



# WORKING DRAFT

General Assembly

***Amendment***

*January Session, 2025*

LCO No. **8923**

Offered by:

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. **4**

File No. 325

Cal. No.

***"AN ACT CONCERNING ENERGY AFFORDABILITY, ACCESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY."***

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes  
4 described in subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission  
5 shall have the power from time to time to authorize the issuance of  
6 bonds of the state in one or more series and in principal amounts not  
7 exceeding in the aggregate one hundred fifty million dollars annually  
8 beginning on July 1, 2025, through the fiscal year ending on June 30,  
9 2030.

10 (b) The proceeds of the sale of such bonds, to the extent of the amount  
11 stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the Department  
12 of Energy and Environmental Protection for the purpose of supporting  
13 the Conservation and Load Management Plan developed pursuant to  
14 section 16-245m of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

15 (c) Pursuant to section 16-245m of the general statutes, as amended

16 by this act, when the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority's  
17 implementation of the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
18 Protection's recommendation that the electric distribution companies or  
19 gas companies, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, as  
20 amended by this act, collect a conservation adjustment mechanism that  
21 is less than the amounts authorized pursuant to section 16-245m of the  
22 general statutes, as amended by this act, the Department of Energy and  
23 Environmental Protection shall transfer the proceeds of the sale of such  
24 bonds to the electric or gas companies in an amount that is equal to said  
25 recommendation.

26 (d) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the  
27 exercise of any right or power granted thereby, that are not inconsistent  
28 with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply  
29 to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this  
30 section. Temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived  
31 from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in  
32 accordance with section 3-20 of the general statutes and from time to  
33 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not  
34 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided  
35 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond  
36 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of such bonds shall be  
37 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that  
38 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization that is signed  
39 by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management  
40 and states such terms and conditions as said commission, in its  
41 discretion, may require. Such bonds issued pursuant to this section shall  
42 be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state  
43 of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and  
44 interest on such bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as  
45 part of the contract of the state with the holders of such bonds,  
46 appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such  
47 principal and interest is hereby made, and the State Treasurer shall pay  
48 such principal and interest as the same become due.

49 Sec. 2. Subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 16-245m of the  
50 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
51 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

52 (d) (1) Not later than November 1, 2012, and every three years  
53 thereafter, electric distribution companies, as defined in section 16-1, as  
54 amended by this act, in coordination with the gas companies, as defined  
55 in section 16-1, as amended by this act, shall submit to the Energy  
56 Conservation Management Board a combined electric and gas  
57 Conservation and Load Management Plan, in accordance with the  
58 provisions of this section, to implement cost-effective energy  
59 conservation programs, demand management and market  
60 transformation initiatives. All supply and conservation and load  
61 management options shall be evaluated and selected within an  
62 integrated supply and demand planning framework. Services provided  
63 under the plan shall be available to all customers of electric distribution  
64 companies and gas companies, provided a customer of an electric  
65 distribution company may not be denied such services based on the fuel  
66 such customer uses to heat such customer's home. The Energy  
67 Conservation Management Board shall advise and assist the electric  
68 distribution companies and gas companies in the development of such  
69 plan. The Energy Conservation Management Board shall approve the  
70 plan before transmitting it to the Commissioner of Energy and  
71 Environmental Protection for approval. The commissioner shall, in an  
72 uncontested proceeding during which the commissioner may hold a  
73 public meeting, approve, modify or reject said plan prepared pursuant  
74 to this subsection. Following approval by the commissioner, the board  
75 shall assist the companies in implementing the plan and collaborate  
76 with the Connecticut Green Bank to further the goals of the plan. Said  
77 plan shall include a detailed budget sufficient to fund all energy  
78 efficiency that is cost-effective or lower cost than acquisition of  
79 equivalent supply, and shall be reviewed and approved by the  
80 commissioner. The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall, not later  
81 than sixty days after the plan is approved by the commissioner, ensure  
82 that the balance of revenues required to fund such plan is provided

83 through fully reconciling conservation adjustment mechanisms. Electric  
84 distribution companies shall collect a conservation adjustment  
85 mechanism that ensures the plan is fully funded by collecting an  
86 amount that is not more than the sum of six mills per kilowatt hour of  
87 electricity sold to each end use customer of an electric distribution  
88 company during the three years of any Conservation and Load  
89 Management Plan. The authority shall ensure that the revenues  
90 required to fund such plan with regard to gas companies are provided  
91 through a fully reconciling conservation adjustment mechanism for  
92 each gas company of not more than the equivalent of four and six-tenth  
93 cents per hundred cubic feet during the three years of any Conservation  
94 and Load Management Plan, provided such companies may exceed the  
95 equivalent of four and six-tenth cents per hundred cubic feet during the  
96 three years of any Conservation and Load Management Plan to fund the  
97 net costs of any agreement approved pursuant to section 16a-3j, as  
98 amended by this act. Upon request from the Commissioner of Energy  
99 and Environmental Protection, the authority may adjust any  
100 conservation adjustment mechanism to account for any amount of bond  
101 allocations from the State Bond Commission in accordance with section  
102 1 of this act, provided such bond funding is made available in a manner  
103 that ensures continuity and stability of the programs and plans  
104 established pursuant to this section. Said plan shall include (A)  
105 proposed performance management incentives for the electric  
106 distribution companies and gas companies that the commissioner may  
107 approve, modify or reject based on impacts to the plan's cost-  
108 effectiveness and likelihood of sufficiently motivating a high quality of  
109 service, as determined by the commissioner, (B) steps that would be  
110 needed to achieve the goal of weatherization of eighty per cent of the  
111 state's residential units by 2030, and (C) steps to reduce energy  
112 consumption by 1.6 million MMBtu, or the equivalent megawatts of  
113 electricity, as defined in subdivision (4) of section 22a-197, annually each  
114 year for calendar years commencing on and after January 1, 2020, up to  
115 and including calendar year 2025. Each program contained in the plan  
116 shall be reviewed by such companies and accepted, modified or rejected  
117 by the Energy Conservation Management Board prior to submission to

118 the commissioner for approval. The Energy Conservation Management  
119 Board shall, as part of its review, examine opportunities to offer joint  
120 programs providing similar efficiency measures that save more than  
121 one fuel resource or otherwise to coordinate programs targeted at  
122 saving more than one fuel resource. Any costs for joint programs shall  
123 be allocated equitably among the conservation programs. The Energy  
124 Conservation Management Board shall give preference to projects that  
125 maximize the reduction of federally mandated congestion charges.

126 Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes described in  
127 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have the  
128 power from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state  
129 in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the  
130 aggregate three hundred million dollars.

131 (b) The proceeds of the sale of such bonds, to the extent of the amount  
132 stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the Office of  
133 Policy and Management for the purpose of reducing the costs of  
134 hardship protection measures and other hardship protections within the  
135 systems benefits charge as defined in section 16-245/ of the general  
136 statutes.

137 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the exercise  
138 of any right or power granted thereby, that are not inconsistent with the  
139 provisions of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all  
140 bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this  
141 section. Temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived  
142 from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in  
143 accordance with section 3-20 of the general statutes and from time to  
144 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not  
145 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided  
146 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond  
147 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of such bonds shall be  
148 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that  
149 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization that is signed  
150 by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management

151 and states such terms and conditions as said commission, in its  
152 discretion, may require. Such bonds issued pursuant to this section shall  
153 be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state  
154 of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and  
155 interest on such bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as  
156 part of the contract of the state with the holders of such bonds,  
157 appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such  
158 principal and interest is hereby made, and the State Treasurer shall pay  
159 such principal and interest as the same become due.

160 Sec. 4. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes described in  
161 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have the  
162 power from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state  
163 in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the  
164 aggregate eighty million dollars.

165 (b) The proceeds of the sale of such bonds, to the extent of the amount  
166 stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the Office of  
167 Policy and Management for the purpose of funding any electric vehicle  
168 charging program implemented pursuant to section 16-244dd of the  
169 general statutes.

170 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the exercise  
171 of any right or power granted thereby, that are not inconsistent with the  
172 provisions of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all  
173 bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this  
174 section. Temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived  
175 from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in  
176 accordance with section 3-20 of the general statutes and from time to  
177 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not  
178 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided  
179 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond  
180 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of such bonds shall be  
181 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that  
182 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization that is signed  
183 by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management

184 and states such terms and conditions as said commission, in its  
185 discretion, may require. Such bonds issued pursuant to this section shall  
186 be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state  
187 of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and  
188 interest on such bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as  
189 part of the contract of the state with the holders of such bonds,  
190 appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such  
191 principal and interest is hereby made, and the State Treasurer shall pay  
192 such principal and interest as the same become due.

193 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 16-262c of the general statutes is  
194 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
195 *1, 2025*):

196 (b) (1) From November first to [May] April first, inclusive, no electric  
197 distribution company, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act,  
198 no electric supplier and no municipal utility furnishing electricity shall  
199 terminate, deny or refuse to reinstate residential electric service in  
200 financial hardship cases where the customer [lacks the financial  
201 resources to pay his or her entire account] fails to pay their entire  
202 outstanding balance owed to the electric distribution company or  
203 municipal utility. From November first to [May] April first, inclusive,  
204 no gas company and no municipal utility furnishing gas shall terminate,  
205 deny or refuse to reinstate residential gas service in financial hardship  
206 cases where the customer uses such gas for heat and [lacks the financial  
207 resources to pay his or her entire account] fails to pay their entire  
208 outstanding balance owed to the gas company or municipal utility,  
209 except a gas company that, between [May] April second and October  
210 thirty-first, terminated gas service to a residential customer who uses  
211 gas for heat and who, during the previous period of November first to  
212 [May] April first, had gas service maintained because of financial  
213 hardship status, may refuse to reinstate the gas service from November  
214 first to [May] April first, inclusive, only if the customer has failed to pay,  
215 since the preceding November first, the lesser of: (A) Twenty per cent of  
216 the outstanding principal balance owed the gas company as of the date

217 of termination, (B) one hundred dollars, or (C) the minimum payments  
218 due under the customer's amortization agreement. [Notwithstanding  
219 any provision of the general statutes, no electric distribution or gas  
220 company, no electric supplier and no municipal utility furnishing  
221 electricity or gas shall terminate, deny or refuse to reinstate residential  
222 electric or gas service where the customer lacks the financial resources  
223 to pay his or her entire account and if the termination, denial of or failure  
224 to reinstate such service would create a life-threatening situation for  
225 such customer or a member of such customer's household.] No electric  
226 distribution or gas company, no electric supplier and no municipal  
227 utility furnishing electricity or gas shall terminate, deny or refuse to  
228 reinstate residential electric or gas service where the customer is a  
229 financial hardship case and lacks the financial resources to pay his or  
230 her entire account and a child not more than twenty-four months old  
231 resides in the customer's household and such child has been admitted  
232 to the hospital and received discharge papers on which the attending  
233 physician, physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse  
234 has indicated such service is a necessity for the health and well-being of  
235 such child.

236 (2) During any period in which a residential customer is subject to  
237 termination, an electric distribution or gas company, an electric supplier  
238 or a municipal utility furnishing electricity or gas shall provide such  
239 residential customer whose account is delinquent an opportunity to  
240 enter into a reasonable amortization agreement with such company,  
241 electric supplier or utility to pay such delinquent account and to avoid  
242 termination of service. Such amortization agreement shall allow such  
243 customer adequate opportunity to apply for and receive the benefits of  
244 any available energy assistance program. An amortization agreement  
245 shall be subject to amendment [on] upon customer request if there is a  
246 change in the customer's financial circumstances.

247 (3) As used in this section, (A) "household income" means the  
248 combined income over a twelve-month period of the customer and all  
249 adults, except children of the customer, who are and have been

250 members of the household for six months or more, and (B) "financial  
251 hardship case" includes, but is not limited to: (i) A customer receiving  
252 local, state or federal public assistance; (ii) a customer whose sole source  
253 of financial support is Social Security, United States Department of  
254 Veterans Affairs or unemployment compensation benefits; (iii) a  
255 customer who is head of the household and is unemployed, and the  
256 household income is less than three hundred per cent of the poverty  
257 level determined by the federal government; (iv) [a customer who is  
258 seriously ill or who has a household member who is seriously ill; (v)] a  
259 customer whose income falls below one hundred twenty-five per cent  
260 of the poverty level determined by the federal government; and [(vi)]  
261 (v) a customer whose circumstances threaten a deprivation of food and  
262 the necessities of life for himself or dependent children if payment of a  
263 delinquent bill is required.

264 (4) (A) Each gas company and electric distribution company shall  
265 deduct an arrearage from the account of a residential customer of such  
266 company if the customer (i) meets the income eligibility requirements of  
267 the Connecticut energy assistance program or state appropriated fuel  
268 assistance program; (ii) authorizes the gas or electric distribution  
269 company to send a copy of the customer's monthly bill directly to any  
270 energy assistance agency for payment; (iii) enters into and complies  
271 with an amortization agreement, which agreement is consistent with  
272 decisions and policies of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority; and  
273 (iv) is eligible for financial hardship programs with the gas or electric  
274 distribution company. The amount of an arrearage deducted under this  
275 subparagraph shall be equal to the customer's monthly payment  
276 pursuant to an amortization agreement under this subdivision,  
277 provided the customer meets the requirements of subparagraphs (A)(i)  
278 to (A)(iv), inclusive, of this subdivision for the month immediately  
279 preceding such payment.

280 (B) Each gas company and electric distribution company shall deduct  
281 an arrearage from the account of a residential customer who meets the  
282 requirements of subparagraphs (A)(i) to (A)(iv), inclusive, of this

283 subdivision in an amount equal to any payment such customer receives  
284 from the Connecticut energy assistance program, state appropriated  
285 fuel assistance program or other energy assistance sources. Such  
286 deduction shall be in addition to any amount deducted pursuant to  
287 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

288 (C) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (7) of this  
289 subsection, any amortization agreement under this subdivision shall  
290 distribute customer payments over a period of twelve months, from  
291 November first to October thirty-first, and shall create a monthly  
292 payment that is affordable to the customer in accordance with the  
293 decisions and policies of the authority.

294 (D) In no event shall the deduction of any amounts pursuant to this  
295 subdivision result in a credit balance to the customer's account. No  
296 customer shall be denied the benefits of this subdivision due to an error  
297 by the gas or electric distribution company. If the customer fails to  
298 comply with the terms of the amortization agreement, any decision of  
299 the authority rendered in lieu of such agreement or the requirements of  
300 subparagraphs (A)(i) to (A)(iv), inclusive, of this subdivision, the  
301 company may terminate service to the customer, pursuant to all  
302 applicable regulations, provided such termination shall not occur  
303 between November first and [May] April first.

304 (E) A residential customer shall have a medical protection  
305 designation applied to their account with their electric distribution or  
306 gas company if a physician, physician's assistant or advanced practice  
307 registered nurse completes and submits on behalf of the customer a  
308 certification that the customer or a member of the customer's household  
309 residing at the address the utility serves suffers from a medical  
310 condition that requires the customer to maintain utility service. The  
311 medical protection designation shall be applied to the residential  
312 customer's account for a maximum of six months every three calendar  
313 years. The electric distribution company or gas company shall offer a  
314 reasonable amortization agreement pursuant to subparagraphs (A) to  
315 (D), inclusive, of this subdivision for eligible customers who qualify as

316 a financial hardship case and whose account maintains an eligible  
317 arrears, or shall offer a reasonable amortization agreement with the  
318 customer pursuant to subdivision (7) of subsection (b) of this section if  
319 the customer does not meet the definition of financial hardship case or  
320 does not qualify for an amortization agreement pursuant to  
321 subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of this subdivision. No residential  
322 electric or gas customer's service may be terminated, denied or refused  
323 to be reinstated during the six months while the medical protection  
324 designation is in effect.

325 (F) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of section 16-262d or any  
326 provision of the general statutes, no electric distribution or gas  
327 company, no electric supplier and no municipal utility furnishing  
328 electricity or gas shall terminate residential electric or gas service where  
329 the customer qualifies as a financial hardship case if terminating such  
330 service would create a life-threatening situation for such customer or a  
331 member of such customer's household, as certified to such company,  
332 supplier or utility by a physician, physician's assistant, or advanced  
333 practice registered nurse, provided such certification was provided to  
334 such company, supplier or utility not more than three years prior to such  
335 termination, until the such company, supplier or utility provides the  
336 customer notice of disconnection and an opportunity to enter into a  
337 payment arrangement to avoid service disconnection. Such notice shall  
338 be provided by a delivery method that includes tracking or confirmation  
339 not less than three business days but not more than ten business days  
340 prior to the date of the proposed disconnection. If disconnection has  
341 already occurred, where the customer qualifies as a financial hardship  
342 case and the customer requests reinstatement of service based on a life  
343 threatening situation for such customer or a member of such customer's  
344 household, the electric distribution or gas company, electric supplier or  
345 municipal utility furnishing electricity or gas shall reinstate residential  
346 electric or gas service if the customer enters into a payment arrangement  
347 and provides any required initial payment, down payment, fee, and  
348 security deposit as approved by the authority.

349 [(E)] (G) Each gas and electric distribution company shall submit to  
350 the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority annually, on or before June  
351 first, an implementation plan that shall include information concerning  
352 amortization agreements, counseling, reinstatement of eligibility, rate  
353 impacts and any other information deemed relevant by the authority.  
354 The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may approve or modify such  
355 plan not later than one hundred twenty-seven days after receipt of the  
356 plan. If the authority does not take any action on such plan by such date,  
357 the plan shall automatically take effect at the end of such one-hundred-  
358 twenty-seven-day period, provided the authority may extend such  
359 period for an additional thirty days by notifying the company before the  
360 end of such one-hundred-twenty-seven-day period. The authority may  
361 deny all or part of the recovery of costs incurred pursuant to this  
362 subsection if it determines that the company seeking recovery has been  
363 imprudent, inefficient or acting in violation of statutes or regulations  
364 regarding amortization agreements.

365 (5) (A) All electric distribution and gas companies, electric suppliers  
366 and municipal utilities furnishing electricity or gas shall collaborate in  
367 developing, subject to approval by the Public Utilities Regulatory  
368 Authority, standard provisions for the notice of delinquency and  
369 impending termination under subsection (a) of section 16-262d, as  
370 amended by this act. Each such company and utility shall place on the  
371 front of such notice a provision that the company, electric supplier or  
372 utility shall not effect termination of service to a residential dwelling for  
373 nonpayment of disputed bills during the pendency of any complaint. In  
374 addition, the notice shall state that the customer is required to pay  
375 current and undisputed bill amounts during the pendency of the  
376 complaint. (B) At the beginning of any discussion with a customer  
377 concerning a reasonable amortization agreement, any such company or  
378 utility shall inform the customer (i) of the availability of a process for  
379 resolving disputes over what constitutes a reasonable amortization  
380 agreement, (ii) that the company, electric supplier or utility will refer  
381 such a dispute to one of its review officers as the first step in attempting  
382 to resolve the dispute, and (iii) that the company, electric supplier or

383 utility shall not effect termination of service to a residential dwelling for  
384 nonpayment of a delinquent account during the pendency of any  
385 complaint, investigation, hearing or appeal initiated by the customer,  
386 unless the customer fails to pay undisputed bills, or undisputed  
387 portions of bills, for service received during such period. (C) Each such  
388 company, electric supplier and utility shall inform and counsel all  
389 customers who are hardship cases as to the availability of all public and  
390 private energy conservation programs, including programs sponsored  
391 or subsidized by such companies and utilities, eligibility criteria, where  
392 to apply, and the circumstances under which such programs are  
393 available without cost. (D) Each such company, supplier and utility shall  
394 include in any notice of termination to a residential customer the  
395 following statement: "MEDICAL EMERGENCY If you are a residential  
396 customer and believe that a life threatening situation exists in your  
397 home or would exist if your service were to be disconnected, you may  
398 be protected from disconnection. Please contact us at (insert telephone  
399 number of the utility) for more information.".

400 (6) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall adopt regulations  
401 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to carry out the  
402 provisions of this subsection. [Such regulations shall include, but not be  
403 limited to, criteria for determining hardship cases and for reasonable  
404 amortization agreements, including appeal of such agreements, for  
405 categories of customers. Such regulations may include the  
406 establishment of a reasonable rate of interest that a company may charge  
407 on the unpaid balance of a customer's delinquent bill and a description  
408 of the relationship and responsibilities of electric suppliers to  
409 customers] Not later than July 1, 2026, the authority shall, pursuant to  
410 section 4-168, post the notice of its intent to adopt regulations consistent  
411 with this section.

412 (7) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may find that a  
413 reasonable amortization agreement, other than a reasonable  
414 amortization agreement under subdivision (4) of this subsection, is a  
415 period of not more than thirty-six months, unless the authority

416 determines that a longer period is warranted. Not later than October 1,  
417 2024, the authority shall amend any regulations adopted pursuant to  
418 subdivision (6) of this subsection to carry out the provisions of this  
419 subsection.

420 (8) The chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may  
421 distribute not more than one million dollars in total each year to  
422 organizations or individuals providing legal services with the express  
423 purpose of attaining participation in public service company programs  
424 designed to assist customers with utility bill or arrearage payments,  
425 including negotiating a reasonable amortization agreement pursuant to  
426 this subsection. Any funds distributed pursuant to this subdivision shall  
427 be paid by all public service companies, in proportion to such  
428 companies' annual load and the amount of services provided to end use  
429 customers or revenue, as determined by the authority.

430 Sec. 6. Section 16-262d of the general statutes is repealed and the  
431 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

432 (a) No electric distribution, gas, telephone or water company, no  
433 electric supplier and no municipal utility furnishing electric, gas or  
434 water service may terminate such service to a residential dwelling on  
435 account of nonpayment of a delinquent account unless such company,  
436 electric supplier or municipal utility first gives notice of such  
437 delinquency and impending termination by first class mail addressed to  
438 the customer to which such service is billed, [at least] not less than  
439 thirteen calendar days prior to the proposed termination, except that if  
440 an electric distribution or gas company, electric supplier or municipal  
441 utility furnishing electric or gas service has issued a notice under this  
442 subsection but has not terminated service prior to issuing a new bill to  
443 the customer, such company, electric supplier or municipal utility may  
444 terminate such service only after mailing the customer an additional  
445 notice of the impending termination, addressed to the customer to  
446 which such service is billed either (1) by first class mail at least thirteen  
447 calendar days prior to the proposed termination, or (2) by certified mail,  
448 [at least] not less than seven calendar days prior to the proposed

449 termination. In the event that multiple dates of proposed termination  
450 are provided to a customer, no such company, electric supplier or  
451 municipal utility shall terminate service [prior to] before the latest of  
452 such dates. For purposes of this subsection, the thirteen-day periods and  
453 seven-day period shall commence on the date such notice is mailed. If  
454 such company, electric supplier or municipal utility does not terminate  
455 service within one hundred twenty days after mailing the initial notice  
456 of termination, such company, electric supplier or municipal utility shall  
457 give the customer a new notice [at least] not less than thirteen days prior  
458 to termination. Every termination notice issued by a public service  
459 company, electric supplier or municipal utility shall contain or be  
460 accompanied by an explanation of the rights of the customer provided  
461 in subsection (c) of this section.

462 (b) No such company, electric supplier or municipal utility shall  
463 effect termination of service for nonpayment during such time [as any  
464 resident of a dwelling to which such service is furnished is seriously ill,  
465 if the fact of such serious illness is certified to such company, electric  
466 supplier or municipal utility by a registered physician, a physician  
467 assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse within such period of  
468 time after the mailing of a termination notice pursuant to subsection (a)  
469 of this section as the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may by  
470 regulation establish, provided the customer agrees to amortize the  
471 unpaid balance of his account over a reasonable period of time and  
472 keeps current his account for utility service as charges accrue in each  
473 subsequent billing period] that a residential account maintains an active  
474 medical protection designation pursuant to subparagraph (E) of  
475 subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 16-262c, as amended by this  
476 act.

