to."
- [Q&A: The Power of Green Financing](#)
 - *Commercial Property Executive*. "The addition of rooftop solar and other energy upgrades to our buildings lowers our operating costs and increases the value of our buildings. It also sets our buildings apart and helps us to attract tenants who are environmentally conscious."
- [Chew On This: Farmers Are Using Food Waste To Make Electricity](#)
 - *NPR*. "We only use about 10 percent of [the power]...we make, and the rest is fed onto the [electricity] grid...It's enough to power about 1,500 homes." And here is Connecticut's first (and only) anaerobic digester, [Quantum Biopower](#). We need more of these.

CT Green Energy News - (12/6/19-Issue 144)

- [New offshore wind award is largest renewable project ever for CT](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "In what is the single largest purchase of renewable power ever by the state, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection announced Thursday it has chosen Vineyard Wind to develop an 804-megawatt offshore wind project. Once developed, the project will constitute roughly 14% of the state's power needs."
- [CT Transit Electrifies](#)
 - *New Haven Independent*. "By the end of 2020, ten CT Transit buses in the New Haven area will no longer cough out plumes of diesel exhaust as they make their daily trips." Plus: [Newer, cleaner buses coming to Ridgefield and New Fairfield](#)
- [OP-ED | Lessons from the New Haven Transit Study](#)
 - *CT News Junkie*. "New Haven's bus system is famously **broken**. The price tag to fix it, according to the years-long, state-funded [Move New Haven transit study](#), would be about \$15 million – plus another \$7 million annually for operational

costs. By comparison, the **redesign** of a single I-95 exit in West Haven would cost between \$59 million and \$69 million."

- [**Environmental group upset funds spent on diesel vehicles**](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Lori Brown, executive director of the Connecticut League of Conservation Voters, questioned Wednesday why more than \$4.7 million will be spent to replace greenhouse gas-emitting vehicles with diesel and fossil fueled-powered ones." Also see: [**Governor Lamont Announces Release of \\$6 Million in Volkswagen Settlement Funds to Support Clean Air Projects in Connecticut**](#)
- [**PURA poised to order low-income electricity customers out of retail market**](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "A study earlier this year found that hardship customers spent about \$7.2 million more to purchase electricity from third-party suppliers than they would have through their utility's so-called "standard service."
- [**Residential solar+storage breaks new ground as Sunrun wins ISO-NE capacity contract**](#)
 - *Utility Dive*. "We are likely the only resource that not only cleared in the market and is helping to lower costs and create a cleaner grid, but we are also providing resilient backup power if that grid should go down."
- [**MIRA waste-to-energy deal faces major obstacles**](#)
 - *CT Examiner*. "Caught between tipping fees that could reach \$140 a ton, and Hartford's likely refusal to agree to 30 more years of hosting the state's largest waste incinerator, a deal to avoid trucking a significant portion of Connecticut's waste out of state appears on the brink of failure."

CT Green Energy News - (11/22/19-Issue 143)

- [**Community Power Plan Pushed**](#)
 - *New Haven Independent*. "Michael Uhl believes there might just be a "magic wand" solution that would lower electricity prices, increase sustainable energy supplies, and chip away at the suffocating market influence of utility company giants, all in one fell swoop." [Click here](#) to sign a petition supporting Community Choice Aggregation for Connecticut.
- [**Presidential contenders join fellow senators in urging New England to speed clean energy transition**](#)
 - *Utility Dive*. "The lawmakers are critical of recent New England ISO market actions such as its ongoing fuel security initiative, which renewables advocates

say tends to benefit fossil fuel generators and ignores the benefits of cleaner resources." Here is a [copy of the letter](#) that seven NE senators signed.

