



2018 Candidate Survey on the Environment

Gary Byron (Republican)

House District 27

1) 100% Clean Energy by 2050:

Do you support transitioning to 100% clean energy by 2050 or sooner?

Yes

2) State Water Plan:

Will you support the plan as submitted to the legislature and affirm that water is a public trust?

Yes

I voted to install a consumer advocate to the MDC District Board

3) Municipal Funding Pilot for Open Space:

Would you support legislation that would allow, but not require, certain municipalities to establish a dedicated fund to protect local open space, farmland and water resources through a limited conveyance fee on buyers of real estate?

Yes

I worked tirelessly to preserve 10 acres on Cedar Mountain and have the state convey that land to the Town of Newington. I continue to work to secure the remaining 18.8 acres. I was also a member of Save Mill Pond that protected a large portion of the town's park from a development by the Parks & Recreation Department. There are over 100 species of birds who call Cedar Mountain their home along with many other wild life species.

4) Plastic Bag Pollution:

Would you support a statewide ban on single-use plastic bags (or a ban/fee hybrid) to significantly reduce plastic bag pollution in our state?

Yes

5) Gas Pipeline:

Will you support the repeal of the pipeline tax established in 2015?

Yes

6) Carbon Pricing:

Would you support carbon pricing for Connecticut?

Uncertain

I would need to see more details and I am open to a conversation to review how much of an economic impact this would have since industrial space could be abandoned or left contaminated.

7) Additional Comments:

I strongly support conservation efforts. Another notable effort was to kill HB 6851 that would have allowed the state to over ride local zoning controls over development. All too often DEEP has jurisdiction over wetlands that must be removed and the mitigation efforts to replace them is often promised but rarely delivered.