477 (c) No such company, electric supplier or municipal utility shall effect  
478 termination of service to a residential dwelling for nonpayment during  
479 the pendency of any complaint, investigation, hearing or appeal,  
480 initiated by a customer within such period of time after the mailing of a  
481 termination notice pursuant to subsection (a) of this section as the Public

482 Utilities Regulatory Authority may by regulation establish; provided,  
483 any telephone company during the pendency of any complaint,  
484 investigation, hearing or appeal may terminate telephone service if the  
485 amount of charges accruing and outstanding subsequent to the  
486 initiation of any complaint, investigation, hearing or appeal exceeds on  
487 a monthly basis the average monthly bill for the previous three months  
488 or if the customer fails to keep current [his] such telephone account for  
489 all undisputed charges or fails to comply with any amortization  
490 agreement as hereafter provided.

491 (d) Any customer who has initiated a complaint or investigation  
492 under subsection (c) of this section shall be given an opportunity for  
493 review of such complaint or investigation by a review officer of the  
494 company, electric supplier or municipal utility other than a member of  
495 such company's, electric supplier's or municipal utility's credit  
496 authority, provided the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may  
497 waive this requirement for any company, electric supplier or municipal  
498 utility employing fewer than twenty-five full-time employees, which  
499 review shall include consideration of whether the customer should be  
500 permitted to amortize the unpaid balance of his account over a  
501 reasonable period of time. No termination shall be effected for any  
502 customer complying with any such amortization agreement, provided  
503 such customer also keeps current [his] such account for utility service as  
504 charges accrue in each subsequent billing period.

505 (e) Any customer whose complaint or request for an investigation has  
506 resulted in a determination by a company, electric supplier or municipal  
507 utility which is adverse to [him] such customer may appeal such  
508 determination to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority or a hearing  
509 officer appointed by the authority.

510 (f) If, following the receipt of a termination notice or the entering into  
511 of an amortization agreement, the customer makes a payment or  
512 payments amounting to twenty per cent of the balance due, the public  
513 service company or electric supplier shall not terminate service without  
514 giving notice to the customer, in accordance with the provisions of this

515 section, of the conditions the customer must meet to avoid termination,  
516 but such subsequent notice shall not entitle such customer to further  
517 investigation, review or appeal by the company, electric supplier,  
518 municipal utility or authority.

519 (g) No electric distribution, gas or water company, gas registrant or  
520 municipal utility furnishing electric, gas or water service shall submit to  
521 a credit rating agency, as defined in section 36a-695, any information  
522 about a residential customer's nonpayment for electric, gas or water  
523 service unless the customer is more than one hundred twenty days  
524 delinquent in paying for such service. In no event shall such a company,  
525 gas registrant or municipal utility submit to a credit rating agency any  
526 information about a residential customer's nonpayment for such service  
527 if the customer has initiated a complaint, investigation, hearing or  
528 appeal with regard to such service under subsection (c) of this section  
529 that is pending before the authority. If such a company, gas registrant  
530 or municipal utility intends to submit to a credit rating agency  
531 information about a customer's nonpayment for service, it shall, at least  
532 thirty days before submitting such information, send the customer by  
533 first class mail notification that includes the statement, "AS  
534 AUTHORIZED BY LAW, FOR RESIDENTIAL ACCOUNTS, WE  
535 SUPPLY PAYMENT INFORMATION TO CREDIT RATING  
536 AGENCIES. IF YOUR ACCOUNT IS MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED  
537 TWENTY DAYS DELINQUENT, THE DELINQUENCY REPORT  
538 COULD HARM YOUR CREDIT RATING".

539 (h) No telephone company or certified telecommunications provider  
540 shall submit to a credit rating agency, as defined in section 36a-695, any  
541 information about a residential customer's nonpayment for telephone or  
542 telecommunications service, unless the customer is more than sixty days  
543 delinquent in paying for such service. In no event shall a telephone  
544 company or certified telecommunications provider submit to a credit  
545 rating agency any information about a residential customer's  
546 nonpayment for such service if the customer has initiated a complaint,  
547 investigation, hearing or appeal with regard to such service under

548 subsection (c) of this section that is pending before the authority. If a  
549 telephone company or certified telecommunications provider intends to  
550 submit to a credit rating agency information about a customer's  
551 nonpayment for service, it shall, at least thirty days before submitting  
552 such information, send the customer, by first class mail, notification that  
553 includes the statement, "AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW, FOR  
554 RESIDENTIAL ACCOUNTS, WE SUPPLY PAYMENT  
555 INFORMATION TO CREDIT RATING OR DEBT COLLECTION  
556 AGENCIES. IF YOUR ACCOUNT IS MORE THAN SIXTY DAYS  
557 DELINQUENT, THE DELINQUENCY REPORT COULD HARM YOUR  
558 CREDIT RATING".

559 Sec. 7. Section 2 of public act 24-31 is amended to read as follows  
560 (*Effective from passage*):

561 The chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall  
562 conduct a study regarding the renewable energy tariff programs  
563 established pursuant to section 16-244z of the general statutes, as  
564 amended by this act. Such study shall include, but not be limited to, an  
565 examination of (1) whether to extend such programs beyond the  
566 procurement years authorized in said section; (2) potential processes  
567 that can be adopted to avoid stranded projects; and (3) potential  
568 successor programs. An examination conducted pursuant to  
569 subdivisions (2) and (3) of this section shall include, but not be limited  
570 to: (A) An examination of potential programs that do not incorporate  
571 any megawatt cap; (B) consideration of different possible criteria and  
572 procedures for choosing projects, such as choosing projects by lottery or  
573 on a first-come, first-served basis; [and] (C) an identification of  
574 alternative bidding frameworks, such as awarding solicitations based  
575 on what projects can be deployed soonest; (D) a framework to  
576 encourage the aggregation of distributed energy resources that can  
577 respond and provide grid and retail market services; and (E)  
578 consideration of different compensation structures to encourage  
579 deployment in areas of grid under-utilization. Not later than January 15,  
580 2026, the chairperson shall submit, in accordance with the provisions of

581 section 11-4a of the general statutes, the results of such study, including  
582 any recommendations, to the joint standing committee of the General  
583 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and  
584 technology.

585 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) Any low-income rates  
586 implemented by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority pursuant to  
587 section 16-19, as amended by this act, 16-19e, 16-1900 or 16-19zz of the  
588 general statutes in any rate case or other proceeding initiated on or after  
589 October 1, 2025, or in a pending rate case for which a final decision has  
590 not been issued prior to November 1, 2025, shall include, but not be  
591 limited to, the following cost-containment measures to protect  
592 ratepayers: (1) A monthly kilowatt hour usage cap applied to the low-  
593 income rate for customers of an electric distribution company, a  
594 monthly centum cubic feet usage cap applied to the low-income rate for  
595 customers of a gas company and a monthly gallon usage cap applied to  
596 the low-income rate for customers of a water company; (2) a budgetary  
597 target-triggering review by the authority if an electric distribution  
598 company, gas company or water company's total cost to fund the low-  
599 income rate exceeds a certain percentage of the electric distribution  
600 company, gas company or water company's annual billed total  
601 revenues; and (3) a recertification process to confirm income eligibility  
602 for the program and appropriate tier placement at least once every  
603 twelve months of program enrollment.

604 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than November 15,  
605 2029, the chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall  
606 submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
607 general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General  
608 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and  
609 technology regarding the implementation of low-income rates pursuant  
610 to sections 16-19, as amended by this act, 16-19e, 16-1900 and 16-19zz of  
611 the general statutes, during the period from January 1, 2024, to  
612 December 31, 2028, inclusive. The report shall include, but need not be  
613 limited to, a review of the low-income rate program, including the

614 effectiveness of the cost-containment measures, the effectiveness of the  
615 low-income rate in reducing uncollectibles and the effectiveness of the  
616 low-income rate in encouraging bill payment.

617 Sec. 10. Section 16-244z of the general statutes is repealed and the  
618 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

619 (a) (1) (A) On or before September 1, 2018, the Public Utilities  
620 Regulatory Authority shall initiate a proceeding to establish a  
621 procurement plan for each electric distribution company pursuant to  
622 this subsection and may give a preference to technologies  
623 manufactured, researched or developed in the state, provided such  
624 procurement plan is consistent with and contributes to the requirements  
625 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with section 22a-  
626 200a. Each electric distribution company shall develop such  
627 procurement plan in consultation with the Department of Energy and  
628 Environmental Protection and shall submit such procurement plan to  
629 the authority not later than sixty days after the authority initiates the  
630 proceeding pursuant to this subdivision, provided the department shall  
631 submit the program requirements pursuant to subparagraph (C) of this  
632 subdivision on or before July 1, 2019. The authority may require such  
633 electric distribution companies to conduct separate solicitations  
634 pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection for the resources in  
635 subparagraphs (A), (B) and (C) of said subdivision, including separate  
636 solicitations based upon the size of such resources to allow for a  
637 diversity of selected projects.

638 (B) On or before September 1, 2018, the authority shall initiate a  
639 proceeding to establish tariffs that provide for twenty-year terms of  
640 service described in subdivision (3) of this subsection for each electric  
641 distribution company pursuant to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of  
642 subdivision (2) of this subsection. In such proceeding, the authority shall  
643 establish the period of time that will be used for calculating the net  
644 amount of energy produced by a facility and not consumed, provided  
645 the authority shall assess whether to incorporate time-of-use rates or  
646 other dynamic pricing and such period of time shall be either (i) in real

647 time, (ii) in one day, (iii) in any fraction of a day not to exceed one day,  
648 or (iv) in any period of time greater than one day up to and including  
649 one month. In such proceeding, the authority shall consider the findings  
650 of the study of the value of distributed energy resources conducted  
651 pursuant to section 16a-3o. The rate for such tariffs shall be established  
652 by the solicitation pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection.

653 (C) On or before September 1, 2018, the Department of Energy and  
654 Environmental Protection shall (i) initiate a proceeding to develop  
655 program requirements and tariff proposals for shared clean energy  
656 facilities eligible pursuant to subparagraph [(C)] (B) of subdivision (2)  
657 of this subsection, including, but not limited to, the requirements in  
658 subdivision (6) of this subsection, and (ii) establish either or both of the  
659 following tariff proposals: (I) A tariff proposal that includes a price cap  
660 on a cents-per-kilowatt-hour basis for any procurement for such  
661 resources based on the procurement results of any other procurement  
662 issued pursuant to this subsection, and (II) a tariff proposal that includes  
663 a tariff rate for customers eligible under subparagraph [(C)] (B) of  
664 subdivision (2) of this subsection based on energy policy goals identified  
665 by the department in the Comprehensive Energy Strategy pursuant to  
666 section 16a-3d. On or before July 1, 2019, the department shall submit  
667 any such program requirements and tariff proposals to the authority for  
668 review and approval. On or before January 1, 2020, the authority shall  
669 approve or modify such program requirements and tariff proposals  
670 submitted by the department. If the authority approves two tariff  
671 proposals pursuant to this subparagraph, the authority shall determine  
672 how much of the total compensation authorized for customers eligible  
673 under this subparagraph pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision  
674 (1) of subsection (c) of this section shall be available under each tariff.

675 (2) Not less than once per year, each electric distribution company  
676 shall jointly or individually solicit and file with the Public Utilities  
677 Regulatory Authority for its approval one or more projects selected  
678 resulting from any procurement issued pursuant to subdivision (1) of  
679 this subsection that are consistent with the tariffs approved by the

680 authority pursuant to subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subdivision (1) of  
681 this subsection and that are applicable to (A) [customers that own or  
682 develop new generation projects on a customer's own premises that are  
683 less than five megawatts in size, serve the distribution system of an  
684 electric distribution company, are constructed after the solicitation  
685 conducted pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection to which the  
686 customer is responding, and use a Class I renewable energy source that  
687 either (i) uses anaerobic digestion, or (ii) has emissions of no more than  
688 0.07 pounds per megawatt-hour of nitrogen oxides, 0.10 pounds per  
689 megawatt-hour of carbon monoxide, 0.02 pounds per megawatt-hour of  
690 volatile organic compounds and one grain per one hundred standard  
691 cubic feet, (B)] customers that own or develop new generation projects  
692 on a customer's own premises that are less than five megawatts in size,  
693 serve the distribution system of an electric distribution company, are  
694 constructed after the solicitation conducted pursuant to subdivision (4)  
695 of this subsection to which the customer is responding, and use a Class  
696 I renewable energy source that emits no pollutants, and [(C)] (B)  
697 customers that own or develop new generation projects that are a shared  
698 clean energy facility, consistent with the program requirements  
699 developed pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this  
700 subsection. For purposes of this section, "shared clean energy facility"  
701 means a Class I renewable energy source [, as defined in section 16-1,]  
702 that (i) emits no pollutants, (ii) is served by an electric distribution  
703 company, [as defined in section 16-1,(ii)] (iii) has a nameplate capacity  
704 rating of five megawatts or less, and [(iii)] (iv) has at least two  
705 subscribers. Any project that is eligible pursuant to subparagraph [(C)]  
706 (B) of this subdivision shall not be eligible pursuant to subparagraph (A)  
707 [or (B)] of this subdivision.

708 (3) A customer that is eligible pursuant to subparagraph (A) [or (B)]  
709 of subdivision (2) of this subsection may elect in any such solicitation to  
710 utilize either (A) a tariff for the purchase of all energy and renewable  
711 energy certificates on a cents-per-kilowatt-hour basis, or (B) a tariff for  
712 the purchase of any energy produced by a facility and not consumed in  
713 the period of time established by the authority pursuant to

714 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection and all renewable  
715 energy certificates generated by such facility on a cents-per-kilowatt-  
716 hour basis, subject to any tariff terms, conditions or other stipulations of  
717 the authority, including, but not limited to, stipulations regarding the  
718 capacity rights of a given facility.

719 (4) Each electric distribution company shall jointly or individually  
720 conduct an annual solicitation or solicitations, as determined by the  
721 authority, for the purchase of energy and renewable energy certificates  
722 produced by eligible generation projects under this subsection over the  
723 duration of each applicable tariff. Generation projects eligible pursuant  
724 to [subparagraphs] subparagraph (A) [and (B)] of subdivision (2) of this  
725 subsection shall be sized so as not to exceed the load at the customer's  
726 individual electric meter or a set of electric meters, when such meters  
727 are combined for billing purposes, as determined by the authority,  
728 unless such customer is a state, municipal or agricultural customer, then  
729 such generation project shall be sized so as not to exceed the load at such  
730 customer's individual electric meter or a set of electric meters at the  
731 same customer premises, when such meters are combined for billing  
732 purposes, and the load of up to five state, municipal or agricultural  
733 beneficial accounts, as defined in section 16-244u, identified by such  
734 state, municipal or agricultural customer, and such state, municipal or  
735 agricultural customer may include the load of up to five additional  
736 nonstate or municipal beneficial accounts, as defined in section 16-244u,  
737 when sizing such generation project, provided such accounts are critical  
738 facilities, as defined in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 16-  
739 243y, and are connected to a microgrid.

740 (5) The maximum selected purchase price of energy and renewable  
741 energy certificates on a cents-per-kilowatt-hour basis in any given  
742 solicitation shall not exceed such maximum selected purchase price for  
743 the same resources in the prior year's solicitation, unless the authority  
744 makes a determination that there are changed circumstances in any  
745 given year. For the first year solicitation issued pursuant to this  
746 subsection, the authority shall establish a cap for the selected purchase

747 price for energy and renewable energy certificates on a cents-per-  
748 kilowatt-hour basis for any resources authorized under this subsection.

749 (6) The program requirements for shared clean energy facilities  
750 developed pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this  
751 subsection shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

752 (A) The department shall allow cost-effective projects of various  
753 nameplate capacities that may allow for the construction of multiple  
754 projects in the service area of each electric distribution company that  
755 operates within the state.

756 (B) The department shall determine the billing credit for any  
757 subscriber of a shared clean energy facility that may be issued through  
758 the electric distribution companies' monthly billing systems, and  
759 establish consumer protections for subscribers and potential subscribers  
760 of such a facility, including, but not limited to, disclosures to be made  
761 when selling or reselling a subscription.

762 (C) Such program shall utilize one or more tariff mechanisms with  
763 the electric distribution companies for a term not to exceed twenty years,  
764 subject to approval by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, to pay  
765 for the purchase of any energy products and renewable energy  
766 certificates produced by any eligible shared clean energy facility, or to  
767 deliver any billing credit of any such facility.

768 (D) The department shall limit subscribers to (i) low-income  
769 customers, (ii) moderate-income customers, (iii) small business  
770 customers, (iv) state or municipal customers, (v) commercial customers,  
771 and (vi) residential customers who can demonstrate, pursuant to criteria  
772 determined by the department in the program requirements  
773 recommended by the department and approved by the authority, that  
774 they are unable to utilize the tariffs offered pursuant to subsection (b) of  
775 this section.

776 (E) The department shall require that (i) not less than twenty per cent  
777 of the total capacity of each shared clean energy facility is sold, given or

778 provided to low-income customers, and (ii) not less than sixty per cent  
779 of the total capacity of each shared clean energy facility is sold, given or  
780 provided to low-income customers, moderate-income customers or  
781 low-income service organizations. The authority may modify such  
782 shared clean energy facility capacity requirements for the limited  
783 purpose of aligning the allocation of shared clean energy facility  
784 capacity with the requirements of any federal acts providing renewable  
785 energy incentives.

786 (F) The department may allow preferences to projects that serve low-  
787 income customers and shared clean energy facilities that benefit  
788 customers who reside in environmental justice communities.

789 (G) The department may create incentives or other financing  
790 mechanisms to encourage participation by low-income customers.

791 (H) The department may require that not more than forty per cent of  
792 the total capacity of each shared clean energy facility is sold to  
793 commercial customers.

794 (7) For purposes of this subsection:

795 (A) "Environmental justice community" has the same meaning as  
796 provided in subsection (a) of section 22a-20a;

797 (B) "Low-income customer" means an in-state retail end user of an  
798 electric distribution company (i) whose income does not exceed sixty  
799 per cent of the state median income, adjusted for family size, or (ii) that  
800 is an affordable housing facility. The authority may modify such  
801 definition for the limited purpose of aligning such definition with the  
802 requirements of any federal acts providing renewable energy incentives;

803 (C) "Low-income service organization" means a for-profit or  
804 nonprofit organization that provides service or assistance to low-income  
805 individuals; and

806 (D) "Moderate-income customer" means an in-state retail end user of

807 an electric distribution company whose income is between sixty per cent  
808 and one hundred per cent of the state median income, adjusted for  
809 family size. The authority may modify such definition for the limited  
810 purpose of aligning such definition with the requirements of any federal  
811 acts providing renewable energy incentives.

812 (b) (1) On or before July 1, 2020, the authority shall initiate a  
813 proceeding to establish (A) tariffs for each electric distribution company  
814 pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection, (B) a rate for such tariffs,  
815 which may be based upon the results of one or more competitive  
816 solicitations issued pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, or on the  
817 average cost of installing the generation project and a reasonable rate of  
818 return that is just, reasonable and adequate, as determined by the  
819 authority, and shall be guided by the Comprehensive Energy Strategy  
820 prepared pursuant to section 16a-3d, and (C) the period of time that will  
821 be used for calculating the net amount of energy produced by a facility  
822 and not consumed, provided the authority shall assess whether to  
823 incorporate time-of-use rates or other dynamic pricing and such period  
824 of time shall be either (i) in real time, (ii) in one day, (iii) in any fraction  
825 of a day not to exceed one day, or (iv) in any period of time greater than  
826 one day up to and including one month. In such proceeding, the  
827 authority shall consider the findings of the study of the value of  
828 distributed energy resources conducted pursuant to section 16a-3o. The  
829 authority shall issue a final decision in such proceeding on or before July  
830 1, 2021. The authority may modify such rate for new customers under  
831 this subsection based on changed circumstances and may establish an  
832 interim tariff rate prior to the expiration of the residential solar  
833 investment program pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16-245ff as an  
834 alternative to such program, provided any residential customer  
835 utilizing a tariff pursuant to this subsection at such customer's electric  
836 meter shall not be eligible for any incentives offered pursuant to section  
837 16-245ff at the same such electric meter and any residential customer  
838 utilizing any incentives offered pursuant to section 16-245ff at such  
839 customer's electric meter shall not be eligible for a tariff pursuant to this  
840 subsection at the same such electric meter. For rates offered pursuant to

841 subparagraph (A) and (B) of subdivision (2) of this subsection, on and  
842 after January 1, 2026, the authority shall establish a nonbypassable  
843 charge as part of the tariff offerings that is not less than the average  
844 nonbypassable federally mandated congestion charge imposed by the  
845 electric distribution companies in the prior calendar year.

846 (2) On and after January 1, 2022, each electric distribution company  
847 shall offer the following options to residential customers for the  
848 purchase of products generated from a Class I renewable energy source  
849 that emits no pollutants and that is located on a customer's own  
850 premises and has a nameplate capacity rating of twenty-five kilowatts  
851 or less for a term not to exceed twenty years: (A) A tariff for the purchase  
852 of all energy and renewable energy certificates on a cents-per-kilowatt-  
853 hour basis; and (B) a tariff for the purchase of any energy produced and  
854 not consumed in the period of time established by the authority  
855 pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this subsection and  
856 all renewable energy certificates generated by such facility on a cents-  
857 per-kilowatt-hour basis, subject to any tariff terms, conditions or other  
858 stipulations of the authority, including, but not limited to, stipulations  
859 regarding the capacity rights of a given facility. A residential customer  
860 shall select either option authorized pursuant to subparagraph (A) or  
861 (B) of this subdivision, consistent with the requirements of this section.  
862 Such generation projects shall be sized so as not to exceed the load at the  
863 customer's individual electric meter or, in the case of a multifamily  
864 dwelling that qualifies under this subsection, the load of the premises,  
865 from the electric distribution company providing service to such  
866 customer, pursuant to any rules established by the authority and as  
867 determined by such electric distribution company. For purposes of this  
868 section, "residential customer" means a customer of a single-family  
869 dwelling, a multifamily dwelling consisting of two to four units, or a  
870 multifamily dwelling consisting of five or more units, provided in the  
871 case of a multifamily dwelling consisting of five or more units, (i) not  
872 less than sixty per cent of the units of the multifamily dwelling are  
873 occupied by persons and families with income that is not more than  
874 sixty per cent of the area median income for the municipality in which

875 it is located, as determined by the United States Department of Housing  
876 and Urban Development, or (ii) such multifamily dwelling is  
877 determined to be affordable housing by the Public Utilities Regulatory  
878 Authority in consultation with the Department of Energy and  
879 Environmental Protection, Department of Housing, Connecticut Green  
880 Bank, Connecticut Housing Finance Authority and United States  
881 Department of Housing and Urban Development. In the case of a  
882 multifamily dwelling consisting of five or more units, a generation  
883 project shall only qualify under this subsection if: (I) Each of the  
884 dwelling units receives an appropriate share of the benefits from the  
885 generation project, and (II) no greater than an appropriate share of the  
886 benefits from the generation project is used to offset common area  
887 usage. The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall initiate an  
888 uncontested proceeding to implement the distribution of the benefits  
889 from the generation project pursuant to this section.