- **[Environmental Group Scores Lawmakers Higher This Year](#)**
 - *CT News Junkie*. "We saw many freshman lawmakers making real change in environmental policy, and we want to thank all of our environmental champions for their work. However, there are still many lawmakers who rank very low, and we hope to see them do better next session."
- **[Lamont's Executive Order 3 on climate change is too little, too late](#)**
 - *CT Mirror*. "...we must reckon Lamont's pledge against the true scope of the damage climate breakdown will do to the people, infrastructure and stability of our state, our nation and our internationally connected world."
- **[In a first for Massachusetts, Brookline votes to ban oil and gas pipes in new buildings](#)**
 - *Boston Globe*. "The new bylaw, which must still be approved by the state attorney general's office, is part of a growing movement around the country to curb the use of fossil fuels in buildings. It was modeled after similar measures adopted in communities throughout California."
- **[Anbaric Seeks First Federal OK for Offshore Wind Energy Grid](#)**
 - *Boston Globe*. "Anbaric's plan is to build an ocean grid to deliver up to 16,000 megawatts of energy to Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. It would build the grid over 20 years."
- **[Connecticut EIA State Profile and Energy Estimates](#)**
 - *Energy Information Administration*. Some interesting facts in this just updated report: As of early 2019, there were about 525 megawatts of utility-scale and small-scale solar photovoltaic electric generating capacity installed in CT. Among states, CT ranks 46th in energy use per capita and 28th in energy expenditures per capita.

CT Green Energy News - (11/15/19-Issue 142)

Missing

CT Green Energy News - (11/8/19-Issue 141)

- **[Solar, energy efficiency to drive drops in load, peak demand over next 10 years, ISO-NE says](#)**
 - *Utility Dive*. "ISO-NE's outlook shows total net annual use of electric energy declining by 0.4% annually, with summer peak also declining 0.4% annually by

2028. Without solar generation and efficiency, the operator said its baseline forecast showed energy consumption would grow by 1.1% annually, and summer peak demand would grow by 0.7%."

- [After utility shut-offs in Connecticut more than double, regulators hold hearing on programs for low- and moderate-income families](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "The nature of the problem — advocates call it the low-hanging fruit — is also pushing the issue. There are existing programs that can help eligible families reduce their back bills while making below-budget monthly payments, but hundreds of thousands of people don't know this assistance is available."
- [Key Takeaways from the Latest RGGI Investment Report](#)
 - *NRDC*. "RGGI's investments in energy efficiency, renewables, and other programs to date have now saved residents of **Connecticut**, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont at least \$1 billion on their energy bills, with \$10 billion in bill savings expected overall."
- [Middlesex County towns among those to achieve prestigious Sustainable CT certification](#)
 - *Middletown Press*. "The Sustainable CT program has helped us take stock of our strengths and opportunities while driving positive sustainable actions, including a focus on equity and its importance for creating a sustainable future."
- [Vernon to get first electric vehicle charging station](#)
 - *Journal Inquirer*. "The charging station is part of the town's efforts to receive a 2020 Sustainable CT certification, Purcaro said. Sustainable CT is a program through the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities that encourages municipalities to adopt green technology and provides certifications to towns who fulfill certain criteria toward that goal."

CT Green Energy News - (11/1/19-Issue 140)

- [Climate change v. Killingly gas power plant. And the winner is ...](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "This one plant is shining a light on a bigger problem we have in Connecticut...We have clean energy goals and greenhouse gas reduction goals, but they're only good if we use them for decision-making." Also see, **11 attorneys general urge FERC to respect state energy rights**. Connecticut's AG was one of them.
- [Connecticut among states studying regional gas tax](#)

- *Hartford Courant*. "...the money would help in improving electric-car charging and investing in mass transit as ways to reduce emission."
- [New PURA leader Gillett reckons with CT's energy prices](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "Marissa P. Gillett...said Wednesday that affordability across all customer classes will be a focus during her five-year term, but warned that it will likely take a few years to draft and enact policies that have meaningful impacts on Connecticut's ranking as one of the most expensive for energy costs in the lower 48 states."
- [West Hartford Mayor 'Flips Switch,' Activates Rooftop Solar Array at Town Hall](#)
 - *we-ha.com*. "Through energy efficiency projects and LED lighting, we have reduced our total electricity use in our town operations by 20% over the past seven or eight years – or a reduction of over 4 million kilowatt hours, with an avoided cost of over \$700,000," Cantor said. "Not only does it make sense to go green, but it makes green sense."
- [The Town of Simsbury Connecticut, Asante Energy and Greenskies Renewable Energy complete rooftop solar project](#)
 - *PV Magazine*. "Burkitt said the solar panels are expected to produce 350,000 kilowatt hours of electricity. He said the electricity generated will be used for the school. He estimates the borough will net a savings of \$70,000 the first year and then the savings will gradually increase."
- [TicketNetwork blankets S. Windsor HQ roof with solar panels](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "A newly unveiled rooftop solar array on its South Windsor headquarters will provide about 70 percent of TicketNetwork's annual energy needs,...[The company] said it expected to recoup its investment in less than four years."

