



TESTIMONY **IN OPPOSITION TO SB 300**

AAC NATURAL GAS CAPACITY AND THE RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARDS
March 7, 2024

To: Distinguished Members of the Energy & Technology Committee

From: Lori Brown, Executive Director, CT League of Conservation Voters

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our **strong opposition to SB 300**, which seeks to increase our reliance on polluting fossil fuel energy.

The most recent CT Greenhouse Gas Inventory report indicates that we are currently not on track to meet our medium and long-term greenhouse gas reduction targets, and that “the state will need to significantly accelerate annual reductions” in order to achieve our goals.

If we are to be successful in reducing our polluting emissions, we must put the full force of our efforts on the transition **AWAY** from fossil fuels such as oil and gas. **The sooner we invest in clean, renewable energy, the sooner we will stabilize our energy costs, make the grid more reliable, and eliminate the air pollution that is sickening our health and destroying our planet.**

SB 300 sends CT backwards, in the wrong direction from where we need to go. The study that is called for in the bill is based on the presumption that we need **MORE** gas. This is incompatible with what we need to meet our clean energy and climate goals.

Instead, we must modernize and align our energy policy in a way that supports the wellbeing of all CT residents and protects our environment.

The same is true for the misguided effort to put nuclear power in direct competition with renewable energy sources. This would effectively end the Renewable Portfolio Standard that has been the cornerstone of our clean energy program for decades.

The legislature should allow PURA to do its job to examine the RPS and make recommendations on any needed updates or changes in the best interest of the ratepayers **AND** the environment (which affects everyone).

CTLCV considers this legislation to be one of the most troubling proposals of the 2024 session and urges lawmakers to reject this bill in its entirety. Thank you for considering the environment when you vote.

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