890 (c) (1) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision,  
891 for procurement and tariff years commencing on and after January 1,  
892 2025, [the total megawatts available to customers eligible under  
893 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section shall  
894 not exceed ten megawatts per year,] the total megawatts available to  
895 customers eligible under subparagraph [(B)] (A) of subdivision (2) of  
896 subsection (a) of this section shall not exceed one hundred megawatts  
897 per year and the total megawatts available to customers eligible under  
898 subparagraph [(C)] (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section  
899 shall not exceed fifty megawatts per year. The authority shall monitor  
900 the competitiveness of any procurements authorized pursuant to  
901 subsection (a) of this section and may adjust the annual purchase  
902 amount established in this subsection or other procurement parameters  
903 to maintain competitiveness. Any megawatts not allocated in any given  
904 year shall roll into the next year's available megawatts. The obligation  
905 to purchase energy and renewable energy certificates shall be  
906 apportioned as determined by the authority.

907 (B) For procurement and tariff years commencing on and after

908 January 1, 2025, the authority may exceed the limits on total available  
909 megawatts described in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision for any  
910 procurement and tariff program authorized pursuant to subsection (a)  
911 of this section in any such year, if, during the period commencing on  
912 January first and ending on the date that the last project is selected  
913 pursuant to the usual procurement process for such program, as  
914 determined by the authority, the aggregate dollar amount of  
915 procurements of energy and renewable energy credits over the tariff  
916 term for all selected projects does not exceed the aggregate dollar  
917 amount of procurements of energy and renewable energy credits over  
918 the tariff term for all projects selected in such program during the  
919 calendar year 2024. The authority shall determine the manner of  
920 exceeding such limits.

921 (C) (i) The electric distribution companies shall continue to offer any  
922 tariffs developed pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of  
923 subsection (a) of this section for six years, inclusive of previous years of  
924 such procurement and tariff program. The sixth and final year of such  
925 procurement and tariff program shall be the calendar year 2027.

926 (ii) The electric distribution companies shall continue to offer any  
927 tariffs developed pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of  
928 subsection (a) of this section for eight years, inclusive of previous years  
929 of such procurement and tariff program. The eighth and final year of  
930 such procurement and tariff program shall be the calendar year 2027.

931 (D) The electric distribution companies shall offer any tariffs  
932 developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for six years. At the  
933 end of the tariff term pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of  
934 subsection (b) of this section, residential customers that elected the  
935 option pursuant to said subparagraph shall be credited all cents-per-  
936 kilowatt-hour charges pursuant to the tariff rate for such customer for  
937 energy produced by the Class I renewable energy source against any  
938 energy that is consumed in real time by such residential customer.

939 (E) The authority shall establish tariffs for the purchase of energy on

940 a cents-per-kilowatt-hour basis at the expiration of any tariff terms  
941 authorized pursuant to this section.

942 (2) The department, in consultation with the authority, shall assess  
943 the tariff offerings pursuant to this section and determine if such  
944 offerings are competitive compared to the cost of the technologies and  
945 shall report, in accordance with section 11-4a, the results of such  
946 determination to the General Assembly not later than January 15, 2027.

947 (3) For any tariff established pursuant to this section, the authority  
948 shall examine how to incorporate the following energy system benefits  
949 into the rate established for any such tariff: (A) Energy storage systems  
950 that provide electric distribution benefits, (B) location of a facility on the  
951 distribution system, (C) time-of-use rates or other dynamic pricing, and  
952 (D) other energy policy benefits identified in the Comprehensive Energy  
953 Strategy prepared pursuant to section 16a-3d.

954 (d) In accordance with subsection [(h)] (g) of section 16-245a, as  
955 amended by this act, the authority shall [determine which of the  
956 following two options is in the best interest of ratepayers and shall direct  
957 each electric distribution company to either (1) retire the renewable  
958 energy certificates it purchases pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of  
959 this section on behalf of all ratepayers to satisfy the obligations of all  
960 electric suppliers and electric distribution companies providing  
961 standard service or supplier of last resort service pursuant to section 16-  
962 245a, as amended by this act, or (2) sell such renewable energy  
963 certificates into the New England Power Pool Generation information  
964 system renewable energy credit market. The authority shall establish  
965 procedures for the retirement of such renewable energy certificates. Any  
966 net revenues from the sale of products purchased in accordance with  
967 this section shall be credited to customers through a nonbypassable fully  
968 reconciling component of electric rates for all customers of the electric  
969 distribution company] follow the procedures established pursuant to  
970 subsection (g) of section 16-245a, as amended by this act, for certificates  
971 issued by the New England Power Pool Generation Information System  
972 for any Class I renewable energy source purchased by an electric

973 distribution company pursuant to this section.

974 (e) The costs prudently and reasonably incurred by an electric  
975 distribution company pursuant to this section shall be recovered on a  
976 timely basis through a nonbypassable fully reconciling component of  
977 electric rates for all customers of the electric distribution company. Any  
978 net revenues from the sale of products purchased in accordance with  
979 any tariff offered pursuant to this section shall be credited to customers  
980 through the same fully reconciling rate component for all customers of  
981 such electric distribution company.

982 (f) Notwithstanding the size-to-load provisions of subdivision (4) of  
983 subsection (a) of this section, the entire rooftop space of a customer's  
984 own premises developed pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision  
985 (1) of subsection (a) of this section and owned by a commercial or  
986 industrial customer may be used for purposes of electricity generation  
987 and participation in the solicitation conducted by each electric  
988 distribution company pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of  
989 this section.

990 (g) State, municipal and agricultural customers shall be exempt from  
991 the requirement that generation projects owned or developed pursuant  
992 to subparagraph (A) [or (B)] of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this  
993 section be located on a customer's own premises.

994 (h) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, the authority shall  
995 incorporate the program established pursuant to section 16-244ee into  
996 the programs authorized pursuant to this section.

997 Sec. 11. Section 16-245e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
998 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

999 (a) As used in this section, sections 16-245f to 16-245k, inclusive, as  
1000 amended by this act, and section 16-245m, as amended by this act:

1001 (1) "Rate reduction bonds" means bonds, notes, certificates of  
1002 participation or beneficial interest, or other [evidences] evidence of

1003 indebtedness or ownership, issued pursuant to an executed indenture  
1004 or other agreement of a financing entity, in accordance with this section  
1005 and sections 16-245f to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this act, the  
1006 proceeds of which are used, directly or indirectly, to provide, recover,  
1007 finance, or refinance stranded costs, financed utility services or  
1008 economic recovery transfer, or to sustain funding of conservation and  
1009 load management and renewable energy investment programs by  
1010 substituting for disbursements to the General Fund from the  
1011 Conservation and Load Management Plan established by section 16-  
1012 245m, as amended by this act, and from the Clean Energy Fund  
1013 established by section 16-245n, and which, directly or indirectly, are  
1014 secured by, evidence ownership interests in, or are payable from,  
1015 transition property;

1016 (2) "Competitive transition assessment" means those nonbypassable  
1017 rates and other charges, that are authorized by the authority (A) in a  
1018 financing order in respect to the economic recovery transfer, or in a  
1019 financing order, to sustain funding of conservation and load  
1020 management and renewable energy investment programs by  
1021 substituting disbursements to the General Fund from proceeds of rate  
1022 reduction bonds for such disbursements from the Conservation and  
1023 Load Management Plan established by section 16-245m, as amended by  
1024 this act, and from the Clean Energy Fund established by section 16-245n,  
1025 or to recover those stranded costs or financed utility services that are  
1026 eligible to be funded with the proceeds of rate reduction bonds pursuant  
1027 to section 16-245f, as amended by this act, and the costs of providing,  
1028 recovering, financing, or refinancing the economic recovery transfer or  
1029 such substitution of disbursements to the General Fund or such  
1030 stranded costs or financed utility services through a plan approved by  
1031 the authority in the financing order, including the costs of issuing,  
1032 servicing, and retiring rate reduction bonds, (B) to recover those  
1033 stranded costs or financed utility services determined under this section  
1034 but not eligible to be funded with the proceeds of rate reduction bonds  
1035 pursuant to section 16-245f, as amended by this act, or (C) to recover  
1036 costs determined under subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section 16-

1037 244g. If requested by the electric distribution company, the authority  
1038 shall include in the competitive transition assessment nonbypassable  
1039 rates and other charges to recover federal and state taxes whose  
1040 recovery period is modified by the transactions contemplated in this  
1041 section and sections 16-245f to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this  
1042 act;

1043 (3) "Customer" means any individual, business, firm, corporation,  
1044 association, tax-exempt organization, joint stock association, trust,  
1045 partnership, limited liability company, the United States or its agencies,  
1046 this state, any political subdivision thereof or state agency that  
1047 purchases electric generation or distribution services as a retail end user  
1048 in the state from any electric supplier or electric distribution company;

1049 (4) "Finance authority" means the state, acting through the office of  
1050 the State Treasurer;

1051 (5) "Authority" means the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority;

1052 [(5)] (6) "Net proceeds" means the book income from the sale or  
1053 divestiture of assets, consisting of sales price less reasonable expenses of  
1054 sale, related income and other;

1055 [(6)] (7) "Stranded costs" means that portion of generation assets,  
1056 generation-related regulatory assets or long-term contract costs  
1057 determined by the authority in accordance with the provisions of  
1058 subsections (e), (f), (g) and (h) of this section;

1059 [(7)] (8) "Generation assets" means the total construction and other  
1060 capital asset costs of generation facilities approved for inclusion in rates  
1061 before July 1, 1997, but does not include any costs relating to the  
1062 decommissioning of any such facility or any costs which the authority  
1063 found during a proceeding initiated before July 1, 1998, were incurred  
1064 because of imprudent management;

1065 [(8)] (9) "Generation-related regulatory assets" means generation-  
1066 related costs authorized or mandated before July 1, 1998, by the Public

1067 Utilities Regulatory Authority, approved for inclusion in the rates, and  
1068 include, but are not limited to, costs incurred for deferred taxes,  
1069 conservation programs, environmental protection programs, public  
1070 policy costs and research and development costs, net of any applicable  
1071 credits payable to customers, but does not include any costs which the  
1072 authority found during a proceeding initiated before July 1, 1998, were  
1073 incurred because of imprudent management;

1074 [(9)] (10) "Long-term contract costs" mean the above-market portion  
1075 of the costs of contractual obligations approved for inclusion in the rates  
1076 that were entered into before January 1, 2000, arising from independent  
1077 power producer contracts required by law or purchased power  
1078 contracts approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;

1079 [(10)] (11) "Financing entity" means the finance authority or any  
1080 special purpose trust or other entity that is authorized by the finance  
1081 authority, or, in the case of rate reduction bonds to recover financed  
1082 utility services, authorized by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority  
1083 pursuant to a financing order, to issue rate reduction bonds or acquire  
1084 transition property pursuant to such terms and conditions as the finance  
1085 authority, or said authority, if applicable, may specify, or both;

1086 [(11)] (12) "Financing order" means an order of the authority adopted  
1087 in accordance with this section and sections 16-245f to 16-245k,  
1088 inclusive, as amended by this act;

1089 [(12)] (13) "Transition property" means the irrevocable property right  
1090 created pursuant to this section and sections 16-245f to 16-245k,  
1091 inclusive, as amended by this act, in respect to the economic recovery  
1092 transfer or in respect of disbursements to the General Fund to sustain  
1093 funding of conservation and load management and renewable energy  
1094 investment programs or those stranded costs or financed utility services  
1095 that are eligible to be funded with the proceeds of rate reduction bonds  
1096 pursuant to section 16-245f, as amended by this act, including, without  
1097 limitation, the right, title, and interest of an electric distribution  
1098 company or its transferee or the financing entity (A) in and to the rates

1099 and charges established pursuant to a financing order, as adjusted from  
1100 time to time in accordance with subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of  
1101 section 16-245i, as amended by this act, and the financing order, (B) to  
1102 be paid the amount that is determined in a financing order to be the  
1103 amount that the electric distribution company or its transferee or the  
1104 financing entity is lawfully entitled to receive pursuant to the provisions  
1105 of this section and sections 16-245f to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by  
1106 this act, and the proceeds thereof, and in and to all revenues, collections,  
1107 claims, payments, money, or proceeds of or arising from the rates and  
1108 charges or constituting the competitive transition assessment that is the  
1109 subject of a financing order including those nonbypassable rates and  
1110 other charges referred to in subdivision (2) of this subsection, and (C) in  
1111 and to all rights to obtain adjustments to the rates and charges pursuant  
1112 to the terms of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 16-245i, as  
1113 amended by this act, and the financing order. "Transition property" shall  
1114 constitute a current and irrevocable property right notwithstanding the  
1115 fact that the value of the property right will depend on consumers using  
1116 electricity or, in those instances where consumers are customers of a  
1117 particular electric distribution company, the electric distribution  
1118 company performing certain services;

1119 [(13)] (14) "State rate reduction bonds" means the rate reduction  
1120 bonds issued on June 23, 2004, by the state to sustain funding of  
1121 conservation and load management and renewable energy investment  
1122 programs by substituting for disbursements to the General Fund from  
1123 the Conservation and Load Management Plan, established by section  
1124 16-245m, as amended by this act, and from the Clean Energy Fund,  
1125 established by section 16-245n. The state rate reduction bonds for the  
1126 purposes of section 4-30a shall be deemed to be outstanding  
1127 indebtedness of the state;

1128 [(14)] (15) "Operating expenses" means, with respect to state rate  
1129 reduction bonds or economic recovery revenue bonds, (A) all expenses,  
1130 costs and liabilities of the state or the trustee incurred in connection with  
1131 the administration or payment of the state rate reduction bonds or

1132 economic recovery revenue bonds, or in discharge of its obligations and  
1133 duties under the state rate reduction bonds or economic recovery  
1134 revenue bonds, or bond documents, expenses and other costs and  
1135 expenses arising in connection with the state rate reduction bonds or  
1136 economic recovery revenue bonds, or pursuant to the financing order  
1137 providing for the issuance of such bonds including any arbitrage rebate  
1138 and penalties payable under the code in connection with such bonds,  
1139 and (B) all fees and expenses payable or disburseable to the servicers or  
1140 others under the bond documents;

1141 [(15)] (16) "Bond documents" means, with respect to state rate  
1142 reduction bonds or economic recovery revenue bonds, the following  
1143 documents: The servicing agreements, the tax compliance agreement  
1144 and certificate, and the continuing disclosure agreement and indenture  
1145 entered into in connection with the state rate reduction bonds or the  
1146 economic recovery revenue bonds;

1147 [(16)] (17) "Indenture" means the indenture executed in connection  
1148 with the state rate reduction bonds or the economic recovery revenue  
1149 bonds, or, with respect to state rate reduction bonds, the RRB Indenture,  
1150 dated as of June 23, 2004, by and between the state and the trustee, as  
1151 amended from time to time;

1152 [(17)] (18) "Trustee" means, with respect to state rate reduction bonds,  
1153 the trustee appointed under the indenture;

1154 [(18)] (19) "Economic recovery transfer" means the disbursement to  
1155 the General Fund of nine hundred fifty-six million dollars from  
1156 proceeds of the issuance of the economic recovery revenue bonds; [and]

1157 [(19)] (20) "Economic recovery revenue bonds" means rate reduction  
1158 bonds issued to fund the economic recovery transfer, the costs of  
1159 issuance, credit enhancements, operating expenses and such other costs  
1160 as the finance authority deems necessary or advisable, and which shall  
1161 be payable from competitive transition assessment charges that replace  
1162 the competitive transition assessment charges funding stranded costs;

1163 (21) "Financed utility services" means costs determined by the Public  
1164 Utilities Regulatory Authority pursuant to the standards set forth in  
1165 section 16-11, 16-19, as amended by this act, or 16-19e that (A) have been  
1166 prudently and efficiently incurred between the period of January 1,  
1167 2018, through January 1, 2025, by an electric distribution company to  
1168 prepare for and restore power to customers following storms, (B) have  
1169 been or are reasonably expected to be prudently and efficiently incurred  
1170 after January 1, 2025, by an electric distribution company for any  
1171 accelerated initial procurement, installation and operational  
1172 deployment of advanced metering infrastructure to replace existing  
1173 traditional noninterval metering infrastructure utilized by customers of  
1174 such company, including any reasonable fees, expenses and transaction  
1175 costs incurred in connection with the issuance, servicing, retirement or  
1176 refinancing of rate reduction bonds, (C) the unrecovered balance of  
1177 legacy infrastructure, including stranded costs, being replaced in  
1178 connection with the deployment of advanced metering infrastructure,  
1179 and (D) any reasonable fees, expenses and transaction costs incurred in  
1180 connection with the issuance, servicing, retirement or refinancing of rate  
1181 reduction bonds issued to finance such costs; and

1182 (22) "Advanced metering infrastructure" means an integrated system  
1183 of metering equipment, two-way communications networks and  
1184 information management systems, including billing and customer  
1185 information systems, used by an electric distribution company to collect  
1186 and transmit interval or real-time data concerning a customer's energy  
1187 consumption.

1188 (b) The authority shall, in accordance with the provisions of this  
1189 section, identify and calculate, upon application by an electric  
1190 distribution company, those stranded costs or financed utility services  
1191 that may be collected through the competitive transition assessment  
1192 which shall be calculated and collected in accordance with the  
1193 provisions of section 16-245g, as amended by this act. No electric  
1194 distribution company shall be eligible to claim stranded costs unless a  
1195 public auction has been held to divest itself of all nonnuclear generation

1196 assets or the electric distribution company has sold its nonnuclear  
1197 generation assets in accordance with section 16-43.

1198 (c) (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section 16-  
1199 244g, any electric distribution company seeking to claim stranded costs  
1200 shall, in accordance with this subsection, mitigate such costs to the  
1201 fullest extent possible. Prior to the approval by the authority of any  
1202 stranded costs, the electric distribution company shall show to the  
1203 satisfaction of the authority that the electric distribution company has  
1204 taken all reasonable steps to mitigate to the maximum extent possible  
1205 the total amount of stranded costs that it seeks to claim and to minimize  
1206 the cost to be recovered from customers. Mitigation shall include: (A)  
1207 Except to the extent provided in collective bargaining agreements or  
1208 agreements to purchase generation assets entered into prior to July 1,  
1209 1998, the obtaining of written commitments from purchasers of  
1210 generation facilities divested pursuant to section 16-244g, that the  
1211 purchasers will offer employment to persons who were employed in  
1212 nonmanagerial positions by a divested generation facility at any time  
1213 during the three-month period prior to the divestiture, at levels of wages  
1214 and overall compensation not lower than the employees' lowest level  
1215 during the six-month period prior to the date the contract to divest the  
1216 asset was entered into; (B) good faith efforts to negotiate the buyout,  
1217 buydown or renegotiation of independent power producer contracts  
1218 and purchased power contracts approved by the Federal Energy  
1219 Regulatory Commission, provided the fixed present value of any  
1220 contract to which a political subdivision of the state is a party shall be  
1221 calculated using the political subdivision's tax-exempt borrowing rate  
1222 as the discount rate; and (C) the reasonable costs of the consultants  
1223 appointed to conduct the auctions of generation assets pursuant to  
1224 section 16-244g. Mitigation may include, but is not limited to,  
1225 reallocation of depreciation reserves to existing generation assets to the  
1226 extent consistent with generally accepted accounting principles;  
1227 reduction of book assets by application of net proceeds of any sale of  
1228 existing assets; maximization of market revenues from existing  
1229 generation assets; efforts to maximize current and future operating

1230 efficiency, including appropriate and timely maintenance, trouble  
1231 shooting, aggressive identification and correction of potential problem  
1232 areas; voluntary write-offs of above-market generation assets; the  
1233 decision to retire uneconomical generation assets and efforts to divest  
1234 generating sites at market prices reflective of best use of sites. Mitigation  
1235 shall not include any expenditures to restart a nuclear generation asset  
1236 that was not operating for reasons other than scheduled maintenance or  
1237 refueling at the time such expenditure was made. Any mitigation efforts  
1238 and associated costs shall be subject to approval by the authority.

1239 (2) The authority shall allow the cost of such mitigation efforts to be  
1240 included in the calculation of stranded costs to the extent that such  
1241 mitigation costs are reasonable relative to the amount of the reduction  
1242 in stranded costs resulting from the mitigation.

1243 (d) An electric distribution company shall submit to the authority an  
1244 application for recovery of that portion of generation-related regulatory  
1245 assets, long-term contract costs, generation assets and mitigation costs  
1246 which are determined by the authority in accordance with subsections  
1247 (c), (e), (f) and (g) of this section and subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of  
1248 section 16-244g. The application shall include a description of mitigation  
1249 efforts and a request for recovery through the competitive transition  
1250 assessment and may include a request for a financing order. The  
1251 authority shall hold a hearing for each electric distribution company and  
1252 issue a finding of the calculation of stranded costs in a time frame that  
1253 allows for collection of the competitive transition assessment to begin  
1254 on January 1, 2000. Any hearing shall be conducted as a contested case  
1255 in accordance with chapter 54.

1256 (e) The authority shall calculate the stranded costs for generation-  
1257 related regulatory assets to be their book value as of January 1, 2000. In  
1258 calculating the value of generation-related regulatory assets that are  
1259 being provided in a lump sum as the result of a funding with the  
1260 proceeds of rate reduction bonds, the authority shall adjust the value of  
1261 each such asset to reflect the time value of such lump sum, if any.

1262 (f) (1) The authority shall calculate the stranded costs for long-term  
1263 contract costs that have been reduced to a fixed present value through  
1264 the buyout, buydown, or renegotiation of independent power producer  
1265 contracts and purchased power contracts approved by the Federal  
1266 Energy Regulatory Commission as such present value. In making such  
1267 calculation, the authority shall net purchased power contracts approved  
1268 by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that are below market  
1269 value against any such contracts that are above-market value.

1270 (2) The authority shall calculate the stranded costs for any portion of  
1271 a long-term contract cost that has not been reduced to a fixed present  
1272 value by comparing the contract price to the market price at least  
1273 annually. In making such calculation, the authority shall net purchased  
1274 power contracts approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory  
1275 Commission that are below market value against any such contracts that  
1276 are above-market value. The costs described in this subdivision shall be  
1277 included in the competitive transition assessment pursuant to section  
1278 16-245g, as amended by this act, but shall not be included in any funding  
1279 with the proceeds of rate reduction bonds.

1280 (g) The authority shall calculate the stranded cost for each generation  
1281 asset to be the difference between its book value and the market value  
1282 of a prudently and efficiently managed nonnuclear generating facility  
1283 of comparable size, age and technical characteristics in a competitive  
1284 market. In determining the market value of any such asset, the authority  
1285 may consider (A) the dollars per kilowatt received from the sale of  
1286 similar generation facilities, if any, (B) income capitalization based on  
1287 the operating history and capacity of the facility, the market rates for  
1288 power, and any existing long-term contracts for the sale of power or  
1289 capacity, (C) independent market appraisals, or (D) other relevant  
1290 factors. The authority shall calculate the stranded costs for generation  
1291 assets at least every three years. The costs described in this subsection  
1292 shall be included in the competitive transition assessment pursuant to  
1293 section 16-245g, as amended by this act, but shall not be included in any  
1294 funding with the proceeds of rate reduction bonds.

1295 (h) (1) On or before January 1, 2004, an electric distribution company  
1296 may submit to the authority an application for recovery of that portion  
1297 of nuclear generation assets which is determined by the authority in  
1298 accordance with this subsection, which application shall include a  
1299 request for recovery through the competitive transition assessment. The  
1300 authority shall hold a hearing for each electric distribution company and  
1301 issue a finding of the calculation of such nuclear generation assets in  
1302 accordance with the provisions of this subsection. Any hearing shall be  
1303 conducted as a contested case proceeding in accordance with chapter  
1304 54. The costs described in this subsection shall be included in the  
1305 competitive transition assessment pursuant to section 16-245g, as  
1306 amended by this act, but shall not be included in any funding with  
1307 proceeds of rate reduction bonds.