CT Green Energy News - (10/25/19-Issue 139)

- [DEEP Gives OK To Wetland Impacts In Killingly. Take Action Today!](#)
 - *CT Sierra Club*. "Please **send a message** to DEEP to oppose DEEP's tentative approval to destroy a wetland to build the Killingly power plant."
- [As Connecticut releases electric vehicle roadmap, some question its direction](#)
 - *Energy News Network*. "How do you achieve your goals if you're actually reducing the incentives you're offering to consumers?"

- [Farmington's Westfarms mall installing \\$9.2M solar array](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "Expected to reduce the all's utility bill by about 20 percent, the solar array, consisting of 6,824 panels, builds on a series of prior and ongoing lighting and energy efficiency upgrades at the mall."
- [School solar project takes step forward](#)
 - *Citizen's News*. "Burkitt said the solar panels are expected to produce 350,000 kilowatt hours of electricity. He said the electricity generated will be used for the school. He estimates the borough will net a savings of \$70,000 the first year and then the savings will gradually increase."
- [C-PACE Solar Project Built In Fairfield, CT](#)
 - *Solar Industry*. "Projects on high-traffic properties help spread the word to other developers, building owners and residents that energy efficiency and renewables are good financially and for the environment."
 -
- [TicketNetwork blankets S. Windsor HQ roof with solar panels](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "A newly unveiled rooftop solar array on its South Windsor headquarters will provide about 70 percent of TicketNetwork's annual energy needs,...[The company] said it expected to recoup its investment in less than four years."

CT Green Energy News - (10/18/19-Issue 138)

- [Want to help stop the Killingly natural gas plant?](#)
 - *Not Another Power Plant*. Then contribute to the NAPP [GoFundMe campaign](#) to appeal the CT Siting Council's decision approving the Killingly power plant. Make an investment in this effective way to oppose the project.
- [Connecticut Gets Closer To Awarding Offshore Wind Contract](#)
 - *CT News Junkie*. "He said Bridgeport and New London are both well situated for offshore wind because they are not obstructed by bridges. That means the vessels will be able to go in and out and service these wind farms easily. It's not a question of New London or Bridgeport, it's more a question of New London and Bridgeport,"
- [Communities of color are rallying to fight climate change](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "Latinos want action on climate change. A landmark Yale study showed that over 75 percent of Latinos are worried about climate change. Right now, we are deeply concerned about the impacts climate change..."
- [Farmington's Westfarms mall installing \\$9.2M solar array](#)

- *Hartford Business Journal*. "Expected to reduce the all's utility bill by about 20 percent, the solar array, consisting of 6,824 panels, builds on a series of prior and ongoing lighting and energy efficiency upgrades at the mall."
- [Jet engine business in Berlin plans major expansion, solar farm](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "[The company] will use a large part of the old driving course for a solar energy farm, and hopes to generate as much as 80 percent of the power the manufacturing plants require."
- [Report: CT utilities thwart growing number of attempted cyberattacks](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "The array and sophistication of cybersecurity threats facing Connecticut's public utilities is greater than it has been and continues to become more dangerous."

