2022 Candidate Survey on the Environment

Paul Honig Democrat
Senate , 8

OPEN QUESTION

I have long been a proponent and promoter of sustainable future friendly buildings. In 2012 my wife and I built the first certified Passive House in the state of CT. Our net-zero carbon emissions house won the CT Zero Energy Challenge with a HERS rating of -13 and received coverage on two local TV stations and numerous newspapers including a front page article in the Hartford Courant. You can read our blog with over 78,000 page views at http://connecticutpassivehouse.blogspot.com.

I'm very interested in finding a sustainable solution to the state's waste management predicament. When we built our house we made decisions with the full lifespan of the house in mind. Modest investments in energy efficiency and renewables gave us an outsized savings in energy costs, provided a more comfortable place to live and did something good for the environment. I hope we can accomplish something similar in terms of an investment yielding multiple benefits with a waste management solution by thinking about the long term.

1) **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE:**
    ● Yes

2) **WASTE MANAGEMENT:**
    ● Yes
      Disposing of waste is a cost of consumption that is often ignored and left to municipalities to bear. EPR is a policy that will help align costs of disposal with consumption. It will incentivize increasing recycling and will reduce the amount of garbage needing to be processed.

3) **POLYSTYRENE:**
    ● Yes

4) PFAS:
- Yes

5) NEONICOTINOIDS:
- Yes

6) RODENTICIDES:
- yes

7) DIESEL BACKUP GENERATORS/DATA CENTERS:
- Yes

8) BEARS:
- yes

9) TREE CUTTING PROTOCOLS:
- Yes

10) COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY:
- Yes

11) RIPARIAN BUFFERS:
- Yes

12) RANKED CHOICE VOTING:
- yes
- I was a founding member of Voter Choice CT, a grassroots organization promoting ranked-choice voting in our state. The first step is to create a task force to study RCV's implementation. I spent a lot of time advocating for this. I was very disappointed it did not pass in 2019, 2021 or 2022. I will push for this in the Senate.