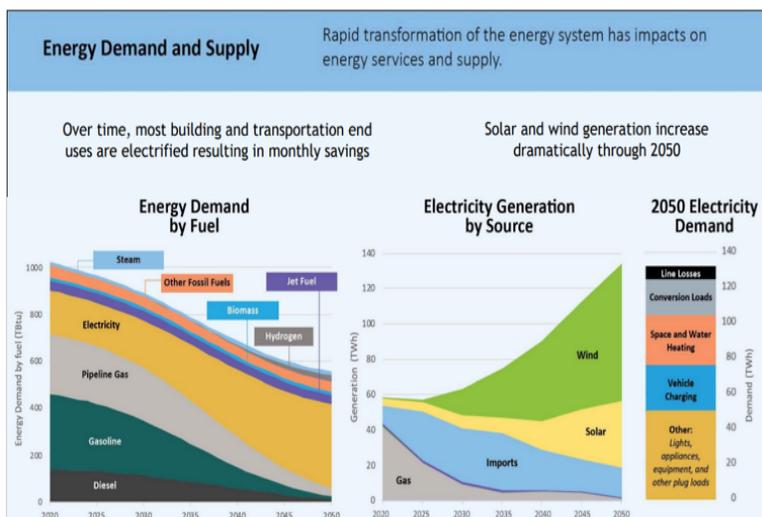


THE PROBLEM

CT is not on track to meet emission reduction targets under the Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA). To do so we must know how we're going to get there. Although there are valuable planning tools the state uses such as the Comprehensive Energy Strategy and Integrated Resources Plan, DEEP staff have acknowledged there is no comprehensive, integrated decarbonization roadmap for CT to get to our critical climate targets. Existing and still needed planning efforts are not yet integrated into one actionable set of critical steps, policies, programs and key decisions. Such an economy-wide multiple sector decarbonization road map would also be the basis for accountability in which progress could be measured and needed adjustments made.

WE'RE NOT ALONE

Massachusetts has completed a Decarbonization Roadmap that can serve as a model for CT to consider. A CT Roadmap is additionally key in that full decarbonization relies on the New England states working together. There are no two states more important to influencing the region than MA and CT. When both states have a roadmap, success will be increased for each and the region as a whole.



A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION

CT can be a leader on climate by passing HB 6397 which directs the state to prepare a multi-sector "CT Decarbonization Roadmap" for meeting our GWSA targets. Sector-specific emission targets can be identified through HB 6397 which will greatly improve CT's overall climate planning. This could include the electricity, transportation, building, and non-energy sectors that would also consider emission reduction benefits from working and natural lands. HB 6397 calls for the integration of multiple existing planning efforts into a single comprehensive plan, and the integration of key planning measures still needed.

The Roadmap can optimize affordability, demonstrate lower costs through decarbonization pathways, generate economic benefits for the state, and integrate critical improvements for underserved and overburdened communities.

HB 6397 "declares a climate crisis to (1) demonstrate the urgency for enacting meaningful climate legislation; and (2) support increased efforts to secure federal funds." The latter can be a major source of funding for the planning work needed.

Producing a clear roadmap is the next major critical step for CT to reach it's climate goals. Without it, "a failure to plan is a plan to fail."

MORE INFORMATION

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