CT Green Energy News - (10/11/19-Issue 137)

- [As CCAs take over utility customers, local generation emerges as the next big growth driver](#)
 - *Utility Dive*. "Inspired by these states' rapid growth, aggregation proponents are actively working toward enabling legislation in Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Colorado, Oregon, and regulation in Arizona,...Pennsylvania and Connecticut are most likely because they are deregulated markets and only need aggregation enabling statutes."
 - **Congratulations to Middletown for being the first municipality in Connecticut to pass a resolution urging the General Assembly and Gov. Lamont to enact a Community Choice Aggregation law in our state. Your town could be next.**
- [Green Bank announces a milestone for Connecticut efficiency initiative](#)
 - *Smart Energy International*. "Connecticut Green Bank Multifamily Housing Programme has provided funding to more than 100 multifamily properties, implementing energy efficiency retrofits. The Connecticut Green Bank has provided up to \$34 million in funding and technical assistance since its inception in 2014."
- [Survey finds sunny outlook for CT electric vehicle sales](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "Of the 261 Connecticut residents surveyed by West Monroe, 9 percent said it was "extremely likely" and 36 percent said it was "somewhat likely" that their next car purchase or lease would be an electric vehicle."

- [Farrel Pomini decreases carbon footprint with large scale solar installation](#)
 - *CT Post.* "As a corporate citizen, we definitively feel that we have an obligation to do the things we can to help the environment...At the same time, the economics make a lot of sense with the federal tax credit and the utility companies providing some financial assistance as well."
- [Developer Breaks Ground On New Energy Efficient Data Hub](#)
 - *CT News Junkie.* "The waste energy from the fuel cells will then be used to help power a four-acre hydroponic vegetable farm nearby. The company will...turn the heat into electricity with their Organic Rankine Cycle engine."
- [Lamont talks energy during tour of NEAP](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "We pay a lot of lip service to saving energy, and for the last number of years, we haven't provided energy efficiency funding, which is key to our commitment going forward...We changed that in this current budget. We fully put back all the money."

CT Green Energy News - (10/4/19-Issue 136)

- [The Killingly natural gas plant will be a step backwards for the climate](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "Gov. Ned Lamont and Commissioner Dykes, please look at the big picture and put both climate and common sense first by overriding the council's approval of this Killingly plant."
- [ISO New England responds to Connecticut's clean energy policies](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "For years, ISO New England has said that putting a price on carbon would be the most efficient way to reduce GHG emissions on the [power system](#), but, to this point, the New England states and other stakeholders have not pursued this option."
- [Funding raid hits CT's energy efficiency standing](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "As predicted, much of the reason for the decrease had to do with lawmakers in 2017 opting to raid approximately \$117 million from a pot of money funded by a charge on ratepayer utility bills and intended to pay for energy efficiency programs."
- [State Pier Operator Boosts Connecticut Port Authority Plans for New London](#)
 - *CT Examiner.* "...accommodating the wind turbines — each the height of the Chrysler Building City — as well as the outer casings of the towers, called

nacelles, State Pier needs to be renovated and reconfigured from its two "finger" wharfs to one long quay that can accommodate much larger ships."

- [Offshore wind farm proposals hit the desk of CT regulators](#)
 - *CT Post.* "The proposed bids include plans for a required 400-megawatt project and options that would generate 800 megawatts, 1000 megawatts and 1200 megawatts. The wind farms would be constructed in one of two, federally designated lease areas south of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket."
- [Ameresco, Clean Energy Collective complete Connecticut's first community solar project](#)
 - *Solar Builder.* "By tapping into its new source of renewable energy, the Bloomfield Board of Education, along with households and businesses in the surrounding area, will benefit from reduced energy costs and an overall lower carbon footprint."

CT Green Energy News - (9/27/19-Issue 135)

- [Killingly power plant project an affront to Lamont's energy policy](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "If your readers wish to be part of stopping this new plant, they can call the governor's office at 800 406-1257 or contact State D.E.E.P. Commissioner Katie Dykes at 860 424-3571 or katie.dykes@ct.gov to voice opposition." For more, see [Letter From Legislators to Lamont Opposes Killingly Power Plant](#).
- [Climate 'strikers' ask Lamont to take emergency steps on environment](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* "I won't be old enough to vote in the 2020 election, so I am asking all of you who are old enough to get out there and vote...I'm asking you to vote for me, and my generation. I'm asking you to vote for our future."
- [When is a new power plant 'necessary' in New England? Regulators defer to capacity market](#)
 - *Energy News Network.* "Within the span of a few weeks in June, regulatory officials in Connecticut and Rhode Island came to starkly different conclusions on development proposals for natural gas-fired electric generating plants on sites about 20 miles apart."
- [Gov. Lamont's promise to generate all of Connecticut's power from renewable sources of energy by 2040 faces substantial barriers](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "One of the major challenges ought to be going after ISO-New England and its approach to paying for power and providing

incentives for the building of power producers, and bringing that in line with a goal like Gov. Lamont's so it becomes more achievable on a regional basis."