1308 (2) The authority shall calculate the stranded costs for each nuclear  
1309 generation asset that was divested at a price less than book value as  
1310 described in subdivision (5) of subsection (c) of section 16-244g as the  
1311 difference between the book value of this asset and the final bid price of  
1312 the asset. The authority's calculation of stranded costs pursuant to this  
1313 subdivision shall be final and shall not be subject to further adjustment  
1314 by the authority.

1315 (3) The authority shall calculate the stranded costs for each  
1316 nondivested nuclear generation asset described in subdivision (1) of  
1317 subsection (d) of section 16-244g to be the difference between its book  
1318 value and the market value of a prudently and efficiently managed  
1319 nuclear generating facility of comparable size, age and technical  
1320 characteristics in a competitive market. In determining the market value  
1321 of any such asset, the authority may consider (A) the dollars per kilowatt  
1322 received from the sale of similar generation facilities, if any, (B) income  
1323 capitalization based on the operating history and capacity of the facility,  
1324 the market rates for power, and any existing long-term contracts for the  
1325 sale of power or capacity, (C) the provision for decommissioning and  
1326 related costs to be paid from the systems benefits charge provided in  
1327 section 16-245l, (D) independent market appraisals, or (E) other relevant

1328 factors. At least every four years after the date when the authority issues  
1329 an initial finding of the calculation of the stranded costs for such  
1330 nondivested nuclear generation assets as provided in this subdivision  
1331 until the earlier of (i) the expiration of the collection of the competitive  
1332 transition assessment, or (ii) the date when such an asset is divested, the  
1333 authority shall hold a hearing and issue a finding to adjust the stranded  
1334 cost calculation of each such asset and to adjust the competitive  
1335 transition assessment accordingly to true up the stranded cost recovery  
1336 for the difference between the market value projected in such initial  
1337 finding and the actual market value of a prudently and efficiently  
1338 managed nuclear generating facility of comparable size, age and  
1339 technical characteristics during the time period between the initial  
1340 finding and the adjustment date, provided the second and subsequent  
1341 adjustments shall reflect the difference during the time period since the  
1342 most recent true-up. The authority shall calculate the value of each such  
1343 asset in accordance with the methodology provided in this subdivision.  
1344 Any hearing shall be conducted as a contested case in accordance with  
1345 chapter 54.

1346 (4) After the authority has calculated the total value of stranded costs  
1347 for all nuclear generation assets, the authority shall (A) reduce such  
1348 amount by the net proceeds that are above book value realized by an  
1349 electric distribution company from the sale of nonnuclear generation  
1350 assets, (B) reduce such valuation to reflect the total net proceeds that are  
1351 above book value realized by an electric distribution company from the  
1352 sale of any nuclear generation assets pursuant to subsection (c) of  
1353 section 16-244g, and (C) reduce such amount by the net proceeds that  
1354 are above book value received by an electric distribution company for  
1355 the sale or lease of any real property after July 1, 1998.

1356 (i) If any net proceeds described in subdivision (4) of subsection (h)  
1357 of this section remain after the reduction in the calculation of nuclear  
1358 generation assets pursuant to said subdivision (4) or are realized after  
1359 said reduction is calculated, the additional amount of such net proceeds  
1360 shall be netted against long-term contract costs described in subdivision

1361 (2) of subsection (f) of this section, and the competitive transition  
1362 assessment shall be adjusted accordingly.

1363 (j) No electric distribution company shall be eligible to claim any  
1364 stranded costs for a nuclear generation asset or for any generation-  
1365 related regulatory asset related to such generation asset, if the  
1366 generation asset is not operating as a result of an order issued by the  
1367 United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission that applies specifically  
1368 to such asset. Any such asset that is not eligible to be claimed as a  
1369 stranded cost shall be eligible after it is permitted to and has resumed  
1370 operation and is selling power.

1371 (k) If an electric distribution company elected to transfer any of its  
1372 nuclear generation assets and related operations and functions to a  
1373 separate corporate affiliate or to a division that is functionally separate  
1374 from the electric distribution company pursuant to section 16-244g and  
1375 subsequently sold any such assets in an arm's length transaction to an  
1376 unrelated entity prior to January 1, 2012, the net proceeds realized from  
1377 such sale that exceed book value for such assets shall be netted against  
1378 the total amount of stranded costs, and the competitive transition  
1379 assessment shall be adjusted accordingly and, if appropriate, other  
1380 reimbursement shall be ordered by the authority.

1381 (l) Upon receipt of a petition, or upon its own motion, the authority  
1382 may determine, at its sole discretion, that the issuance of rate reduction  
1383 bonds is in the best interest of ratepayers. Upon the issuance of a  
1384 financing order by the authority that specifies the appropriate amount,  
1385 timing and terms of such rate reduction bond issuance, the financing  
1386 entity shall issue such rate reduction bonds in accordance with the  
1387 financing order, provided the aggregate value of such bonds shall not  
1388 exceed two billion two hundred million dollars. Subject to the  
1389 reconciliation process set forth in this subsection, the costs of any rate  
1390 reduction bonds shall be recovered through the competitive transition  
1391 assessment pursuant to section 16-245g, as amended by this act. Upon  
1392 the issuance of any rate reduction bonds as ordered by the authority to  
1393 recover any financed utility services, the authority shall adjust the

1394 competitive transition assessment to allow the recovery of the cost of  
1395 such bonds, including a reconciliation of the actual revenues from the  
1396 competitive transition assessment to the actual cost of such bonds. If the  
1397 proceeds used to purchase transition property with respect to rate  
1398 reduction bonds issued for the deployment of advanced metering  
1399 infrastructure is subsequently determined by the authority pursuant to  
1400 the standards set forth in sections 16-11, 16-19, as amended by this act,  
1401 or 16-19e to exceed the amount prudently and efficiently incurred for  
1402 the deployment of advanced metering infrastructure, the total cost of  
1403 such bonds resulting from the excess shall be returned to ratepayers,  
1404 with interest, in a manner determined by the authority, including by  
1405 decreasing another nonbypassable rate charged by such electric  
1406 distribution company to proportionately account for such decrease, or  
1407 through the revenue decoupling mechanism line item, provided that the  
1408 competitive transition assessment shall not be decreased in connection  
1409 with such reconciliation.

1410 (m) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the net  
1411 benefits of accumulated deferred income taxes relating to amounts that  
1412 will be recovered through the issuance of rate reduction bonds for  
1413 financed utility services shall be credited to retail customers of electric  
1414 distribution companies by reducing the amount of such rate reduction  
1415 bonds that would otherwise be issued by the net present value of the  
1416 related tax cash flows, using a discount rate equal to the expected  
1417 interest rate on such rate reduction bonds.

1418 Sec. 12. Subsection (a) of section 16-245f of the general statutes is  
1419 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
1420 *2025*):

1421 (a) (1) An electric distribution company shall submit to the authority  
1422 an application for a financing order with respect to any proposal to  
1423 sustain funding of conservation and load management and renewable  
1424 energy investment programs by substituting disbursements to the  
1425 General Fund from proceeds of rate reduction bonds for such  
1426 disbursements from the Conservation and Load Management Plan

1427 established by section 16-245m, as amended by this act, and from the  
1428 Clean Energy Fund established by section 16-245n, and may submit to  
1429 the authority an application for a financing order with respect to the  
1430 following stranded costs: [(1)] (A) The cost of mitigation efforts, as  
1431 calculated pursuant to subsection (c) of section 16-245e, as amended by  
1432 this act; [(2)] (B) generation-related regulatory assets, as calculated  
1433 pursuant to subsection (e) of section 16-245e, as amended by this act;  
1434 and [(3)] (C) those long-term contract costs that have been reduced to a  
1435 fixed present value through the buyout, buydown, or renegotiation of  
1436 such contracts, as calculated pursuant to subsection (f) of section 16-  
1437 245e, as amended by this act. No stranded costs shall be funded with the  
1438 proceeds of rate reduction bonds unless [(A)] (i) the electric distribution  
1439 company proves to the satisfaction of the authority that the savings  
1440 attributable to such funding will be directly passed on to customers  
1441 through lower rates, and [(B)] (ii) the authority determines such funding  
1442 will not result in giving the electric distribution company or any  
1443 generation entities or affiliates an unfair competitive advantage.

1444 (2) An electric distribution company may submit to the authority an  
1445 application for a financing order with respect to financed utility services  
1446 that have been determined by the authority in a separate proceeding to  
1447 be appropriate for cost recovery pursuant to the standards set forth in  
1448 section 16-19, as amended by this act, or 16-19e. The authority shall issue  
1449 its response to such application not more than one hundred twenty days  
1450 after its receipt of an application for a financing order pursuant to this  
1451 subdivision.

1452 (3) The authority shall hold a hearing for each such electric  
1453 distribution company to determine the amount of disbursements to the  
1454 General Fund from proceeds of rate reduction bonds that may be  
1455 substituted for such disbursements from the Conservation and Load  
1456 Management Plan established by section 16-245m, as amended by this  
1457 act, and from the Clean Energy Fund established by section 16-245n, and  
1458 thereby constitute transition property and the portion of stranded costs  
1459 or financed utility services that may be included in such funding and

1460 thereby constitute transition property. Any hearing shall be conducted  
1461 as a contested case in accordance with chapter 54, except that any  
1462 hearing with respect to a financing order or other order to sustain  
1463 funding for conservation and load management and renewable energy  
1464 investment programs by substituting the disbursement to the General  
1465 Fund from the Conservation and Load Management Plan established by  
1466 section 16-245m, as amended by this act, and from the Clean Energy  
1467 Investment Fund established by section 16-245n, shall not be a contested  
1468 case, as defined in section 4-166. The authority shall not include any rate  
1469 reduction bonds as debt of an electric distribution company in  
1470 determining the capital structure of the company in a rate-making  
1471 proceeding, for calculating the company's return on equity or in any  
1472 manner that would impact the electric distribution company for rate-  
1473 making purposes, and shall not approve such rate reduction bonds that  
1474 include covenants that have provisions prohibiting any change to their  
1475 appointment of an administrator of the Conservation and Load  
1476 Management Plan.

1477 Sec. 13. Section 16-245g of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1478 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1479 (a) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall assess and  
1480 beginning January 1, 2000, or a later date determined by the authority  
1481 in a finance order with respect to any subsequent issuance of rate  
1482 reduction bonds, impose the competitive transition assessment which  
1483 shall be imposed on all customers of each electric distribution company  
1484 to provide funds for the purposes described in subsection (d) of this  
1485 section. The authority shall hold a hearing that shall be conducted as a  
1486 contested case in accordance with chapter 54, except as otherwise  
1487 provided in section 16-245f, as amended by this act, to determine the  
1488 amount of the competitive transition assessment.

1489 (b) The authority shall consider the effect on all customer rates and  
1490 other factors relevant to reducing rates in determining the amount of the  
1491 competitive transition assessment and the manner in which and the  
1492 period over which it shall be imposed in any decision of the authority

1493 to set or adjust the competitive transition assessment.

1494 (c) The competitive transition assessment shall be determined by the  
1495 authority in a general and equitable manner and, in accordance with the  
1496 provisions of subsection (b) of section 16-245f, shall be imposed on all  
1497 customers at a rate that is applied equally to all customers of the same  
1498 class in accordance with methods of allocation in effect on July 1, 1998,  
1499 or a later date determined by the authority in a finance order with  
1500 respect to any subsequent issuance of rate reduction bonds, provided  
1501 the competitive transition assessment shall not be imposed on  
1502 customers receiving services under a special contract which is in effect  
1503 on July 1, 1998, or a later date determined by the authority in a finance  
1504 order with respect to any subsequent issuance of rate reduction bonds,  
1505 until such special contract expires. The competitive transition  
1506 assessment shall be imposed beginning on January 1, 2000, or a later  
1507 date determined by the authority in a finance order with respect to any  
1508 subsequent issuance of rate reduction bonds, on all customers receiving  
1509 services under a special contract [which] that is entered into or renewed  
1510 after July 1, 1998, or a later date determined by the authority in a finance  
1511 order with respect to any subsequent issuance of rate reduction bonds.  
1512 The competitive transition assessment shall have a generally applicable  
1513 manner of determination that may be measured on the basis of  
1514 percentages of total costs of retail sales of electric generation services.  
1515 Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of section 16-245f, the  
1516 competitive transition assessment shall be payable by customers on an  
1517 equal basis on the same payment terms and shall be eligible or subject  
1518 to prepayment on an equal basis. Any exemption of the competitive  
1519 transition assessment by customers under a special contract shall not  
1520 result in an increase in rates to any customer.

1521 (d) The authority shall establish, fix and revise the competitive  
1522 transition assessment in an amount sufficient at all times to: (1) Pay the  
1523 principal of and the interest and any credit enhancement or premium  
1524 on rate reduction bonds as the same shall become due and payable; (2)  
1525 to pay all reasonable and necessary expenses relating to the financing;

1526 and (3) to pay an electric distribution company stranded costs or  
1527 financed utility services that are not funded with the proceeds of rate  
1528 reduction bonds and interim capital costs determined under  
1529 subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section 16-244g.

1530 (e) The competitive transition assessment shall be charged to  
1531 customers until the rate reduction bonds are paid in full, including all  
1532 principal, interest, premium, costs and arrearages on such bonds, by the  
1533 financing entity and stranded costs and financed utility services not  
1534 funded with the proceeds of rate reduction bonds are fully recovered by  
1535 the electric distribution company. Amounts collected from a customer  
1536 shall be allocated on a pro rata basis among (1) rates and charges  
1537 described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of  
1538 section 16-245e, as amended by this act, (2) rates and charges described  
1539 in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 16-  
1540 245e, as amended by this act, and (3) other charges. To the extent that  
1541 the authority, when issuing a financing order, determines that special  
1542 treatment on customers' bills is necessary or desirable to distinguish  
1543 rates and charges described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of  
1544 subsection (a) of section 16-245e, as amended by this act, from rates and  
1545 charges described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection  
1546 (a) of section 16-245e, as amended by this act, in order to facilitate the  
1547 successful issuance and sale of rate reduction bonds, it may so provide  
1548 as part of such financing order.

1549 Sec. 14. Subsection (a) of section 16-245h of the general statutes is  
1550 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
1551 *2025*):

1552 (a) The competitive transition assessment described in subparagraph  
1553 (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 16-245e, as amended  
1554 by this act, shall constitute transition property when, and to the extent  
1555 that, a financing order authorizing such portion of the competitive  
1556 transition assessment has become effective in accordance with sections  
1557 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this act, and the transition  
1558 property shall thereafter continuously exist as property for all purposes

1559 with all of the rights and privileges of sections 16-245e to 16-245k,  
1560 inclusive, as amended by this act, for the period and to the extent  
1561 provided in the financing order, but in any event until the rate reduction  
1562 bonds are paid in full, including all principal, interest, premium, costs,  
1563 and arrearages on such bonds. Prior to its sale or other transfer by the  
1564 electric distribution company pursuant to sections 16-245e to 16-245k,  
1565 inclusive, as amended by this act, transition property, other than  
1566 transition property in respect of the economic recovery transfer or in  
1567 respect to disbursements to the General Fund to sustain funding of  
1568 conservation and load management and renewable energy investment  
1569 programs, shall be a vested contract right of the electric distribution  
1570 company, notwithstanding any contrary treatment thereof for  
1571 accounting, tax, or other purpose. Transition property in respect of  
1572 disbursements to the General Fund to sustain funding of conservation  
1573 and load management and renewable energy investment programs  
1574 shall immediately upon its creation vest solely in the financing entity.  
1575 Transition property in respect to the economic recovery transfer shall  
1576 immediately upon its creation vest solely in the financing entity.  
1577 Notwithstanding the authority's calculation of costs that may be  
1578 collected pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16-245e, as amended by  
1579 this act, or how rates may be adjusted pursuant to subsection (f) of  
1580 section 16-245e, as amended by this act, transition property in respect to  
1581 financed utility services shall immediately upon its creation vest solely  
1582 in the applicable electric distribution company. The electric distribution  
1583 company shall not include transition property in its calculation of any  
1584 rate base and shall have no right, title or interest in transition property  
1585 in respect to the economic recovery transfer or in respect of  
1586 disbursements to the General Fund to sustain funding of conservation  
1587 and load management and renewable energy investment programs, and  
1588 in respect of such transition property shall be only a collection agent on  
1589 behalf of the financing entity.

1590 Sec. 15. Section 16-245i of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1591 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1592 (a) The authority may issue financing orders in accordance with  
1593 sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this act, to fund  
1594 the economic recovery transfer, to sustain funding of conservation and  
1595 load management and renewable energy investment programs by  
1596 substituting disbursements to the General Fund from proceeds of rate  
1597 reduction bonds for such disbursements in furtherance of the  
1598 Conservation and Load Management Plan established by section 16-  
1599 245m, as amended by this act, and from the Clean Energy Fund  
1600 established by section 16-245n, and to facilitate the provision, recovery,  
1601 financing, or refinancing of stranded costs and financed utility services.  
1602 Except for a financing order in respect to the economic recovery revenue  
1603 bonds, a financing order may be adopted [only] upon the application of  
1604 an electric distribution company or upon the authority's own motion,  
1605 pursuant to section 16-245f, as amended by this act, and shall become  
1606 effective in accordance with its terms only after the electric distribution  
1607 company files with the authority the electric distribution company's  
1608 written consent to all terms and conditions of the financing order. Any  
1609 financing order in respect to the economic recovery revenue bonds shall  
1610 be effective on issuance.

1611 (b) (1) Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule, or regulation  
1612 to the contrary, except as otherwise provided in this subsection with  
1613 respect to transition property that has been made the basis for the  
1614 issuance of rate reduction bonds, the financing orders and the  
1615 competitive transition assessment shall be irrevocable and the authority  
1616 shall not have authority either by rescinding, altering, or amending the  
1617 financing order or otherwise, to revalue or revise for rate-making  
1618 purposes the stranded costs and financed utility services, or the costs of  
1619 providing, recovering, financing, or refinancing the stranded costs and  
1620 financed utility services, the amount of the economic recovery transfer  
1621 or the amount of disbursements to the General Fund from proceeds of  
1622 rate reduction bonds substituted for such disbursements in furtherance  
1623 of the Conservation and Load Management Plan established by section  
1624 16-245m, as amended by this act, and from the Clean Energy Fund  
1625 established by section 16-245n, determine that the competitive transition

1626 assessment is unjust or unreasonable, or in any way reduce or impair  
1627 the value of transition property either directly or indirectly by taking the  
1628 competitive transition assessment into account when setting other rates  
1629 for the electric distribution company; nor shall the amount of revenues  
1630 arising with respect thereto be subject to reduction, impairment,  
1631 postponement, or termination.

1632 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the authority  
1633 shall approve the adjustments to the competitive transition assessment  
1634 as may be necessary to ensure timely recovery of all stranded costs and  
1635 financed utility services that are the subject of the pertinent financing  
1636 order, and the costs of capital associated with the provision, recovery,  
1637 financing [ ] or refinancing thereof, including the costs of issuing,  
1638 servicing [ ] and retiring the rate reduction bonds issued to recover  
1639 stranded costs and financed utility services contemplated by the  
1640 financing order and to ensure timely recovery of the costs of issuing,  
1641 servicing [ ] and retiring the rate reduction bonds issued to sustain  
1642 funding of conservation and load management and renewable energy  
1643 investment programs contemplated by the financing order, and to  
1644 ensure timely recovery of the costs of issuing, servicing and retiring the  
1645 economic recovery revenue bonds issued to fund the economic recovery  
1646 transfer contemplated by the financing order.

1647 (3) Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule, or regulation to  
1648 the contrary, any requirement under sections 16-245e to 16-245k,  
1649 inclusive, as amended by this act, or a financing order that the authority  
1650 take action with respect to the subject matter of a financing order shall  
1651 be binding upon the authority, as it may be constituted from time to  
1652 time, and any successor agency exercising functions similar to the  
1653 authority and the authority shall have no authority to rescind, alter, or  
1654 amend that requirement in a financing order. Section 16-43 shall not  
1655 apply to any sale, assignment, or other transfer of or grant of a security  
1656 interest in any transition property or the issuance of rate reduction  
1657 bonds under sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this  
1658 act.

1659 (c) The authority shall provide in any financing order for a procedure  
1660 for the timely approval by the authority of periodic adjustments to the  
1661 competitive transition assessment that is the subject of the pertinent  
1662 financing order, as required by subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this  
1663 section. The procedure shall require the authority to determine whether  
1664 the adjustments are required on [each anniversary of the issuance of the  
1665 financing order] an annual basis, and at the additional intervals as may  
1666 be provided for in the financing order, and for the adjustments, if  
1667 required, to be approved within ninety days of [each anniversary of the  
1668 issuance of the financing order, or of each additional interval] the filing  
1669 of each adjustment or within such shorter period as may be provided  
1670 for in the financing order.

1671 Sec. 16. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 16-245j of the general  
1672 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
1673 (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1674 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the state of  
1675 Connecticut does hereby pledge and agree with the owners of transition  
1676 property and holders of rate reduction bonds that neither the state nor  
1677 any agency of the state shall [neither] limit, [nor] alter, amend, reduce  
1678 or impair the competitive transition assessment, transition property,  
1679 financing orders, and all rights thereunder until the obligations,  
1680 together with the interest thereon, are fully met and discharged,  
1681 provided nothing contained in this subsection shall preclude the  
1682 limitation or alteration if and when adequate provision shall be made  
1683 by law for the protection of the owners and holders. The finance  
1684 authority as agent for the state is authorized to include this pledge and  
1685 undertaking for the state in these obligations.

1686 (c) (1) Financing orders and rate reduction bonds shall not be deemed  
1687 to constitute a debt or liability of the state or of any political subdivision  
1688 thereof, other than the financing entity, shall not constitute a pledge of  
1689 the full faith and credit of the state or any of its political subdivisions,  
1690 other than the financing entity, but shall be payable solely from the  
1691 funds provided under sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as

1692 amended by this act, and shall not constitute an indebtedness of the state  
1693 within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory debt limitation or  
1694 restriction and, accordingly, shall not be subject to any statutory  
1695 limitation on the indebtedness of the state and shall not be included in  
1696 computing the aggregate indebtedness of the state in respect to and to  
1697 the extent of any such limitation. This subsection shall in no way  
1698 preclude bond guarantees or enhancements pursuant to sections 16-  
1699 245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this act. All rate reduction  
1700 bonds shall contain on the face thereof a statement to the following  
1701 effect: "Neither the full faith and credit nor the taxing power of the State  
1702 of Connecticut is pledged to the payment of the principal of, or interest  
1703 on, this bond."

1704 (2) The issuance of rate reduction bonds under sections 16-245e to 16-  
1705 245k, inclusive, as amended by this act, shall not directly, indirectly, or  
1706 contingently obligate the state or any political subdivision thereof to  
1707 levy or to pledge any form of taxation therefor or to make any  
1708 appropriation for their payment.

1709 (3) The exercise of the powers granted by sections 16-245e to 16-245k,  
1710 inclusive, as amended by this act, shall be in all respects for the benefit  
1711 of the people of this state, for the increase of their commerce, welfare,  
1712 and prosperity, and as the exercise of such powers shall constitute the  
1713 performance of an essential public function, neither the finance  
1714 authority, any electric distribution company, any affiliate of any electric  
1715 distribution company, any financing entity, or any collection or other  
1716 agent of any of the foregoing shall be required to pay any taxes or  
1717 assessments upon or in respect of any revenues or property received,  
1718 acquired, transferred, or used by the finance authority, any electric  
1719 distribution company, any affiliate of any electric distribution company,  
1720 any financing entity, or any collection or other agent of any of the  
1721 foregoing under the provisions of sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive,  
1722 as amended by this act, or upon or in respect of the income therefrom,  
1723 and any rate reduction bonds shall be treated as issued by or on behalf  
1724 of a public instrumentality created under the laws of the state for

1725 purposes of chapter 229.