- [CT's small solutions to climate change: South Windsor goes solar](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "The projected savings: For solar in five schools, the town expects to save more than \$100,000 per year. And the first virtual net metering solar field is expected to save about \$74,000 per year, or \$1.4 million over 20 years."
- [Regulator OKs state-granted nuke contract, cost remains secret](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "This important step keeps Connecticut and all of New England from back sliding on addressing climate change. Now we can renew our focus on offshore wind and other renewable energy resources to fully transition to a clean energy grid by 2040."

CT Green Energy News - (9/20/19-Issue 134)

- [Bloomfield Bows CT's First Shared Solar Project](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "The Bloomfield Board of Education has dibs on 60 percent of the output from the 1.6-megawatt, ground-mounted solar farm located off of Blue Hills Avenue, while the rest will go to residential properties not well suited for roof-mounted solar panels, including low-income housing"
- [Public Turns Out in Support of Bay State Wind's Energy Plans for New London's State Pier](#)
 - *CT Examiner.* "There's the potential marketplace for 20 gigawatts of offshore wind generation in the near to mid term. Just to give you a sense of scale — that's kind of like 40 modern natural gas power plants, so it's a significant scale of energy generation and a significant scale of an opportunity."
- [New Tool Shows Effects of Sea Level Rise in Connecticut](#)
 - *CT Mirror.* A new tool produced by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the University of Connecticut's Center for Land Use Education and Research shows what will happen to the 21 largest tidal marshes in the state as the result of sea level rise, as well as what that sea level rise will do to shoreline roads.
- [Connecticut Tries to Pin Down the True Value of Distributed Energy Resources](#)
 - *Microgrid Knowledge.* "Backers of these resources have long argued that distributed energy projects are not compensated fairly in the US because current mechanisms do not consider all of their benefits. But few states have taken on the complex issue. Connecticut is.

- [OpEd: Kill the Gas Powered Plant in Killingly](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "There is no reason for us to push forward with gas powered plants instead of making renewables the top focus. We are trying to create a state, a country and a world that will be better for younger generations to live in."

CT Green Energy News - (9/13/19-Issue 133)

- [Environmentalists clash with Lamont as natural gas plant set for Killingly tests Connecticut's promise to address climate change](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "I'm concerned we're the only state in the region that continues to expand natural gas knowing that methane is the chief component of natural gas, the most destructive greenhouse gas we have."
- [Connecticut League of Conservation Voters Sets an Environmental Agenda in Hartford](#)
 - *CTExaminer.* "We just saw the quorum on Tuesday about zero carbon in 2040, and yet a couple weeks ago they just approved the Killingly frack gas power plant which would be operational past 2040."
- [Connecticut 100% carbon-free plan is chance to move beyond ISO-NE gas focus: DEEP chief](#)
 - *Utility Dive.* "But market observers say clean energy resources in some regions do not have an even playing field, and the rising prominence of renewables coupled with aggressive state policies to reduce emissions creates a tension between states and their regional grid operators over what resources best meet states' energy needs. Particularly the eastern RTOs and ISO are set up in such a way that natural gas is sort of the 'go to' for new generation."
- [Connecticut, Rhode Island vie for roles in emerging offshore wind industry](#)
 - *Energy News Network.* "The dueling declarations about each state's rightful place as the center of all things offshore wind show how competition is heating up for the thousands of jobs that will support the industry. While each state hopes to be the leader, experts say the economic opportunity around offshore wind in the Northeast is big enough that both should be able to succeed in the industry."
- [MDC to decommission hydropower facility](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal.* "...the 1988 turbines are nearing the end of their operational life and require major maintenance, MDC wrote this week to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, which licenses the facility."