1726 (4) (A) The proceeds of any rate reduction bonds, other than  
1727 economic recovery revenue bonds, shall be used for the purposes  
1728 approved by the authority in the financing order, including, but not  
1729 limited to, disbursements to the General Fund in substitution for such  
1730 disbursements in furtherance of the Conservation and Load  
1731 Management Plan established by section 16-245m, as amended by this  
1732 act, and from the Clean Energy Fund established by section 16-245n, the  
1733 costs of refinancing or retiring of debt of the electric distribution  
1734 company, and associated federal and state tax liabilities; provided such  
1735 proceeds shall not be applied to purchase generation assets or to  
1736 purchase or redeem stock or to pay dividends to parent company  
1737 shareholders or to pay operating expenses other than taxes resulting  
1738 from the receipt of such proceeds.

1739 (B) The proceeds of any economic recovery revenue bonds shall be  
1740 used for the purposes approved by the authority in the financing order,  
1741 including, but not limited to, funding the economic recovery transfer,  
1742 provided such proceeds shall not be applied to purchase generation  
1743 assets or to purchase or redeem stock or to pay dividends to  
1744 shareholders or operating expenses other than taxes resulting from the  
1745 receipt of such proceeds.

1746 (5) Rate reduction bonds are made and declared (A) securities in  
1747 which all public officers and public bodies of the state and its political  
1748 subdivisions, all insurance companies, state banks and trust companies,  
1749 national banking associations, savings banks, savings and loan  
1750 associations, investment companies, executors, administrators, trustees  
1751 and other fiduciaries may properly and legally invest funds, including  
1752 capital in their control or belonging to them, and (B) securities which  
1753 may properly and legally be deposited with and received by any state  
1754 or municipal officer or any agency or political subdivision of the state  
1755 for any purpose for which the deposit of bonds or obligations of the state  
1756 is now or may be authorized.

1757 (6) Rate reduction bonds, other than economic recovery revenue  
1758 bonds, shall mature at such time or times approved by the authority in  
1759 the financing order. [; provided that such maturity shall not be later than  
1760 December 31, 2011.] Economic recovery revenue bonds shall mature at  
1761 such time or times approved by the authority in the financing order,  
1762 provided such maturity shall not be later than eight years after the date  
1763 of issuance, provided such maturity may be extended for economic  
1764 reasons, upon the advice of the financing entity.

1765 (7) Rate reduction bonds issued and at any time outstanding may, if  
1766 and to the extent permitted under the indenture or other agreement  
1767 pursuant to which they are issued, be refunded by other rate reduction  
1768 bonds.

1769 Sec. 17. Subsection (l) of section 16-245k of the general statutes is  
1770 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
1771 *2025*):

1772 (l) [The authority of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to issue  
1773 financing orders pursuant to sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, shall  
1774 expire on December 31, 2008, with respect to bonds other than economic  
1775 recovery revenue bonds.] The authority of the Public Utilities  
1776 Regulatory Authority to issue financing orders pursuant to sections 16-  
1777 245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this act, with respect to  
1778 economic recovery revenue bonds shall expire on December 31, 2012.  
1779 The expiration of such authority shall have no effect upon any other  
1780 financing orders adopted by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority  
1781 pursuant to sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this  
1782 act, or upon any financing orders adopted by the Public Utilities  
1783 Regulatory Authority pursuant to sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive,  
1784 as amended by this act, with respect to economic recovery bonds prior  
1785 to December 31, 2012, or any transition property arising [therefrom]  
1786 from any such financing orders, or upon the charges authorized to be  
1787 levied thereunder, or the rights, interests, and obligations of the electric  
1788 distribution company or a financing entity or holders of rate reduction  
1789 bonds pursuant to [the] any such financing order, or the authority of the

1790 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to monitor, supervise, or take  
1791 further action with respect to [the] any such financing order in  
1792 accordance with the terms of sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as  
1793 amended by this act, and of [the] any such financing order.

1794 Sec. 18. Subsection (b) of section 16-19gg of the general statutes is  
1795 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
1796 *1, 2025*):

1797 (b) During each proceeding on a rate amendment under section 16-  
1798 19, as amended by this act, proposed by an electric distribution  
1799 company, gas company or water company, the Public Utilities  
1800 Regulatory Authority shall consider the following factors in  
1801 determining a reasonable rate of return: (1) Macroeconomic conditions  
1802 at the time the rate amendment is pending before the authority; (2) the  
1803 company's compliance with state law, regulations and the decisions and  
1804 policies of the authority and the Department of Energy and  
1805 Environmental Protection; (3) the burden of the public service  
1806 company's costs on residential ratepayers, measured as a percentage of  
1807 household income, under the current and proposed rate; (4) trends in  
1808 the company's accrual of bad debt; (5) the rate impact on all residential  
1809 and nonresidential customers; (6) whether the company has benefited  
1810 from financing orders pursuant to sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive,  
1811 as amended by this act, and [(6)] (7) any other issue deemed relevant by  
1812 the authority.

1813 Sec. 19. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) Notwithstanding any  
1814 provision of title 16 of the general statutes, the Public Utilities  
1815 Regulatory Authority may select the Connecticut Green Bank, the  
1816 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the electric  
1817 distribution companies, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes,  
1818 as amended by this act, a third party that the authority deems  
1819 appropriate or any combination thereof to implement any ratepayer-  
1820 funded clean energy or renewable energy program established by the  
1821 authority in a proceeding.

1822 Sec. 20. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Energy and  
1823 Environmental Protection, in coordination with the Public Utilities  
1824 Regulatory Authority and the Consumer Counsel, shall prepare a report  
1825 that describes the line items included in the charges known as the  
1826 combined public benefits charges on a bill to any end-use customer of  
1827 an electric distribution company, as defined in section 16-1 of the  
1828 general statutes. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to,  
1829 an examination of the enabling authority for the imposition of any such  
1830 line item, and the purpose, costs and benefits associated with any such  
1831 line item. Not later than January 1, 2026, the commissioner shall submit  
1832 a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
1833 statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly  
1834 having cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology.

1835 Sec. 21. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 16-19f of the general statutes  
1836 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
1837 *1, 2025*):

1838 (a) As used in this section and section 16-243n, as amended by this  
1839 act:

1840 (1) "Cost of service" means an electric utility rate for a class of  
1841 consumer which is designed, to the maximum extent practicable, to  
1842 reflect the cost to the utility in providing electric service to such class;

1843 (2) "Declining block rate" means an electric utility rate for a class of  
1844 consumer [which] that prices successive blocks of electricity consumed  
1845 by such consumer at lower per-unit prices;

1846 (3) ["Time of day rate"] "Time-varying rate" means an electric utility  
1847 rate for a class of consumer [which] that is designed to (A) reflect the  
1848 cost to the utility of providing electricity to such consumer at different  
1849 times, [of the day] and (B) create a price differential that incentivizes  
1850 targeted electric load growth and system efficiency, which may include  
1851 critical peak pricing;

1852 (4) "Seasonal rate" means an electric utility rate for a class of consumer

1853 designed to reflect the cost to the utility in providing electricity to such  
1854 consumer during different seasons of the year;

1855 [(5) "Electric vehicle time of day rate" means an electric utility rate for  
1856 a class of consumer designed to reflect the cost to the utility of providing  
1857 electricity to such consumer charging an electric vehicle at an electric  
1858 vehicle charging station at different times of the day, but shall not  
1859 include demand charges;]

1860 [(6)] (5) "Electric vehicle charging station" means an electric  
1861 component assembly or cluster of component assemblies designed  
1862 specifically to charge batteries within electric vehicles by permitting the  
1863 transfer of electric energy to a battery or other storage device in an  
1864 electric vehicle;

1865 [(7)] (6) "Public electric vehicle charging station" means an electric  
1866 vehicle charging station located at a publicly available parking space;

1867 [(8)] (7) "Publicly available parking space" means a parking space that  
1868 has been designated by a property owner or lessee to be available to,  
1869 and accessible by, the public and may include on-street parking spaces  
1870 and parking spaces in surface lots or parking garages, but shall not  
1871 include: (A) A parking space that is part of, or associated with, a private  
1872 residence; (B) a parking space that is reserved for the exclusive use of an  
1873 individual driver or vehicle or for a group of drivers or vehicles, such as  
1874 employees, tenants, visitors, residents of a common interest  
1875 development, or residents of an adjacent building; or (C) a parking  
1876 space reserved for persons who are blind and persons with disabilities  
1877 as described in section 14-253a;

1878 [(9) "Interruptible rate" means an electric utility rate designed to  
1879 reflect the cost to the utility in providing service to a consumer where  
1880 such consumer permits his service to be interrupted during periods of  
1881 peak electrical demand; and]

1882 [(10)] (8) "Load management techniques" means cost-effective  
1883 techniques used by an electric utility to reduce the maximum kilowatt

1884 demand on the [utility] utility's system or shift the demand to maximize  
1885 electric grid efficiency, as determined by the authority;

1886 (9) "On-peak" means a period likely to capture the regional  
1887 independent system operator and electric distribution system peaks or  
1888 to incentivize the cost-effective shifting of load to maximize grid  
1889 efficiency, as determined by the authority;

1890 (10) "Critical peak" means a period when system costs are highest or  
1891 when the power grid is severely stressed and electric customers may  
1892 pay higher prices as a result of such stress; and

1893 (11) "Default rate" means the electric utility rate in which a consumer  
1894 is enrolled at the start of service if the consumer does not specify a  
1895 preferred rate.

1896 (b) [The] Not later than October 1, 2027, the Public Utilities  
1897 Regulatory Authority shall, with respect to each electric public service  
1898 company, [shall (1) within two years, consider and determine whether  
1899 it is appropriate to implement any of the following rate design  
1900 standards: (A) Cost of service; (B) prohibition of declining block rates;  
1901 (C) time of day rates; (D) seasonal rates; (E) interruptible rates; and (F)  
1902 load management techniques, and (2) not later than June 1, 2017,  
1903 consider and determine whether it is appropriate to implement electric  
1904 vehicle time of day rates] initiate a docket or dockets for the purpose of  
1905 accepting or modifying applications submitted by the electric  
1906 distribution companies for the implementation of time-varying rates for  
1907 residential and commercial customers. The [consideration of said  
1908 standards by the authority shall be made] authority may implement  
1909 such rates after public notice and hearing. Such hearing may be held  
1910 concurrently with a hearing required pursuant to subsection (b) of  
1911 section 16-19e. [The] Upon submission of proposed time-varying rates  
1912 by each electric distribution company, the authority shall [make a  
1913 determination on] evaluate whether it is appropriate to implement any  
1914 [of said standards] time-varying rate. Said determination shall be in  
1915 writing, shall take into consideration the evidence presented at the

1916 hearing and shall be available to the public. A [standard] time-varying  
1917 rate shall be deemed to be appropriate for implementation if such rate  
1918 is in the interest of ratepayers. The authority shall consider (1) if the  
1919 benefits of the rate exceed the costs of implementing such rate, including  
1920 but not limited to any capital investments necessary to implement the  
1921 plan, (2) if such implementation would encourage energy conservation,  
1922 optimal and efficient use of facilities and resources by an electric public  
1923 service company, [and] (3) equitable rates for electric consumers  
1924 approved by the authority, and (4) any other considerations the  
1925 authority deems appropriate to determine whether such rate is in the  
1926 best interest of the ratepayers.

1927 Sec. 22. Section 16-243n of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1928 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1929 (a) Not later than October 1, [2005] 2027, each electric distribution  
1930 company, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, shall submit  
1931 an application to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to [(1) on or  
1932 before January 1, 2007,] implement [time-of-use] time-varying rates for  
1933 (1) residential customers, [that have a maximum demand of not less  
1934 than three hundred fifty kilowatts that may include, but not be limited  
1935 to, mandatory peak, shoulder and off-peak time-of-use rates, and (2) on  
1936 or before June 1, 2006, offer optional interruptible or load response rates  
1937 for customers that have a maximum demand of not less than three  
1938 hundred fifty kilowatts and offer optional seasonal and time-of-use  
1939 rates for all customers. The application shall propose to establish time-  
1940 of-use rates through a procurement plan, revenue neutral adjustments  
1941 to delivery rates, or both] and (2) commercial and industrial customers.

1942 (b) [Not later than November 1, 2005, each electric distribution  
1943 company shall submit an application to the Public Utilities Regulatory  
1944 Authority to implement mandatory seasonal rates for all customers  
1945 beginning April 1, 2007] (1) Time-varying rate proposals for  
1946 transmission, distribution and all other retail electric rate components  
1947 submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall (A) provide for  
1948 fixed rates across twenty-four-hour cycles within each season, (B) be

1949 based on projected seasonal demand and include on-peak rates, and (C)  
1950 adequately incentivize the cost-effective shifting of load to off-peak  
1951 periods by applying an appropriate price differential between on-peak  
1952 and off-peak time-varying rates. The design of such rates, including the  
1953 price differential between on-peak and off-peak time-varying rates,  
1954 shall be consistent with empirical research conducted by the electric  
1955 distribution company and other rate-design experts.

1956 (2) Any application submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
1957 section that proposes a seasonal rate component to such time-varying  
1958 rates shall submit the following concerning such proposed seasonal  
1959 rates: (A) Any proposal for differentiation of generation, transmission  
1960 and distribution energy and demand rates (i) into summer and  
1961 nonsummer periods, at a minimum, and if cost differences between  
1962 summer and nonsummer periods are substantial, (ii) into winter and  
1963 shoulder month periods, with consideration of projected electric  
1964 customer acceptance and usage of such rates, and (B) the appropriate  
1965 phase-in period over which time electric customers may adjust to  
1966 seasonal rates without experiencing a sudden, significant increase in  
1967 electricity prices.

1968 (3) Any application submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
1969 section shall propose to establish (A) such time-varying rates through  
1970 an approved revenue recovery mechanism for transmission and  
1971 distribution rates, and (B) a revenue reconciliation mechanism whereby  
1972 any revenue undercollected or overcollected through such time-varying  
1973 rates is recovered or refunded, as appropriate, through a subsequent  
1974 billing reconciliation adjustment.

1975 (4) Time-varying rates submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
1976 section shall be designed as default rates, with consideration for  
1977 principles of gradualism and customer acceptance and established  
1978 exceptions as deemed appropriate by the authority, for medically  
1979 protected and financial hardship customers, and provided the  
1980 application (A) proposes a comprehensive customer education program  
1981 that meets the requirements of section 23 of this act; (B) provides for a

1982 clearly defined opt-out process concerning such rates; and (C) gives due  
1983 consideration to the interaction of any time-varying rate design with  
1984 existing and foreseeable low-income rates and programs.

1985 (c) The authority shall hold a hearing that shall be conducted as a  
1986 contested case, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to  
1987 approve, reject or modify applications submitted pursuant to subsection  
1988 (a) [or (b)] of this section. No application for [time-of-use] time-varying  
1989 rates shall be approved by the authority unless (1) such rates reasonably  
1990 reflect the cost of service during their respective [time-of-use] time-  
1991 varying periods, [and] (2) the costs associated with implementation, the  
1992 impact on customers and benefits to the utility system justify  
1993 implementation of such rates, and (3) such rates are expected to alter  
1994 patterns of customer consumption of electricity without undue adverse  
1995 effect on the customer.

1996 (d) Each electric distribution company shall assist customers to help  
1997 manage loads and reduce peak consumption through the  
1998 comprehensive plan developed pursuant to section 16-245m, as  
1999 amended by this act.

2000 Sec. 23. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) Each electric distribution  
2001 company, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended  
2002 by this act, shall, in consultation with the Consumer Counsel and the  
2003 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, design a  
2004 comprehensive customer education and engagement program for the  
2005 purpose of informing electric distribution customers of the benefits of  
2006 time-varying rates and encouraging such customers to utilize such rates  
2007 and any available technology that enables the realization of customer  
2008 cost savings on such time-varying rates. The customer education and  
2009 engagement program design shall include (1) approved methods of  
2010 customer outreach, education and engagement activities, including  
2011 strategies to maximize customer cost savings, (2) objective performance  
2012 standards regarding the program's implementation, and (3) mandatory  
2013 reporting requirements for electric distribution companies concerning  
2014 such companies' compliance with the program requirements, including

2015 the submission of documentation and data as required by the Public  
2016 Utilities Regulatory Authority.

2017 (b) In any rate case initiated on or after July 1, 2025, an electric  
2018 distribution company shall submit as part of its rate amendment  
2019 application a detailed proposal, or an update to a proposal previously  
2020 approved pursuant to this subsection, to develop the program required  
2021 under subsection (a) of this section for review and approval by the  
2022 authority. Upon approval by the authority, the program shall be  
2023 administered by the electric distribution companies.

2024 Sec. 24. Section 16-32e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2025 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2026 (a) As used in this section, "emergency" means any (1) hurricane,  
2027 tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave,  
2028 tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide,  
2029 snowstorm, drought, wildfire or fire explosion, or (2) attack or series of  
2030 attacks by an enemy of the United States causing, or which may cause,  
2031 substantial damage or injury to civilian property or persons in the  
2032 United States in any manner by sabotage or by the use of bombs,  
2033 shellfire or atomic, radiological, chemical, bacteriological or biological  
2034 means or other weapons or processes.

2035 (b) Not later than July 1, 2012, and every two years thereafter, each  
2036 public service company, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this  
2037 act, each telecommunications company, as defined in section 16-1, as  
2038 amended by this act, that installs, maintains, operates or controls poles,  
2039 wires, conduits or other fixtures under or over any public highway for  
2040 the provision of telecommunications service authorized by section 16-  
2041 247c, each voice over Internet protocol service provider, as defined in  
2042 section 28-30b, and each municipal utility furnishing electric, gas or  
2043 water service shall file with the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority,  
2044 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and each  
2045 municipality located within the service area of the public service  
2046 company, telecommunications company, voice over Internet protocol

2047 service provider or municipal utility an updated plan for restoring  
2048 service which is interrupted as a result of an emergency, except no such  
2049 plan shall be required of a public service company or municipal utility  
2050 that submits a water supply plan pursuant to section 25-32d. Plans filed  
2051 by public service companies and municipal utilities furnishing water  
2052 shall be prepared in accordance with the memorandum of  
2053 understanding entered into pursuant to section 4-67e, as amended by  
2054 this act.

2055 (c) (1) Each company, provider or utility required to file a plan for  
2056 restoring service pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall establish  
2057 an emergency service restoration planning committee to prepare such  
2058 plan. Not less than fifty per cent of the members of such committee shall  
2059 be line and restoration crew members employed by such company,  
2060 provider or utility. The balance of the members appointed to such  
2061 committee shall be appointed by such company, provider or utility.

2062 (2) If line and restoration crew members employed by such company,  
2063 provider or utility are members of a collective bargaining unit, the  
2064 collective bargaining unit shall select the line and restoration crew  
2065 members appointed to such committee. If such line and restoration crew  
2066 members are not members of a collective bargaining unit, the line and  
2067 crew members appointed to such committee shall be selected through a  
2068 process determined by the line and crew members employed by such  
2069 company, provider or utility.

2070 (3) A committee established pursuant to this subsection shall have  
2071 two co-chairpersons, one of whom shall be a line and restoration crew  
2072 member employed by such company, provider or utility elected by the  
2073 members of the committee who are line and restoration crew members,  
2074 and one of whom shall be elected by the members of the committee who  
2075 are not line and restoration crew members.

2076 (4) A committee established pursuant to this subsection shall take  
2077 minutes of each meeting, make such minutes available to any employee  
2078 of such company, provider or utility upon request and submit such

2079 minutes to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority and the  
2080 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection upon request.  
2081 A majority of the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum  
2082 for the transaction of committee business. Decisions of the committee  
2083 shall be made by majority vote of the members present at any meeting.

2084 (d) Each such plan for restoring service which is interrupted as a  
2085 result of an emergency shall include measures for (1) communication  
2086 and coordination with state officials, municipalities and other public  
2087 service companies and telecommunications companies during a major  
2088 disaster, as defined in section 28-1, or an emergency; [and] (2)  
2089 participation in training exercises as directed by the Commissioner of  
2090 Emergency Services and Public Protection; (3) measures to protect the  
2091 health and safety of line and restoration crews during an emergency and  
2092 during the restoration of service, including the provision of appropriate  
2093 personal protective equipment; (4) measures to protect the health and  
2094 safety of household and community members during an emergency and  
2095 during the restoration of service; and (5) a training and skills plan for  
2096 line and restoration workers. If line and restoration crew members are  
2097 members of a collective bargaining unit, such training and skills plan  
2098 shall be jointly developed by the company, provider or utility and such  
2099 collective bargaining unit. Each such plan shall include such company's,  
2100 provider's or municipal utility's response for service outages affecting  
2101 more than ten per cent, thirty per cent, fifty per cent and seventy per  
2102 cent of such company's, provider's or municipal utility's customers. On  
2103 or before September 1, 2012, and biannually thereafter, the authority  
2104 shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint  
2105 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
2106 matters relating to public utilities summarizing such plans. Not later  
2107 than September 15, 2012, and every two years thereafter, the Public  
2108 Utilities Regulatory Authority may conduct public hearings on such  
2109 plans and, in consultation with the Department of Emergency Services  
2110 and Public Protection, the Department of Public Health and the joint  
2111 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
2112 matters relating to public utilities, revise such plans to the extent

2113 necessary to provide properly for the public convenience, necessity and  
2114 welfare. If the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority revises the  
2115 emergency plan of a public service company, telecommunications  
2116 company, voice over Internet protocol service provider or municipal  
2117 utility, such company, provider or municipal utility shall file a copy of  
2118 the revised plan with each municipality located within the service area  
2119 of the company, provider or municipal utility. Any information  
2120 provided in any such plan shall be considered confidential, not subject  
2121 to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in  
2122 section 1-200, and any such information shall not be transmitted to any  
2123 person except as needed to comply with this section.

2124 [(c)] (e) At the discretion of the Commissioner of Emergency Services  
2125 and Public Protection or after an emergency or major disaster is declared  
2126 in the state by the Governor under the laws of this state or by the  
2127 President of the United States under federal law, each telephone  
2128 company, certified telecommunications provider, holder of a certificate  
2129 of video franchise authority or holder of a certificate of cable franchise  
2130 authority, as those terms are defined in section 16-1, as amended by this  
2131 act, with more than twenty-five thousand subscribers, shall provide a  
2132 representative to staff the emergency operations center of an affected  
2133 electric distribution company, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by  
2134 this act, as needed to ensure communication and coordination during  
2135 emergency response and restoration efforts.

2136 Sec. 25. Section 16-32l of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2137 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2138 (a) For the purposes of this section:

2139 (1) "Emergency" means any hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high  
2140 water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, earthquake, landslide, mudslide,  
2141 snowstorm, drought, wildfire or fire explosion that results in sixty-nine  
2142 per cent or less of the electric distribution company's customers  
2143 experiencing an outage at the period of peak electrical demand;

2144 (2) "Electric distribution company" has the same meaning as  
2145 provided in section 16-1, as amended by this act; and

2146 (3) "After the occurrence of an emergency" means the conclusion of  
2147 the emergency, as determined by the authority in its discretion, through  
2148 a review of the following: (A) The time when the electric distribution  
2149 company could first deploy resources safely in its service territory; (B)  
2150 the first of any official declarations concerning the end of the emergency;  
2151 or (C) the expiration of the first of any National Weather Service  
2152 warning applicable to the service territory.