CT Green Energy News - (9/6/19-Issue 132)

- [Lamont applauded, and challenged, on climate change response](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "...Connecticut is the only state in the region still promoting the conversion of homes and businesses from oil to natural gas, and she warned that environmentalists are hoping to block construction of a new gas-fired power plant in Killingly." Plus: **Connecticut governor calls for 100% carbon-free power by 2040.**
- [New Hampshire Law Expands Municipal Aggregation, Paving Way for More Clean Energy](#)
 - *EnerKnol*. "Municipal aggregation allows purchases of electricity in bulk on behalf of the residents and businesses within the community...Municipalities can also operate energy efficiency and clean energy districts adopted with the approval of their governing body." NH joins all of our neighboring states in allowing Community Choice Aggregation. When will Connecticut? For more, **click here.**
- [Southern N.E.'s Fossil-Fuel Infrastructure Builds Up](#)
 - *ecoRI News*. "The debate over expanding pipelines and related equipment occurs nearly every winter following cold spells that increase demand for the natural gas flowing through Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts."
- [Offshore wind means real jobs, growth for Thames River](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "As more states move forward on their commitments to renewable energy there will be increasing opportunities for offshore wind development, which means more activity at State Pier and greater incentives for offshore wind suppliers and manufacturers to come to southeastern Connecticut and put down roots."
- [Plainfield school board facing solar panel dilemma](#)
 - *The Bulletin*. "With the end of school summer vacation looming, the Board of Education is meeting Wednesday to discuss what to do about an uncompleted project to install solar panels on the roofs of three schools."

CT Green Energy News - (8/30/19-Issue 131)

- [CT offshore wind may face some rough seas](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "Is the Department of Interior using the process to foot drag and doing everything it can to be an impediment to the process? Or do we take them at their word? Can they easily make a case they have legitimate issues there?"
- [CT, RI trading spots for most expensive electricity in the lower 48](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "It's unclear exactly what's causing the trend, but in general, New England states are heavily reliant on imported energy from other

states, particularly natural gas from deposits in other regions. That requires longer distance, more expensive pipeline shipments."

- [Microgrid to Serve as Core of \\$110-\\$120M Connecticut Mixed-Use Project](#)
 - *Microgrid Knowledge*. "The Manchester Broad Street Parkade microgrid will include around 1 MW of solar PV, 2-3 MW of natural gas-fired combined heat and power, batteries, and a water heating loop."
- [New Haven company looks to crowdfund solar panels for nonprofit](#)
 - *New Haven Register*. "What we are doing with this is democratizing clean energy ownership," Hochstrasser said. "The typical way that solar arrays are done is through bank loans or outright purchases. Projects like this of between 20 and 500 kilowatts would typically get pretty high interest rates for a loan."
- [E. Windsor company claims CT's first "net zero" commercial building](#)
 - *Hartford Business Journal*. "It has a rooftop solar array that produces 92,000 kilowatt hours of electricity, energy-efficient lighting, an efficient heating system and other features, which all help save \$6,000 compared to a similarly constructed steel building of its size."

CT Green Energy News - (8/23/19-Issue 130)

- [Editorial: Conn. already eclipsed on shared solar](#)
 - *The Register Citizen*. "In recent years, about the only way Connecticut lands before New York and Massachusetts is alphabetically."
- [Connecticut's first offshore wind bidding war applauded](#)
 - *The Day*. "Offshore wind has the potential to significantly reduce the electric grid's dependence on fossil fuels, improve grid reliability in the winter, and advance clean energy jobs ... all while helping Connecticut achieve critical climate goals."
- [Connecticut tops continental U.S. in electricity prices: what gives?](#)
 - *The Day*. "Energy and utilities experts consistently point to a few key factors driving Connecticut's costly power: the state's reliance on natural gas, which is cheap and abundant nationally but not found or stored underground here; regional pipelines with limited capacity, leading to price spikes, especially in winter; deregulation in the late 1990s, which led to about 40 percent of customers buying electricity from a third-party retail supplier, some charging more than utilities; and basic geography."
- [Microgrid at \\$1 Billion Data Center](#)

- *Microgrid Knowledge*. "Data centers will continue to be an important vertical for Doosan to serve, and customers in the Northeast can take advantage of several incentives to reduce their overall costs adopting fuel cell technology."