2153 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes, on  
2154 and after July 1, 2021, each electric distribution company shall provide  
2155 to residential customers of such company a credit of twenty-five dollars,  
2156 on the balance of such customer's account, for each day of distribution-  
2157 system service outage that occurs for such customers for more than  
2158 ninety-six consecutive hours after the occurrence of an emergency.

2159 (c) Any costs incurred by an electric distribution company pursuant  
2160 to this section shall not be recoverable.

2161 (d) Not later than fourteen calendar days after the occurrence of an  
2162 emergency, an electric distribution company may petition the authority  
2163 for a waiver of the requirements of this section. Any petition for a waiver  
2164 made under this subsection shall include the severity of the emergency,  
2165 line and restoration crew safety issues and conditions on the ground,  
2166 and shall be conducted as a contested case proceeding. The burden of  
2167 proving that such waiver is reasonable and warranted shall be on the  
2168 electric distribution company. In determining whether to grant such  
2169 waiver, the authority shall consider whether the electric distribution  
2170 company received approval and reasonable funding allowances, as  
2171 determined by the authority, to meet infrastructure resiliency efforts to  
2172 improve such company's performance.

2173 (e) No electric distribution company shall require any line and  
2174 restoration crew member to work in unsafe conditions to avoid

2175 providing credits to customer accounts pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
2176 section or for any other reason.

2177 (f) No electric distribution company shall discipline, terminate,  
2178 withhold wages from or otherwise retaliate against any line and  
2179 restoration crew member for failing to restore a distribution system  
2180 outage within the ninety-six-hour period specified in subsection (b) of  
2181 this section.

2182 ~~[(e)]~~ (g) On or before January 1, 2021, the Public Utilities Regulatory  
2183 Authority shall initiate a proceeding to consider the implementation of  
2184 the residential customer credit and waiver provisions of this section and  
2185 establish circumstances, standards and methodologies applicable to  
2186 each electric distribution company and necessary to implement the  
2187 provisions of this section, including any modifications to the ninety-six-  
2188 consecutive-hour standard in subsection (b) of this section. The  
2189 authority shall issue a final decision in such proceeding on or before July  
2190 1, 2021.

2191 Sec. 26. Section 16-32m of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2192 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2193 (a) For the purposes of this section:

2194 (1) "Emergency" means any hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high  
2195 water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, earthquake, landslide, mudslide,  
2196 snowstorm, drought, wildfire or fire explosion that results in sixty-nine  
2197 per cent or less of the electric distribution company's customers  
2198 experiencing an outage at the period of peak electrical demand;

2199 (2) "Electric distribution company" has the same meaning as  
2200 provided in section 16-1, as amended by this act; and

2201 (3) "After the occurrence of an emergency" means the conclusion of  
2202 the emergency, as determined by the authority in its discretion, through  
2203 a review of the following: (A) The time when the electric distribution  
2204 company could first deploy resources safely in its service territory; (B)

2205 the first of any official declarations concerning the end of the emergency;  
2206 or (C) the expiration of the first of any National Weather Service  
2207 warning applicable to the service territory.

2208 (b) On and after July 1, 2021, each electric distribution company shall  
2209 provide to each residential customer compensation in an amount of two  
2210 hundred fifty dollars, in the aggregate, for any medication and food that  
2211 expires or spoils due to a distribution-system service outage that lasts  
2212 more than ninety-six consecutive hours in duration after the occurrence  
2213 of an emergency.

2214 (c) Any costs incurred by an electric distribution company pursuant  
2215 to this section shall not be recoverable.

2216 (d) Not later than fourteen calendar days after the occurrence of an  
2217 emergency, an electric distribution company may petition the authority  
2218 for a waiver of the requirements of this section. Any petition for a waiver  
2219 made under this subsection shall include the severity of the emergency,  
2220 line and restoration crew safety issues and conditions on the ground,  
2221 and shall be conducted as a contested case proceeding. The burden of  
2222 proving that such waiver is reasonable and warranted shall be on the  
2223 electric distribution company. In determining whether to grant such  
2224 waiver, the authority shall consider whether the electric distribution  
2225 company received approval and reasonable funding allowances, as  
2226 determined by the authority, to meet infrastructure resiliency efforts to  
2227 improve such company's performance.

2228 (e) No electric distribution company shall require any line and  
2229 restoration crew member to work in unsafe conditions to avoid  
2230 providing credits to customer accounts pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
2231 section or for any other reason.

2232 (f) No electric distribution company shall discipline, terminate,  
2233 withhold wages from or otherwise retaliate against any line and  
2234 restoration crew member for failing to restore a distribution system  
2235 outage within the ninety-six-hour period specified in subsection (b) of

2236 this section.

2237 [(e)] (g) On or before January 1, 2021, the Public Utilities Regulatory  
2238 Authority shall initiate a proceeding to consider the implementation of  
2239 the compensation reimbursement and waiver provisions of this section  
2240 and establish circumstances, standards and methodologies applicable to  
2241 each electric distribution company and necessary to implement the  
2242 provisions of this section, including any modifications to the ninety-six-  
2243 consecutive-hour standard in subsection (b) of this section. The  
2244 authority shall issue a final decision in such proceeding on or before July  
2245 1, 2021.

2246 Sec. 27. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section  
2247 and section 28 of this act:

2248 (1) "Advanced conductor" means any conductor material, design, or  
2249 technology that (A) improves the electrical performance of electrical  
2250 conductors in comparison to traditional aluminum-conductor, steel-  
2251 reinforced cable, and (B) optimizes attributes such as current carrying  
2252 capacity, thermal performance, weight, sag, durability, corrosion  
2253 resistance, and efficiency, using materials such as high-conductivity  
2254 alloys and conductor designs using trapezoidal wires;

2255 (2) "Advanced power flow control" means any hardware or software  
2256 technologies used to push or pull electric power in a manner that  
2257 balances electric lines that are either exceeding capacity or are  
2258 underutilized within the distribution or transmission system;

2259 (3) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Energy and  
2260 Environmental Protection;

2261 (4) "Dynamic line rating" means any hardware or software  
2262 technologies used to update the calculated thermal limits of existing  
2263 distribution or transmission lines in the state based on real-time and  
2264 forecasted weather conditions;

2265 (5) "Electric distribution company" has the same meaning as

2266 provided in section 16-1 of the general statutes;

2267 (6) "Grid-enhancing technology" means any hardware or software  
2268 technology that increases the capacity of, or enables enhanced or more  
2269 efficient performance from, the electric distribution or transmission  
2270 system in the state, including, but not limited to, dynamic line rating,  
2271 advanced power flow control, topology optimization and energy  
2272 storage when used as a distribution or transmission resource;

2273 (7) "Incumbent transmission owner" means any person or entity that  
2274 owns, operates and maintains an electric transmission facility in the  
2275 state and that is not an electric distribution company;

2276 (8) "Materially modify" means any construction activity relating to a  
2277 facility described in subdivision (1) or (4) of subsection (a) of section 16-  
2278 50i of the general statutes with an estimated cost of not less than twenty-  
2279 five million dollars. "Materially modify" does not include construction  
2280 activities related to an emergency condition that causes a disruption of  
2281 power or other unplanned loss of an essential transmission asset  
2282 function that requires immediate rectification;

2283 (9) "Nontransmission alternative" means an electric grid investment  
2284 or project that uses nontraditional transmission and distribution  
2285 solutions, including, but not limited to, distributed generation, energy  
2286 storage, energy efficiency demand response and grid software and  
2287 controls, to defer or replace the need for specific equipment upgrades,  
2288 such as transmission and distribution lines or transformers, by reducing  
2289 electric load at a substation or circuit level; and

2290 (10) "Topology optimization" means any hardware or software  
2291 technology that identifies reconfigurations of the distribution or  
2292 transmission grid in the state to enable the routing of power flows  
2293 around congested or overloaded elements of the electric grid.

2294 (b) (1) Any electric distribution company or incumbent transmission  
2295 owner that seeks to construct or materially modify any facility described  
2296 in subdivision (1) or (4) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i of the general

2297 statutes, shall, in addition to the primary proposed project for such  
2298 construction or material modification, develop at least (A) one project  
2299 alternative to such construction or modification that utilizes any  
2300 advanced conductor technology unless the primary proposed project  
2301 incorporates such technology, and (B) one such project alternative  
2302 utilizing grid-enhancing technology or nontransmission alternative  
2303 technology, applicable in whole or in part, to such construction or  
2304 material modification.

2305 (2) Such company or owner shall submit each project alternative  
2306 required under subdivision (1) of this subsection with any application  
2307 or petition submitted by such company or owner to the Connecticut  
2308 Siting Council concerning such construction or material modification. If  
2309 any such project alternative is not preferred by such company or owner,  
2310 such company or owner shall provide a detailed, written explanation  
2311 comparing the cost-effectiveness and appropriateness of the project  
2312 alternative with such project preferred by such company or owner and  
2313 submit such explanation with such application.

2314 (3) If any project alternative submitted pursuant to this subsection  
2315 proposes to utilize any advanced conductor, grid-enhancing technology  
2316 or nontransmission alternative, and such project alternative (A) is not  
2317 less cost effective than the project preferred by such company or owner,  
2318 and (B) has similar environmental and community impacts as such  
2319 preferred project, as determined by the Connecticut Siting Council, the  
2320 council shall give preference to such project alternative when  
2321 determining whether to approve such preferred project or project  
2322 alternative.

2323 (4) An electric distribution company may seek a waiver of the  
2324 requirements of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) in this section, in whole  
2325 or in part, if (A) the use of advanced conductors, grid-enhancing  
2326 technologies or nontransmission alternative technologies in a project to  
2327 construct or materially modify any facility described in subdivision (1)  
2328 or (4) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i of the general statutes is  
2329 impossible or impracticable, (B) such proposed project is subject to a

2330 regional transmission planning process that the commissioner  
2331 determines adequately considers the implementation of such  
2332 conductors or technologies, or (C) a project has been evaluated by the  
2333 commissioner and the Consumer Counsel pursuant to subsection (d) of  
2334 this section. To obtain such waiver, such company shall submit a waiver  
2335 application to the commissioner in a form and manner prescribed by the  
2336 commissioner. Such waiver application shall specify the conditions that  
2337 make the use of technology or technologies is impossible or  
2338 impracticable. The commissioner, after consultation with the Consumer  
2339 Counsel, may waive the requirement to submit such alternative or  
2340 alternatives pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section  
2341 to the Connecticut Siting Council. The commissioner shall accept or  
2342 deny a waiver application submitted pursuant to this subdivision not  
2343 more than sixty days after receipt. Any such application not accepted or  
2344 rejected by the commissioner within said sixty-day period shall be  
2345 deemed granted.

2346 (5) An electric distribution company may request, and the  
2347 commissioner may grant, a revocable general waiver of the  
2348 requirements of this subsection and subsection (d) of this section for any  
2349 projects subject to a regional transmission planning or review process  
2350 that considers advanced conductors, grid-enhancing technologies, or  
2351 nontransmission alternative technologies if such process is deemed  
2352 adequate by the commissioner.

2353 (c) Each electric distribution company and incumbent transmission  
2354 owner shall include in the annual report required by subsection (a) of  
2355 section 16-50r of the general statutes: (1) A schedule of any planned  
2356 construction or material modification of any facility described in  
2357 subdivision (1) or (4) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i of the general  
2358 statutes for the next ten years, including a description, as appropriate  
2359 for the project's current development stage, of the need for and scope of  
2360 the project, cost estimates, whether and how any advanced conductor,  
2361 grid-enhancing technologies, or nontransmission alternative  
2362 technologies may be considered to address the identified need, and any

2363 other information reasonably requested by the commissioner or the  
2364 Consumer Counsel, (2) data concerning any construction or material  
2365 modification of any facility described in subdivision (1) or (4) of  
2366 subsection (a) of section 16-50i of the general statutes placed in service  
2367 by such company in the year preceding such report, including both final  
2368 costs and estimated costs of the project at each relevant design stage, the  
2369 original estimated in service date of the facility, and (3) any other  
2370 information reasonably requested by the commissioner or the  
2371 Consumer Counsel pertaining to projects disclosed in such report. For  
2372 the first filing after the effective date of this section, each electric  
2373 distribution company shall provide the information required by  
2374 subdivision (2) of this subsection for any facility placed into service by  
2375 such company or owner on or after January 1, 2022. To the extent any  
2376 such information is unavailable, the electric distribution company shall  
2377 notify the commissioner and the Consumer Counsel and attempt to  
2378 reach a resolution concerning the request for information.

2379 (d) (1) Not more than one hundred eighty days after any annual filing  
2380 required pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the commissioner, in  
2381 consultation with the Consumer Counsel, shall determine and notify an  
2382 electric distribution company whether any facility listed for  
2383 construction or material modification requires further evaluation,  
2384 considering factors including, but not limited to, (A) whether the  
2385 proposed facility is subject to a transmission planning or review process  
2386 that is similar to a typical transmission planning process administered  
2387 by the New England grid operator, (B) the age or condition of the  
2388 underlying facility, (C) the scope and cost of the proposed project, (D)  
2389 whether the proposed project is responsive to needs identified through  
2390 proactive transmission planning by the regional transmission  
2391 organization, and (E) whether and how advanced conductors, grid-  
2392 enhancing technologies and nontransmission alternatives: (i) are  
2393 proposed to be utilized in the proposed project, (ii) can reduce  
2394 environmental or aesthetic impacts, and (iii) can feasibly solve the  
2395 underlying need identified by the electric distribution company in part  
2396 or in whole. Prior determining that a project to construct or materially

2397 modify a facility requires further evaluation pursuant to this  
2398 subdivision, the commissioner and Consumer Counsel shall provide the  
2399 electric distribution company with the opportunity to provide evidence  
2400 that such project requires no further evaluation pursuant to this  
2401 subdivision.

2402 (2) If an evaluation is conducted pursuant to subdivision (1) of this  
2403 subsection, the commissioner and Consumer Counsel shall evaluate a  
2404 proposed project based upon factors including: (A) The reasonableness  
2405 of the need identified by the electric distribution company justifying the  
2406 proposed facility; (B) the reasonableness of the proposed scope of the  
2407 project, including the timing of the proposed investments; (C) whether  
2408 the electric distribution company's proposed solution is the most cost-  
2409 effective solution to the identified need or whether alternative solutions,  
2410 including advanced conductors, grid-enhancing technologies, or  
2411 nontransmission alternatives, exist that could more cost-effectively  
2412 address the identified need in whole or in part; (D) the costs of the  
2413 proposed project and any potential alternatives identified as part of the  
2414 evaluation; (E) whether cost-effective opportunities exist for the  
2415 proposed project to be modified to account for future demand growth  
2416 or other variables that could mitigate the need for the electric  
2417 distribution company to conduct construction activities on the same  
2418 facility prior to the end of the useful life; and (F) any other factors that  
2419 the commissioner or Consumer Counsel reasonably determine are  
2420 necessary to evaluate for a specific project.

2421 (3) Not less than twice per year, the commissioner and the Consumer  
2422 Counsel shall meet with each electric distribution company to discuss  
2423 and receive input on any facilities that are currently under evaluation  
2424 pursuant to this section.

2425 (4) (A) The commissioner or the Consumer Counsel shall jointly  
2426 prepare a report detailing the factors for evaluation listed in subdivision  
2427 (2) of this subsection.

2428 (B) Any evaluation by the department or the Office of Consumer

2429 Counsel and any draft report resulting from that evaluation must be  
2430 completed and shared with the electric distribution companies no later  
2431 than ninety days prior to an electric distribution company's filing of an  
2432 application or petition before the Siting Council; provided, however,  
2433 that the electric distribution company informs the department and the  
2434 Office of Consumer Counsel of the anticipated filing date not less than  
2435 twelve months in advance of such filing date.

2436 (C) The commissioner shall file any final report developed pursuant  
2437 to this subsection in the relevant proceeding of the Connecticut Siting  
2438 Council concerning the proposed project. The Connecticut Siting  
2439 Council shall give appropriate consideration to the findings of such  
2440 report in making its determination on the proposed project.

2441 (e) (1) If any evaluation under subsection (d) of this section identifies  
2442 a feasible nontransmission alternative, the commissioner may initiate a  
2443 procurement process to seek proposals to implement any such  
2444 alternative. The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall review and  
2445 approve any agreement concerning the implementation of any such  
2446 alternative if the authority determines such alternative (A) ensures  
2447 reliability, (B) is cost effective, and (C) is technically feasible.

2448 (2) In conducting an evaluation pursuant to subsection (d) of this  
2449 section, the commissioner and the Consumer Counsel may hire  
2450 consultants to assist with such evaluation. Costs incurred by the  
2451 commissioner or the Consumer Counsel for the service of any such  
2452 consultant may be recovered through the nonbypassable, federally  
2453 mandated congestion charge.

2454 (f) Each electric distribution company or incumbent transmission  
2455 owner shall provide data, communications, and information requested  
2456 by the commissioner or the Consumer Counsel in connection with any  
2457 evaluation pursuant to this section, subject to enforcement under section  
2458 22a-6 of the general statutes. Responses to any such requests shall be  
2459 shared with both the department and the Office of Consumer Counsel.

2460 (g) Beginning on January 1, 2027, and every five years thereafter, each  
2461 electric distribution company and incumbent transmission owner shall  
2462 file a report concerning their compliance with the provisions of this  
2463 section with the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority. The authority  
2464 shall transmit a copy of each such report to the regional independent  
2465 system operator, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, and,  
2466 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
2467 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
2468 cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology.

2469 (h) Any proprietary commercial or proprietary financial information  
2470 of a company provided pursuant to this section shall be confidential and  
2471 protected by the commissioner and the Consumer Counsel.

2472 Sec. 28. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) In any base rate or capital  
2473 improvement proceeding before the Public Utilities Regulatory  
2474 Authority, an electric distribution company shall submit a report to the  
2475 authority that analyzes the cost-effectiveness of, and projected  
2476 timetables for, deploying grid-enhancing technologies, advanced  
2477 conductors, energy storage or other non-wires alternatives relevant to  
2478 such company's operations or capital investments. Such report may  
2479 include, but need not be limited to, proposed performance incentive  
2480 mechanisms for the cost-effective deployment of such technologies,  
2481 conductors or storage. The authority may approve the deployment of  
2482 such technologies, conductors or storage, with or without performance  
2483 incentive mechanisms, if the authority deems such technologies,  
2484 conductors or storage are cost effective.

2485 Sec. 29. Subsection (c) of section 16-18a of the general statutes is  
2486 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
2487 *1, 2025*):

2488 (c) The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, [in  
2489 consultation with] the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority and the  
2490 Office of Consumer Counsel [,] may, respectively, retain consultants to  
2491 assist [its] the staff of the department, authority or office by providing

2492 expertise in areas in which staff expertise does not currently exist or to  
2493 supplement staff expertise for any proceeding before or in any  
2494 negotiation with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the  
2495 United States Department of Energy, the United States Nuclear  
2496 Regulatory Commission, the United States Securities and Exchange  
2497 Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, the Federal  
2498 Communications Commission or the United States Department of  
2499 Justice. [The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, in consultation with  
2500 the Office of Consumer Counsel, may retain consultants to assist its staff  
2501 by providing expertise in areas in which staff expertise does not  
2502 currently exist or to supplement staff expertise for any proceeding  
2503 before or in any negotiation with the Federal Communications  
2504 Commission.] All reasonable and proper expenses of any such  
2505 consultants shall be borne by the public service companies, certified  
2506 telecommunications providers, holders of a certificate of video franchise  
2507 authority, electric suppliers or gas registrants affected by the decisions  
2508 of such proceeding and shall be paid at such times and in such manner  
2509 as the authority directs, provided such expenses (1) shall be apportioned  
2510 in proportion to the revenues of each affected entity as reported to the  
2511 authority pursuant to section 16-49 for the most recent fiscal year, and  
2512 (2) shall not exceed two and one-half million dollars per calendar year,  
2513 including any appeals thereof, unless the authority finds good cause for  
2514 exceeding the limit. The authority shall recognize all such expenses as  
2515 proper business expenses of the affected entities for ratemaking  
2516 purposes pursuant to section 16-19e, if applicable.

2517 Sec. 30. (NEW) (*Effective upon passage*) (a) For the purposes of this  
2518 section, "electric distribution company" and "regional independent  
2519 system operator" have the same meanings as provided in section 16-1 of  
2520 the general statutes, as amended by this act.

2521 (b) On and after the effective date of this section, no electric  
2522 distribution company shall own or control transmission facilities, as  
2523 defined in subdivisions (1) and (4) in subsection (a) of section 16-50i of  
2524 the general statutes and located in the state unless such company is a

2525 member of the regional independent system operator.

2526 Sec. 31. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:

2527 (1) "Meeting" means any committee, user group, task force or other  
2528 part of the regional transmission organization in which votes are taken;

2529 (2) "Recorded vote" means a vote that is tabulated, either individually  
2530 or as part of a sector, for any purpose at a meeting, regardless of (A)  
2531 whether the vote represents a final position of any person casting the  
2532 vote, or (B) the decision-making authority of those voting; and

2533 (3) "Electric distribution company" and "regional independent system  
2534 operator" have the same meanings as provided in section 16-1 of the  
2535 general statutes, as amended by this act.

2536 (b) (1) On or before February first annually, each electric distribution  
2537 company shall submit to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority a  
2538 report on each recorded vote cast by the electric distribution company  
2539 or, subject to subdivision (2) of this subsection, a corporate affiliate of  
2540 the electric distribution company located in the state at a meeting of the  
2541 regional independent system operator during the preceding calendar  
2542 year.

2543 (2) The report shall include (A) all recorded votes cast by the electric  
2544 distribution company, regardless of whether the vote is otherwise  
2545 disclosed, (B) all recorded votes cast by a corporate affiliate of the  
2546 electric distribution company if such company itself did not vote on the  
2547 matter, and (C) a brief description explaining how each vote cast by the  
2548 electric distribution company or its corporate affiliate is in the interest  
2549 of the public, as determined by the electric distribution company.

2550 Sec. 32. Subsection (e) of section 16a-3m of the general statutes is  
2551 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
2552 *1, 2025*):

2553 (e) (1) Any solicitation issued pursuant to subsection (d) of this

2554 section for zero-carbon electricity generating resources, including, but  
2555 not limited to, eligible nuclear power generating facilities, hydropower,  
2556 Class I renewable energy sources, as defined in section 16-1, as amended  
2557 by this act, and energy storage systems, shall be for resources delivered  
2558 into the control area of the regional independent system operator, as  
2559 defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, and any agreement  
2560 entered into pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be in the  
2561 best interest of ratepayers. If the commissioner finds proposals received  
2562 pursuant to such solicitations to be in the best interest of ratepayers, the  
2563 commissioner may select any such proposal or proposals, provided (A)  
2564 the total annual energy output of any proposals selected, in the  
2565 aggregate, shall be not more than twelve million megawatt hours of  
2566 electricity, (B) any agreement entered into pursuant to this subdivision  
2567 with an eligible nuclear power generating facility or hydropower shall  
2568 be for a period of not less than three years and not more than ten years,  
2569 or the contract term selected by at least one other state entering into an  
2570 agreement pursuant to this subsection if such term is in the best interest  
2571 of the ratepayers, and (C) any agreement entered into pursuant to this  
2572 subdivision with Class I renewable energy sources, as defined in section  
2573 16-1, as amended by this act, and energy storage systems shall be for a  
2574 period of not more than twenty years.

2575 (2) If the commissioner has made the determination and finding  
2576 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the commissioner shall,  
2577 on behalf of all customers of electric distribution companies, direct the  
2578 electric distribution companies to enter into agreements for energy,  
2579 capacity and any environmental attributes, or any combination thereof,  
2580 from proposals submitted pursuant to this subdivision.

2581 (3) (A) Any agreement entered into pursuant to subdivision (2) of this  
2582 subsection shall be subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities  
2583 Regulatory Authority. The electric distribution company shall file an  
2584 application for the approval of any such agreement with the authority.  
2585 The authority's review shall commence upon the filing of the signed  
2586 power purchase agreement with the authority. The authority shall

2587 approve agreements that it determines [(A)] (i) provide for the delivery  
2588 of adequate and reliable products and services, for which there is a clear  
2589 public need, at a just and reasonable price, [(B)] (ii) are prudent and cost  
2590 effective, and [(C)] (iii) that the respondent to the solicitation has the  
2591 technical, financial and managerial capabilities to perform pursuant to  
2592 such agreement. For any eligible nuclear power generating facility  
2593 selected in any solicitation described in subsection (g) of this section, the  
2594 authority shall require any such agreement to be conditioned upon the  
2595 approval of such a power purchase agreement or other agreement for  
2596 energy, capacity and any environmental attributes, or any combination  
2597 thereof, with such eligible nuclear power generating facility, in at least  
2598 two other states, by the applicable officials of such states or by electric  
2599 utilities or other entities designated by the applicable officials of such  
2600 states. The authority shall issue a decision not later than one hundred  
2601 eighty days after such filing. If the authority does not issue a decision  
2602 within one hundred eighty days after such filing, the agreement shall be  
2603 deemed approved.

2604 (B) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or the  
2605 procurement plan adopted pursuant to section 16-244m, as amended by  
2606 this act, an electric distribution company may, in consultation with the  
2607 procurement manager of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority and  
2608 the Office of Consumer Counsel, elect to use, for a duration of time  
2609 established in consultation with the procurement manager, any portion  
2610 of the energy, capacity and other products purchased by such company  
2611 under any agreement for energy, capacity or any other electricity  
2612 products approved by the authority pursuant to subparagraph (A) of  
2613 subdivision (3) of this subsection, or under any other agreement  
2614 approved by the authority, for the provision of standard service by such  
2615 company if such company, in consultation with the procurement  
2616 manager and the Office of Consumer Counsel, concludes such usage is  
2617 in the best interest of standard service customers. An electric  
2618 distribution company that elects to use such energy, capacity or  
2619 products in the provision of standard service shall seek approval from  
2620 the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to incorporate any such

2621 agreement into standard service. The authority may establish reporting  
2622 standards related to any determination of whether the use of such  
2623 agreements is in the best interest of standard service customers.

2624 (C) An electric distribution company that elects to use such energy,  
2625 capacity or products in the provision of standard service shall, in  
2626 consultation with the authority and the Office of Consumer Counsel,  
2627 specify the (i) quantity of energy, capacity and any other products such  
2628 company shall use to serve standard service customers, (ii) duration of  
2629 such usage, and (iii) price for such energy, capacity and any other  
2630 products that will be recovered through generation service charges  
2631 pursuant to section 16-244c of the general statutes.

2632 (D) If any energy, capacity or other products purchased by such  
2633 company under any such agreement are used to serve standard service  
2634 customers, the cost of such energy, capacity or other products shall be  
2635 recovered through generation service charges pursuant to section 16-  
2636 244c of the general statutes. Any certificates issued by the New England  
2637 Power Pool Generation Information System for any Class I renewable  
2638 energy source procured by an electric distribution company pursuant to  
2639 this section that are not used to serve standard service customers shall  
2640 be disposed of pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to  
2641 subsection (g) of section 16-245a, as amended by this act.

2642 (E) (i) The remaining [net] costs of any such agreement including  
2643 costs incurred by the electric distribution company under the agreement  
2644 and reasonable costs incurred by the electric distribution company in  
2645 connection with the agreement, net of all revenues from any sale of  
2646 energy, capacity, or other products purchased under such agreement,  
2647 including but not limited to any revenues recovered pursuant to  
2648 subparagraph (D) of this subsection, shall be recovered on a timely basis  
2649 through a nonbypassable fully reconciling component of electric rates  
2650 for all customers of the electric distribution company, [ Any] and (ii)  
2651 any net revenues from the sale of products purchased in accordance  
2652 with long-term contracts entered into pursuant to this subsection, or  
2653 pursuant to any other provision of the general statutes, that are not

2654 associated with the provision of standard service, shall be credited to  
2655 customers through the same nonbypassable fully reconciling rate  
2656 component for all customers of the contracting electric distribution  
2657 company.

2658 (F) No provision of this subdivision shall be construed to amend or  
2659 alter the terms and conditions of any such agreement approved by the  
2660 authority.

2661 Sec. 33. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 16-244m of the general  
2662 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
2663 (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2664 (a) (1) On or before January 1, 2012, and annually thereafter, the  
2665 procurement manager of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, in  
2666 consultation with each electric distribution company, the Consumer  
2667 Counsel, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection,  
2668 and others at the procurement manager's discretion, including, but not  
2669 limited to, [the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection,]  
2670 a municipal energy cooperative established pursuant to chapter 101a,  
2671 other than entities, individuals and companies or their affiliates  
2672 potentially involved in bidding on standard service, shall develop a plan  
2673 for the procurement of electric generation services and related  
2674 wholesale electricity market products that will enable each electric  
2675 distribution company to manage a portfolio of contracts to reduce the  
2676 average cost of standard service while maintaining standard service cost  
2677 volatility within reasonable levels. Each [Procurement Plan]  
2678 procurement plan (A) shall provide for the competitive solicitation for  
2679 load-following electric service, [and may] (B) shall include a provision  
2680 for the use of self-service by an electric distribution company under  
2681 which such company may purchase all or any portion of the energy,  
2682 capacity or other market products needed to serve such company's  
2683 standard service load from applicable markets or other sources, and (C)  
2684 may include any other contracts, including, but not limited to, contracts  
2685 for generation or other electricity market products and financial  
2686 contracts, and may provide for the use of varying lengths of contracts.

2687 If such plan includes the purchase of full requirements contracts, it shall  
2688 include an explanation of why such purchases are in the best interests  
2689 of standard service customers.

2690 (2) All reasonable costs associated with the development and  
2691 implementation of the [Procurement Plan] procurement plan by the  
2692 authority shall be recoverable through the assessment [in] imposed  
2693 pursuant to section 16-49. All reasonable costs incurred by an electric  
2694 distribution [companies' reasonable costs associated with] company in  
2695 the development and implementation of the [Procurement Plan]  
2696 procurement plan shall be recoverable through a reconciling bypassable  
2697 component of the electric rates as determined by the authority.

2698 (3) On or before October 15, 2025, the procurement manager shall  
2699 submit a proposed amendment of the procurement plan to the authority  
2700 for approval. Such proposed amendment shall include, but not be  
2701 limited to, modifications concerning the: (A) Provision of four or more  
2702 competitive solicitations a year at a time determined by the procurement  
2703 manager to be in the best interest of ratepayers, (B) allowance of  
2704 contracts with durations not exceeding three years, (C) allowance of  
2705 fixed-price energy supply contracts in addition to full requirements  
2706 contracts, and (D) direction to each electric distribution company to  
2707 develop the capacity and expertise to purchase all or any portion of the  
2708 energy, capacity or other market products needed to serve such  
2709 company's standard service load from applicable markets or other  
2710 sources.

2711 (b) (1) The procurement manager shall, not less than [quarterly]  
2712 annually, prepare a written report on the implementation of the  
2713 [Procurement Plan] procurement plan.

2714 (2) If the procurement manager finds that an [interim] amendment to  
2715 the [annual] plan [might] may substantially further the goals of  
2716 reducing the cost or cost volatility of standard service, the procurement  
2717 manager may petition the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority for such  
2718 an [interim] amendment. The [Public Utilities Regulatory Authority]

2719 authority shall provide notice of the proposed amendment to the Office  
2720 of Consumer Counsel and the electric distribution companies. The  
2721 Office of Consumer Counsel and the electric distribution companies  
2722 shall have two business days from the date of such notice to request an  
2723 uncontested proceeding and a technical meeting of the [Public Utilities  
2724 Regulatory Authority] authority regarding the proposed amendment,  
2725 [which] and the authority shall hold such proceeding and meeting,  
2726 [shall occur] if requested. [The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority]  
2727 After such proceeding and such meeting, if requested, the authority may  
2728 approve, modify or deny the proposed amendment. [, with such  
2729 approval, modification or denial following the technical meeting if one  
2730 is requested. The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority's] The authority's  
2731 ruling on the proposed amendment shall occur [within] not more than  
2732 three business days after the technical meeting, if [one] such meeting is  
2733 requested, or [within] not more than three business days [of] after the  
2734 expiration of the time for requesting a technical meeting if no technical  
2735 meeting is requested. The [Public Utilities Regulatory Authority]  
2736 authority may maintain the confidentiality of the technical meeting to  
2737 the full extent allowed by law.

2738 (3) The authority may initiate an uncontested proceeding to amend  
2739 the procurement plan from time to time.

2740 Sec. 34. (*Effective from passage*) The Public Utilities Regulatory  
2741 Authority shall conduct a study concerning the processes, policies,  
2742 procedures and timelines associated with the procurement of standard  
2743 service and supplier of last resort service in non-vertically integrated  
2744 jurisdictions outside of the region served by the regional independent  
2745 system operator, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, as  
2746 amended by this act. Such study shall include a comparative analysis of  
2747 benefits and challenges of the procurement policies for default energy  
2748 supply service for such jurisdictions and identify any practices that  
2749 could be adopted by the electric distribution companies to lower rates  
2750 for standard service customers in the state, including, but not limited to,  
2751 strategies that could be pursued to reduce risk premium, evaluating the

2752 timing and frequency of procurements and supply rate adjustments and  
2753 any other analysis the authority deems relevant. Not later than January  
2754 15, 2027, the chairperson of the authority shall submit a report of the  
2755 chairperson's findings, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-  
2756 4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General  
2757 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy.

2758 Sec. 35. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:

2759 (1) "Electric distribution company" and "participating municipal  
2760 electric utility" have the same meanings as provided in section 16-1 of  
2761 the general statutes, as amended by this act;

2762 (2) "Regional council of governments" means a regional council of  
2763 governments organized under the provisions of sections 4-124i to 4-  
2764 124p, inclusive, of the general statutes;

2765 (3) "Thermal energy" means heating, or heating and cooling, derived  
2766 from (A) sources that do not emit greenhouse gases, or (B) geothermal  
2767 energy; and

2768 (4) "Thermal energy network" means all real estate, fixtures and  
2769 personal property operated, owned and used or to be used for, or in  
2770 connection with or to facilitate, a utility-scale distribution infrastructure  
2771 project that supplies thermal energy in the form of piped  
2772 noncombustible fluids used for transferring heat into and out of  
2773 buildings for any type of heating and cooling process, including, but not  
2774 limited to, comfort heating and cooling, domestic hot water and  
2775 refrigeration.

2776 (b) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall,  
2777 within available appropriations, establish a thermal energy network  
2778 grant and loan program to support the development of thermal energy  
2779 network projects. The commissioner shall develop and issue a request  
2780 for proposals from eligible recipients that shall include, but need not be  
2781 limited to, any local or regional governmental entity, municipal  
2782 corporation, regional council of governments, public authority, state

2783 and federally recognized tribe, electric distribution company,  
2784 participating municipal electric utility, energy improvement district and  
2785 nonprofit, academic and private entity seeking to develop a thermal  
2786 energy network. Any such eligible recipient may collaborate with any  
2787 other such eligible recipient in submitting such proposal.

2788 (c) The commissioner may award grants or loans under the thermal  
2789 energy network grant and loan program to any number of eligible  
2790 recipients. Such grants and loans may provide: (1) Assistance with  
2791 community planning that includes, but is not limited to, thermal energy  
2792 network project feasibility, including benefit-cost analyses, (2)  
2793 assistance to recipients for the cost of design, engineering services and  
2794 infrastructure for any such thermal energy network project, and (3)  
2795 nonfederal cost share for grant or loan applications for projects or  
2796 programs that include thermal energy networks. The commissioner  
2797 may establish any financing mechanism to provide or leverage  
2798 additional funding to support the development of thermal energy  
2799 network projects.

2800 (d) Not later than January first, annually, for a period of three years  
2801 after receiving a grant or loan under the thermal energy network grant  
2802 and loan program, the recipient of such grant or loan shall submit a  
2803 report to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, the Office of  
2804 Consumer Counsel and the Commissioner of Energy and  
2805 Environmental Protection and, in accordance with the provisions of  
2806 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of  
2807 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy  
2808 and technology. Such report shall include information concerning the  
2809 status of such recipient's thermal energy network project.

2810 Sec. 36. Section 22a-136 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2811 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2812 (a) As used in this section: (1) "Advanced nuclear reactor" has the  
2813 same meaning as provided in 42 USC 16271, as amended from time to  
2814 time, and (2) "high level nuclear waste" means those aqueous wastes

2815 resulting from the operation of the first cycle of the solvent extraction  
2816 system or equivalent and the concentrated wastes of the subsequent  
2817 extraction cycles or equivalent in a facility for reprocessing irradiated  
2818 reactor fuel and includes spent fuel assemblies prior to fuel  
2819 reprocessing.

2820 (b) No construction shall commence on a [fifth] new nuclear power  
2821 facility [until the] in the state unless:

2822 (1) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection finds  
2823 that the United States Government, through its authorized agency, has  
2824 identified and approved a demonstrable technology or means for the  
2825 disposal of high level nuclear waste; [ The provisions of this section  
2826 shall not apply to construction at any nuclear power generating facility  
2827 operating in the state as of October 1, 2022. As used in this section, "high  
2828 level nuclear waste" means those aqueous wastes resulting from the  
2829 operation of the first cycle of the solvent extraction system or equivalent  
2830 and the concentrated wastes of the subsequent extraction cycles or  
2831 equivalent in a facility for reprocessing irradiated reactor fuel and shall  
2832 include spent fuel assemblies prior to fuel reprocessing.]

2833 (2) The nuclear power facility is proposed to be sited at a nuclear  
2834 power generating facility operating in the state as of October 1, 2022; or

2835 (3) The construction is for an advanced nuclear reactor facility and  
2836 (A) such facility is sited in a municipality that has consented to such  
2837 facility's development through the affirmative vote of such  
2838 municipality's legislative body or a referendum held in such  
2839 municipality, and (B) any additional municipality within the emergency  
2840 planning zone, as determined by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,  
2841 if the proposed facility consents to such facility's development through  
2842 the affirmative vote of such municipality's legislative body or a  
2843 referendum held in such municipality.

2844 (c) The entity proposing such new nuclear power facility, including  
2845 any advanced nuclear reactor, shall obtain all permits, licenses,

2846 permissions or approvals governing the construction, operation and  
2847 funding of the decommissioning of such nuclear power facility as  
2848 required by: (1) Any applicable federal statutes, including, but not  
2849 limited to, the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, the Energy Reorganization  
2850 Act of 1974, the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Amendments Act  
2851 of 1985 and the Energy Policy Act of 1992, as amended from time to time;  
2852 (2) any regulations promulgated or enforced by the United States  
2853 Nuclear Regulatory Commission, including, but not limited to, those  
2854 codified in Title X, Parts 20, 30, 40, 50, 52, 53, 70 and 72 of the Code of  
2855 Federal Regulations, as amended from time to time; and (3) any other  
2856 federal or state statute, rule or regulation governing the permitting,  
2857 licensing, construction, operation or decommissioning of such facility.

2858       Sec. 37. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section, (1)  
2859 "eligible recipient" means (A) a regional governmental entity,  
2860 municipality, regional council of governments, public authority, state or  
2861 federally recognized tribe or municipal electric utility or cooperative  
2862 with a demonstrated interest in hosting advanced nuclear reactors or  
2863 facilities associated with the development and interconnection of  
2864 offshore wind energy facilities, if applicable, as determined by the  
2865 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, (B) a private  
2866 entity partnering or interested in partnering with said entities for the  
2867 development of advanced nuclear reactors or offshore wind energy  
2868 facilities, or (C) an institution of higher education in the state; and (2)  
2869 "advanced nuclear reactor" has the same meaning as provided in 42 USC  
2870 16271, as amended from time to time.

2871       (b) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall  
2872 establish a competitive advanced nuclear reactor and offshore wind  
2873 energy site readiness funding program. The commissioner may provide  
2874 funding through the program in the form of grants or loans to eligible  
2875 recipients in support of:

2876       (1) Environmental and technical studies required for early site  
2877 permitting for advanced nuclear reactors or offshore wind energy  
2878 facilities;

2879 (2) Local and regional infrastructure assessments to support the  
2880 development of advanced nuclear reactors or offshore wind energy  
2881 facilities;

2882 (3) Community engagement and planning initiatives related to  
2883 hosting advanced nuclear reactors or offshore wind energy facilities;  
2884 and

2885 (4) Other necessary expenses identified by the commissioner to  
2886 advance site readiness for advanced nuclear reactors or offshore wind  
2887 energy facilities.

2888 (c) The commissioner may use bond funds authorized in support of  
2889 the program or federal funds allocated to the state in support of the  
2890 program established under this section. In the case of federal funds  
2891 allocated for such purposes, the commissioner may revise its advanced  
2892 nuclear reactor and offshore wind and energy site readiness grant  
2893 program criteria to be consistent with the requirements of the federal  
2894 funding program criteria. The commissioner may use said funds to hire  
2895 a technical consultant to support the implementation of this section.

2896 (d) For the purposes described in subsection (e) of this section, the  
2897 State Bond Commission shall have the power from time to time to  
2898 authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more series and in  
2899 principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate five million dollars.

2900 (e) The proceeds of the sale of such bonds shall be used by the  
2901 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for the purpose of  
2902 funding grants or loans through the advanced nuclear reactor and  
2903 offshore wind energy facility site readiness funding program  
2904 established pursuant to this section.

2905 Sec. 38. Subsection (a) of section 16a-102 of the general statutes is  
2906 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
2907 *1, 2025*):

2908 (a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall

2909 coordinate all atomic development activities in the state. Said  
2910 commissioner or [his] the commissioner's designee shall (1) advise the  
2911 Governor with respect to atomic industrial development within the  
2912 state; (2) act as coordinator of the development and regulatory activities  
2913 of the state relating to the industrial and commercial uses of atomic  
2914 energy; (3) act as the Governor's designee in matters relating to atomic  
2915 energy, including participation in the activities of any committee  
2916 formed by the New England states to represent their interests in such  
2917 matters and also cooperation with other states and with the government  
2918 of the United States; (4) coordinate the studies, recommendations and  
2919 proposals of the several departments and agencies of the state required  
2920 by section 16a-103 with each other and also with the programs and  
2921 activities of the development commission; and (5) act as a point of  
2922 contact for public and private stakeholders to assist in compliance with  
2923 federal, state and local requirements relevant to atomic development,  
2924 including, but not limited to, siting considerations and permitting  
2925 requirements. The commissioner shall consult with and review  
2926 regulations and procedures of the agencies of the state with respect to  
2927 the regulation of sources of radiation to assure consistency and to  
2928 prevent unnecessary duplication, inconsistencies or gaps in regulatory  
2929 requirements.

2930 Sec. 39. Subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of section 16-1 of the general  
2931 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
2932 (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2933 (20) "Class I renewable energy source" means (A) electricity derived  
2934 from (i) solar power, (ii) wind power, (iii) a fuel cell, (iv) geothermal, (v)  
2935 [landfill methane gas,] anaerobic digestion or other biogas derived from  
2936 biological sources, (vi) thermal electric direct energy conversion from a  
2937 certified Class I renewable energy source, (vii) ocean thermal power,  
2938 (viii) wave or tidal power, (ix) low emission advanced renewable energy  
2939 conversion technologies, including, but not limited to, zero emission  
2940 low grade heat power generation systems based on organic oil free  
2941 rankine, kalina or other similar nonsteam cycles that use waste heat

2942 from an industrial or commercial process that does not generate  
2943 electricity, (x) (I) a run-of-the-river hydropower facility that began  
2944 operation after July 1, 2003, has a generating capacity of not more than  
2945 sixty megawatts, is not based on a new dam or a dam identified by the  
2946 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection as a candidate  
2947 for removal, and meets applicable state and federal requirements,  
2948 including state dam safety requirements and applicable site-specific  
2949 standards for water quality and fish passage, or (II) a run-of-the-river  
2950 hydropower facility that received a new license after January 1, 2018,  
2951 under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission rules pursuant to 18  
2952 CFR 16, as amended from time to time, is not based on a new dam or a  
2953 dam identified by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
2954 Protection as a candidate for removal, and meets applicable state and  
2955 federal requirements, including state dam safety requirements and  
2956 applicable site-specific standards for water quality and fish passage,  
2957 [(xi) a biomass facility that uses sustainable biomass fuel and has an  
2958 average emission rate of equal to or less than .075 pounds of nitrogen  
2959 oxides per million BTU of heat input for the previous calendar quarter,  
2960 except that energy derived from a biomass facility with a capacity of less  
2961 than five hundred kilowatts that began construction before July 1, 2003,  
2962 may be considered a Class I renewable energy source,] or [(xii)] (xi) a  
2963 nuclear power generating facility constructed on or after October 1,  
2964 2023, or (B) any electrical generation, including distributed generation,  
2965 generated from a Class I renewable energy source, provided, on and  
2966 after January 1, 2014, any megawatt hours of electricity from a  
2967 renewable energy source described under this subparagraph that are  
2968 claimed or counted by a load-serving entity, province or state toward  
2969 compliance with renewable portfolio standards or renewable energy  
2970 policy goals in another province or state, other than the state of  
2971 Connecticut, shall not be eligible for compliance with the renewable  
2972 portfolio standards established pursuant to section 16-245a, as amended  
2973 by this act;

2974 Sec. 40. Section 16-245a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2975 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2976 (a) Subject to any modifications required by the Public Utilities  
2977 Regulatory Authority for retiring renewable energy certificates on  
2978 behalf of all electric ratepayers pursuant to subsection (h) of this section  
2979 and sections 16a-3f, 16a-3g, as amended by this act, 16a-3h, as amended  
2980 by this act, 16a-3i, as amended by this act, 16a-3j, 16a-3m, as amended  
2981 by this act, [and] 16a-3n, as amended by this act, and 16a-3p, as amended  
2982 by this act, an electric supplier and an electric distribution company  
2983 providing standard service or supplier of last resort service, pursuant to  
2984 section 16-244c, shall demonstrate:

2985 (1) On and after January 1, 2006, that not less than two per cent of the  
2986 total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company  
2987 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an  
2988 additional three per cent of the total output or services shall be from  
2989 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

2990 (2) On and after January 1, 2007, not less than three and one-half per  
2991 cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution  
2992 company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and  
2993 an additional three per cent of the total output or services shall be from  
2994 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

2995 (3) On and after January 1, 2008, not less than five per cent of the total  
2996 output or services of any such supplier or distribution company shall be  
2997 generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an additional  
2998 three per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class I or Class  
2999 II renewable energy sources;

3000 (4) On and after January 1, 2009, not less than six per cent of the total  
3001 output or services of any such supplier or distribution company shall be  
3002 generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an additional  
3003 three per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class I or Class  
3004 II renewable energy sources;

3005 (5) On and after January 1, 2010, not less than seven per cent of the  
3006 total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company