CT Green Energy News - (8/16/19-Issue 129)

- [A Letter from CT legislators concerning the value of distributed energy resources](#)
 - The letter from Rep. Jonathan Steinberg and others to Katie Dykes of DEEP and Marissa Paslick Gillett of PURA begins: "It's in everyone's best interest that Connecticut takes advantage of new ways that electricity may be produced, delivered, and used that are both reliable and affordable for all ratepayers."
- [New Transportation Policy Big Win for Connecticut](#)
 - *Public News Service*. "The analysis showed that by 2030 the TCI funds would allow Connecticut to invest in 170,000 electric vehicles and their associated charging infrastructure."
- [Lamont takes additional action to move Connecticut Port Authority forward](#)
 - *Norwalk Plus.com*. "There's nothing holding it up, nothing of contention creating challenges," said David Kooris, acting chairman of the authority and the deputy commissioner of the state Department of Economic and Community Development. "We're running through with our partners all the different scenarios we can think of that may play out over a relatively long-term agreement."
- [Should Connecticut Study Long-Term Impact Of Wind Farms?](#)
 - *WSHU*. "We are most concerned about the impact to species that are already endangered or threatened as a result of habitat loss or limits to food availability" she said." What would be the impact of severely delaying the building of the wind farms?"
- [Bridgeport's Wade's Dairy unveils completed solar panel project](#)
 - *CT Post*. "We're looking for the day when the Tesla trucks are going to be running, and we're going to have a huge electrical draw," Wade said. "We expect we will need another two tractors in coming years, and if Teslas are available, I want to go Tesla."

CT Green Energy News - (8/9/19-Issue 128)

- [Shared solar program heading towards approval, complaints in tow](#)
 - *CT Mirror*. "The devil is in the details, starting with the frequent suggestion that there simply should be fewer of them."

- [Environmental advocates denounce planned natural gas plant in Killingly](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "Opponents to the Killingly plant say it takes the state in an opposite direction by promoting natural gas and fracking."
- [Offshore wind deal pushing forward at New London State Pier](#)
 - *The Day.* "There's nothing holding it up, nothing of contention creating challenges," said David Kooris, acting chairman of the authority and the deputy commissioner of the state Department of Economic and Community Development. "We're running through with our partners all the different scenarios we can think of that may play out over a relatively long-term agreement."
- [Connecticut clean air projects will receive another \\$7.5M from the Volkswagen emissions settlement](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "Residents, government agencies and private companies can now submit proposals for clean air projects they'd like the department to reimburse. Once those projects are complete, the state will use its portion of the Volkswagen settlement to cover the cost. Connecticut netted \$56 million over ten years in the settlement."
- [State Senator Norm Needleman Reviews Freshman Season](#)
 - *Zip 06.* "He was tasked with chairing the Energy and Technology Committee, "which is probably the most technically challenging committee because it's grid-level energy policy," he said. "It's understanding how the New England power grid works. All the utilities pretty much fall under the purview of Energy and Technology so it's a highly challenging committee to chair."

CT Green Energy News - (8/2/19-Issue 127)

- [Energy Fund Raids Have Stopped, But Industry Says The Damage Has Been Done](#)
 - *CT News Junkie.* "...the sweeps have forced some clean energy businesses to close and others to lay off staff...you can't create a sector of the economy by creating these funds and all of a sudden take it away."
- [Hartford to expand solar panel array on former landfill](#)
 - *Hartford Courant.* "The ultimate goal is to be able to expand access to renewable energy at a lower cost," said Shubhada Kambli, the city's sustainability director. "We know it doesn't make sense to only promote installation of solar on single family residential homes."

- [Hartford a top 25 city for green energy](#)
 - *Hartford Courant*. "It wasn't just a few of us kind of huddled in a room together trying to think great thoughts about where Hartford could go, but a major community planning effort with a big focus on equity."
- [New Bridgeport power plant officially turned on](#)
 - *CT Post*. "The plant means clean burning fuel for the next 40 years, but it also means good paying jobs and people getting an opportunity," said Gov. Ned Lamont."