3007 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an  
3008 additional three per cent of the total output or services shall be from  
3009 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3010 (6) On and after January 1, 2011, not less than eight per cent of the  
3011 total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company  
3012 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an  
3013 additional three per cent of the total output or services shall be from  
3014 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3015 (7) On and after January 1, 2012, not less than nine per cent of the total  
3016 output or services of any such supplier or distribution company shall be  
3017 generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an additional  
3018 three per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class I or Class  
3019 II renewable energy sources;

3020 (8) On and after January 1, 2013, not less than ten per cent of the total  
3021 output or services of any such supplier or distribution company shall be  
3022 generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an additional  
3023 three per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class I or Class  
3024 II renewable energy sources;

3025 (9) On and after January 1, 2014, not less than eleven per cent of the  
3026 total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company  
3027 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an  
3028 additional three per cent of the total output or services shall be from  
3029 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3030 (10) On and after January 1, 2015, not less than twelve and one-half  
3031 per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or  
3032 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy  
3033 sources and an additional three per cent of the total output or services  
3034 shall be from Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3035 (11) On and after January 1, 2016, not less than fourteen per cent of  
3036 the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company  
3037 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an

3038 additional three per cent of the total output or services shall be from  
3039 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3040 (12) On and after January 1, 2017, not less than fifteen and one-half  
3041 per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or  
3042 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy  
3043 sources and an additional three per cent of the total output or services  
3044 shall be from Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3045 (13) On and after January 1, 2018, not less than seventeen per cent of  
3046 the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company  
3047 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an  
3048 additional four per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class  
3049 I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3050 (14) On and after January 1, 2019, not less than nineteen and one-half  
3051 per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or  
3052 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy  
3053 sources and an additional four per cent of the total output or services  
3054 shall be from Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3055 (15) On and after January 1, 2020, not less than twenty-one per cent  
3056 of the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution  
3057 company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and  
3058 an additional four per cent of the total output or services shall be from  
3059 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources, except that for any electric  
3060 supplier that has entered into or renewed a retail electric supply contract  
3061 on or before May 24, 2018, on and after January 1, 2020, not less than  
3062 twenty per cent of the total output or services of any such electric  
3063 supplier shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources;

3064 (16) On and after January 1, 2021, not less than twenty-two and one-  
3065 half per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or  
3066 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy  
3067 sources and an additional four per cent of the total output or services  
3068 shall be from Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3069 (17) On and after January 1, 2022, not less than twenty-four per cent  
3070 of the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution  
3071 company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and  
3072 an additional four per cent of the total output or services shall be from  
3073 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3074 (18) On and after January 1, 2023, not less than twenty-six per cent of  
3075 the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company  
3076 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an  
3077 additional four per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class  
3078 II renewable energy sources;

3079 (19) On and after January 1, 2024, not less than twenty-eight per cent  
3080 of the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution  
3081 company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and  
3082 an additional four per cent of the total output or services shall be from  
3083 Class II renewable energy sources;

3084 (20) On and after January 1, 2025, not less than thirty per cent of the  
3085 total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company  
3086 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an  
3087 additional four per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class  
3088 II renewable energy sources;

3089 (21) On and after January 1, 2026, not less than [thirty-two] twenty-  
3090 five per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or  
3091 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy  
3092 sources and an additional four per cent of the total output or services  
3093 shall be from Class II renewable energy sources;

3094 (22) On and after January 1, 2027, not less than [thirty-four] twenty-  
3095 seven per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or  
3096 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy  
3097 sources and an additional four per cent of the total output or services  
3098 shall be from Class II renewable energy sources;

3099 (23) On and after January 1, 2028, not less than [thirty-six] twenty-

3100 nine per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or  
3101 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy  
3102 sources and an additional four per cent of the total output or services  
3103 shall be from Class II renewable energy sources;

3104 (24) On and after January 1, 2029, not less than [thirty-eight] thirty-  
3105 one per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or  
3106 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy  
3107 sources and an additional four per cent of the total output or services  
3108 shall be from Class II renewable energy sources;

3109 (25) On and after January 1, 2030, not less than [forty] thirty-three per  
3110 cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution  
3111 company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and  
3112 an additional four per cent of the total output or services shall be from  
3113 Class II renewable energy sources.

3114 (b) (1) An electric supplier or electric distribution company may  
3115 satisfy the requirements of this section (A) by purchasing certificates  
3116 issued by the New England Power Pool Generation Information System,  
3117 provided the certificates are for (i) energy produced by a generating unit  
3118 using Class I or Class II renewable energy sources and the generating  
3119 unit is located in the jurisdiction of the regional independent system  
3120 operator, or (ii) energy imported into the control area of the regional  
3121 independent system operator pursuant to New England Power Pool  
3122 Generation Information System Rule 2.7(c), as in effect on January 1,  
3123 2006; (B) for those renewable energy certificates under contract to serve  
3124 end use customers in the state on or before October 1, 2006, by  
3125 participating in a renewable energy trading program within said  
3126 jurisdictions as approved by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority;  
3127 or (C) by purchasing eligible renewable electricity and associated  
3128 attributes from residential customers who are net producers. (2) Not  
3129 more than two and one-half per cent of the total output or services of an  
3130 electric supplier or electric distribution company shall be generated  
3131 from Class I renewable energy sources eligible as described in  
3132 subparagraph (A)(x)(II) of subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of section

3133 16-1, as amended by this act.

3134 (c) Any supplier who provides electric generation services solely  
3135 from a Class II renewable energy source shall not be required to comply  
3136 with the provisions of this section.

3137 (d) An electric supplier or an electric distribution company shall base  
3138 its demonstration of generation sources, as required under subsection  
3139 (a) of this section on historical data, which may consist of data filed with  
3140 the regional independent system operator.

3141 (e) The authority shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the  
3142 provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section.

3143 (f) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section and section 16-244c,  
3144 for periods beginning on and after January 1, 2008, each electric  
3145 distribution company may procure renewable energy certificates from  
3146 Class I, Class II and Class III renewable energy sources through long-  
3147 term contracting mechanisms. The electric distribution companies may  
3148 enter into long-term contracts for not more than fifteen years to procure  
3149 such renewable energy certificates. The electric distribution companies  
3150 shall use any renewable energy certificates obtained pursuant to this  
3151 section to meet their standard service and supplier of last resort  
3152 renewable portfolio standard requirements.

3153 [(g) On or before January 1, 2014, the Commissioner of Energy and  
3154 Environmental Protection shall, in developing or modifying an  
3155 Integrated Resources Plan in accordance with sections 16a-3a and 16a-  
3156 3e, establish a schedule to commence on January 1, 2015, for assigning a  
3157 gradually reduced renewable energy credit value to all biomass or  
3158 landfill methane gas facilities that qualify as a Class I renewable energy  
3159 source pursuant to section 16-1, provided this subsection shall not apply  
3160 to anaerobic digestion or other biogas facilities, and further provided  
3161 any reduced renewable energy credit value established pursuant to this  
3162 section shall not apply to any biomass or landfill methane gas facility  
3163 that has entered into a power purchase agreement (1) with an electric

3164 supplier or electric distribution company in the state of Connecticut on  
3165 or before June 5, 2013, or (2) executed in accordance with section 16a-3f  
3166 or 16a-3h. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection  
3167 may review the schedule established pursuant to this subsection in  
3168 preparation of each subsequent Integrated Resources Plan developed  
3169 pursuant to section 16a-3a and make any necessary changes thereto to  
3170 ensure that the rate of reductions in renewable energy credit value for  
3171 biomass or landfill methane gas facilities is appropriate given the  
3172 availability of other Class I renewable energy sources.]

3173 [(h)] (g) The authority, in consultation with the Commissioner of  
3174 Energy and Environmental Protection and the Consumer Counsel, shall  
3175 initiate a proceeding to establish procedures for the disposition of  
3176 renewable energy certificates purchased pursuant to [section] sections  
3177 16-244z, as amended by this act, 16a-3f, 16a-3g, as amended by this act,  
3178 16a-3h, as amended by this act, 16a-3i, as amended by this act, 16a-3j,  
3179 16a-3m, as amended by this act, 16a-3n, as amended by this act, and 16a-  
3180 3p, as amended by this act, which may include procedures for selling  
3181 renewable energy certificates or [consistent with section 16-244z or, if  
3182 renewable energy certificates procured pursuant to section 16-244z are  
3183 retired and never used for compliance in any other jurisdiction,  
3184 reductions] to retire such certificates on behalf of all ratepayers and  
3185 reduce the percentage of the total output or services of an electric  
3186 supplier or an electric distribution company generated from Class I  
3187 renewable energy sources required pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
3188 section. Any such reduction shall be based on the energy production  
3189 that the authority forecasts will be procured. [pursuant to subsections  
3190 (a) and (b) of section 16-244z.] The authority shall determine any such  
3191 reduction of an annual renewable portfolio standard not later than one  
3192 year prior to the effective date of such annual renewable portfolio  
3193 standard. An electric distribution company shall not be responsible for  
3194 any administrative or other costs or expenses associated with any  
3195 difference between the number of renewable energy certificates planned  
3196 to be retired pursuant to the authority's reduction and the actual  
3197 number of renewable energy certificates retired.

3198 Sec. 41. Section 16a-3g of the general statutes is repealed and the  
3199 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3200 On or after July 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Energy and  
3201 Environmental Protection, in consultation with the procurement  
3202 manager identified in subsection (l) of section 16-2, as amended by this  
3203 act, the Office of Consumer Counsel and the Attorney General, may, in  
3204 coordination with other states in the region of the regional independent  
3205 system operator, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, or  
3206 on the commissioner's own, solicit proposals, in one solicitation or  
3207 multiple solicitations, from providers of Class I renewable energy  
3208 sources, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, or verifiable  
3209 large-scale hydropower, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this  
3210 act. If the commissioner finds such proposals to be in the interest of  
3211 ratepayers, including, but not limited to, the delivered price of such  
3212 sources, and consistent with the requirements to reduce greenhouse gas  
3213 emissions in accordance with section 22a-200a, and in accordance with  
3214 the policy goals outlined in the Comprehensive Energy Strategy,  
3215 adopted pursuant to section 16a-3d, and section 129 of public act 11-80,  
3216 including, but not limited to, base load capacity, peak load shaving and  
3217 promotion of wind, solar and other renewable and low carbon energy  
3218 technologies, the commissioner may select proposals from such  
3219 resources to meet up to five per cent of the load distributed by the state's  
3220 electric distribution companies. The commissioner may on behalf of all  
3221 customers of electric distribution companies, direct the electric  
3222 distribution companies to enter into power purchase agreements for  
3223 energy, capacity and any environmental attributes, or any combination  
3224 thereof, for periods of not more than (1) fifteen years, if any such  
3225 agreement is with a provider of verifiable large-scale hydropower, or (2)  
3226 twenty years, if any such agreement is with a provider of a Class I  
3227 renewable energy source. [Certificates issued by the New England  
3228 Power Pool Generation Information System for any Class I renewable  
3229 energy sources procured under this section shall be sold in the New  
3230 England Power Pool Generation Information System renewable energy  
3231 credit market to be used by any electric supplier or electric distribution

3232 company to meet the requirements of section 16-245a.] Any such  
3233 agreement shall be subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities  
3234 Regulatory Authority, which review shall (A) include a public hearing,  
3235 and (B) be completed not later than sixty days after the date on which  
3236 such agreement is filed with the authority. The net costs of any such  
3237 agreement, including costs incurred by the electric distribution  
3238 companies under the agreement and reasonable costs incurred by the  
3239 electric distribution companies in connection with the agreement, shall  
3240 be recovered through a fully reconciling component of electric rates for  
3241 all customers of electric distribution companies. Certificates issued by  
3242 the New England Power Pool Generation Information System for any  
3243 Class I renewable energy source procured by an electric distribution  
3244 company pursuant to this section shall be disposed of pursuant to the  
3245 procedures established pursuant to subsection (g) of section 16-245a, as  
3246 amended by this act.

3247 Sec. 42. Section 16a-3h of the general statutes is repealed and the  
3248 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3249 On or after October 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Energy and  
3250 Environmental Protection, in consultation with the procurement  
3251 manager identified in subsection (l) of section 16-2, as amended by this  
3252 act, the Office of Consumer Counsel and the Attorney General, may  
3253 solicit proposals, in one solicitation or multiple solicitations, from  
3254 providers of the following resources or any combination of the  
3255 following resources: Run-of-the-river hydropower, landfill methane  
3256 gas, biomass, fuel cell, offshore wind or anaerobic digestion, provided  
3257 such source meets the definition of a Class I renewable energy source  
3258 pursuant to section 16-1, as amended by this act, or energy storage  
3259 systems. In making any selection of such proposals, the commissioner  
3260 shall consider factors, including, but not limited to (1) whether the  
3261 proposal is in the interest of ratepayers, including, but not limited to,  
3262 the delivered price of such sources, (2) the emissions profile of a relevant  
3263 facility, (3) any investments made by a relevant facility to improve the  
3264 emissions profile of such facility, (4) the length of time a relevant facility

3265 has received renewable energy credits, (5) any positive impacts on the  
3266 state's economic development, (6) whether the proposal is consistent  
3267 with requirements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in accordance  
3268 with section 22a-200a, including, but not limited to, the development of  
3269 combined heat and power systems, (7) whether the proposal is  
3270 consistent with the policy goals outlined in the Comprehensive Energy  
3271 Strategy adopted pursuant to section 16a-3d, (8) whether the proposal  
3272 promotes electric distribution system reliability and other electric  
3273 distribution system benefits, including, but not limited to, microgrids,  
3274 (9) whether the proposal promotes the policy goals outlined in the state-  
3275 wide solid waste management plan developed pursuant to section 22a-  
3276 241a, and (10) the positive reuse of sites with limited development  
3277 opportunities, including, but not limited to, brownfields or landfills, as  
3278 identified by the commissioner in any solicitation issued pursuant to  
3279 this section. The commissioner may select proposals from such  
3280 resources to meet up to six per cent of the load distributed by the state's  
3281 electric distribution companies, provided the commissioner shall not  
3282 select proposals for more than three per cent of the load distributed by  
3283 the state's electric distribution companies from offshore wind resources.  
3284 The commissioner may direct the electric distribution companies to  
3285 enter into power purchase agreements for energy, capacity and  
3286 environmental attributes, or any combination thereof, for periods of not  
3287 more than twenty years on behalf of all customers of the state's electric  
3288 distribution companies. [Certificates issued by the New England Power  
3289 Pool Generation Information System for any Class I renewable energy  
3290 sources procured under this section may be: (A) Sold in the New  
3291 England Power Pool Generation Information System renewable energy  
3292 credit market to be used by any electric supplier or electric distribution  
3293 company to meet the requirements of section 16-245a, as amended by  
3294 this act, provided the revenues from such sale are credited to all  
3295 customers of the contracting electric distribution company; or (B)  
3296 retained by the electric distribution company to meet the requirements  
3297 of section 16-245a, as amended by this act.] In considering whether to  
3298 sell or retain such certificates, the company shall select the option that is  
3299 in the best interest of such company's ratepayers. Any such agreement

3300 shall be subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities  
3301 Regulatory Authority, which review shall be completed not later than  
3302 sixty days after the date on which such agreement is filed with the  
3303 authority. The net costs of any such agreement, including costs incurred  
3304 by the electric distribution companies under the agreement and  
3305 reasonable costs incurred by the electric distribution companies in  
3306 connection with the agreement, shall be recovered through a fully  
3307 reconciling component of electric rates for all customers of electric  
3308 distribution companies. All reasonable costs incurred by the  
3309 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection associated with  
3310 the commissioner's solicitation and review of proposals pursuant to this  
3311 section shall be recoverable through the nonbypassable federally  
3312 mandated congestion charges, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by  
3313 this act. Certificates issued by the New England Power Pool Generation  
3314 Information System for any Class I renewable energy source procured  
3315 by an electric distribution company pursuant to this section shall be  
3316 disposed of pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to  
3317 subsection (g) of section 16-245a, as amended by this act.

3318 Sec. 43. Subsection (d) of section 16a-3i of the general statutes is  
3319 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3320 *1, 2025*):

3321 (d) In the event there is such a presumption pursuant to subsection  
3322 (a) of this section and the commissioner finds a material shortage of  
3323 Class I renewable energy sources pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
3324 section, and in addition to determining the adequacy pursuant to  
3325 subsection (c) of this section, the commissioner shall, in consultation  
3326 with the procurement manager identified in subsection (l) of section 16-  
3327 2, as amended by this act, the Office of Consumer Counsel and the  
3328 Attorney General, solicit proposals from providers of Class I renewable  
3329 energy sources, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act,  
3330 operational as of the date that such solicitation is issued. If the  
3331 commissioner, in consultation with the procurement manager identified  
3332 in subsection (l) of section 16-2, as amended by this act, finds such

3333 proposals to be in the interest of ratepayers including, but not limited  
3334 to, the delivered price of such sources, and consistent with the  
3335 requirements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with  
3336 section 22a-200a, and in accordance with the policy goals outlined in the  
3337 Comprehensive Energy Strategy, adopted pursuant to section 16a-3d,  
3338 the commissioner, in consultation with the procurement manager  
3339 identified in subsection (l) of section 16-2, as amended by this act, may  
3340 select proposals from such sources to meet up to the amount necessary  
3341 to ensure an adequate incremental supply of Class I renewable energy  
3342 sources to rectify any projected shortage of Class I renewable energy  
3343 supply identified pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. The  
3344 commissioner shall direct the electric distribution companies to enter  
3345 into power purchase agreements for energy, capacity and  
3346 environmental attributes, or any combination thereof, from such  
3347 selected proposals for periods of not more than ten years. [Certificates  
3348 issued by the New England Power Pool Generation Information System  
3349 for any Class I renewable energy sources procured under this section  
3350 shall be sold in the New England Power Pool Generation Information  
3351 System renewable energy credit market to be used by any electric  
3352 supplier or electric distribution company to meet the requirements of  
3353 section 16-245a, as amended by this act.] Any such agreement shall be  
3354 subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities Regulatory  
3355 Authority, which review shall commence upon the filing of the signed  
3356 power purchase agreement with the authority. The authority shall issue  
3357 a decision on such agreement not later than thirty days after such filing.  
3358 In the event the authority does not issue a decision within thirty days  
3359 after such agreement is filed with the authority, the agreement shall be  
3360 deemed approved. The net costs of any such agreement, including costs  
3361 incurred by the electric distribution companies under the agreement  
3362 and reasonable costs incurred by the electric distribution companies in  
3363 connection with the agreement, shall be recovered through a fully  
3364 reconciling component of electric rates for all customers of electric  
3365 distribution companies. Certificates issued by the New England Power  
3366 Pool Generation Information System for any Class I renewable energy  
3367 source procured by an electric distribution company pursuant to this

3368 section shall be disposed of pursuant to the procedures established  
3369 pursuant to subsection (g) of section 16-245a, as amended by this act.

3370 Sec. 44. Subsection (c) of section 16a-3n of the general statutes is  
3371 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3372 *1, 2025*):

3373 (c) The commissioner may direct the electric distribution companies  
3374 to enter into power purchase agreements for energy, capacity, any  
3375 transmission associated with such energy derived from offshore wind  
3376 facilities that are Class I renewable energy sources as defined in section  
3377 16-1, as amended by this act, and environmental attributes, or any  
3378 combination thereof, for periods of not more than twenty years on  
3379 behalf of all customers of the state's electric distribution companies,  
3380 except the commissioner may direct such companies to enter into such  
3381 agreements for periods greater than twenty years and not more than  
3382 thirty years if the commissioner conducts the solicitation pursuant to  
3383 subsection (a) of this section in coordination with one or more states  
3384 and, in response to such coordinated solicitation, the applicable officials  
3385 of any such state select a proposal for energy, capacity and any  
3386 environmental attributes, or any combination thereof, from such  
3387 facilities for a period that is greater than twenty years and not more than  
3388 thirty years. Certificates issued by the New England Power Pool  
3389 Generation Information System for any Class I renewable energy  
3390 sources procured by an electric distribution company pursuant to this  
3391 section [may be: (1) Sold into the New England Power Pool Generation  
3392 Information System renewable energy credit market to be used by any  
3393 electric supplier or electric distribution company to meet the  
3394 requirements of section 16-245a, provided the revenues from such sale  
3395 are credited to electric distribution company customers as described in  
3396 this section; or (2) retained by the electric distribution company to meet  
3397 the requirements of section 16-245a. In considering whether to sell or  
3398 retain such certificates, the company shall select the option that is in the  
3399 best interest of such company's ratepayers] shall be disposed of  
3400 pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to subsection (g) of

3401 section 16-245a, as amended by this act.

3402 Sec. 45. Subsection (c) of section 16a-3p of the general statutes is  
3403 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3404 *1, 2025*):

3405 (c) Certificates issued by the New England Power Pool Generation  
3406 Information System procured by an electric distribution company  
3407 pursuant to this section [may be: (1) Sold into the New England Power  
3408 Pool Generation Information System renewable energy credit market to  
3409 be used by any electric supplier or electric distribution company to meet  
3410 the requirements of section 16-245a, provided the revenues from such  
3411 sale are credited to electric distribution company customers as described  
3412 in this section; or (2) retained by the electric distribution company to  
3413 meet the requirements of section 16-245a. In considering whether to sell  
3414 or retain such certificates, the company shall select the option that is in  
3415 the best interest of such company's ratepayers] shall be retired on behalf  
3416 of all ratepayers pursuant to subsection (g) of section 16-245a, as  
3417 amended by this act.

3418 Sec. 46. Subsection (j) of section 16a-3a of the general statutes is  
3419 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3420 *1, 2025*):

3421 (j) For the Integrated Resources Plan next approved after January 1,  
3422 [2019] 2025, the department shall [determine] establish targets for (1) the  
3423 quantity of energy the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
3424 Protection may seek in any solicitation or solicitations of proposals  
3425 [initiated on or after January 1, 2020,] pursuant to [section 16a-3n,  
3426 provided the quantity of energy sought in any such solicitations in the  
3427 aggregate shall be from resources that have a total nameplate capacity  
3428 rating of not more than two thousand megawatts in the aggregate, less  
3429 any energy purchased pursuant to section 16a-3n on or before December  
3430 31, 2019; and (2) the timing and schedule of any solicitation or  
3431 solicitations of proposals initiated on or after January 1, 2020, pursuant  
3432 to section 16a-3n, provided such schedule shall provide for the

3433 solicitation of resources with a nameplate capacity rating of two  
3434 thousand megawatts in the aggregate, less any energy purchased  
3435 pursuant to section 16a-3n on or before December 31, 2019, by December  
3436 31, 2030] sections 16a-3f, 16a-3g, as amended by this act, 16a-3h, as  
3437 amended by this act, 16a-3i, as amended by this act, 16a-3j, 16a-3m, as  
3438 amended by this act, 16a-3n, as amended by this act, and 16a-3p, as  
3439 amended by this act, and a proposed schedule for such solicitations for  
3440 new zero carbon Class I renewable energy resources necessary to  
3441 achieve a target of an additional seven per cent of the total load served  
3442 by the electric distribution companies in the aggregate by 2030 in  
3443 addition to the requirements established pursuant to section 16-245a, as  
3444 amended by this act. Such [determinations] targets shall be based on  
3445 factors including, but not limited to, electricity system needs identified  
3446 by the Integrated Resources Plan, including, but not limited to, capacity,  
3447 winter reliability, progress in meeting the goals in the Global Warming  
3448 Solutions Act pursuant to section 22a-200a, the priorities of the  
3449 Comprehensive Energy Strategy adopted pursuant to section 16a-3d,  
3450 positive impacts on the state's economic development, opportunities to  
3451 coordinate procurement with other states, forecasted trends in  
3452 technology costs and impacts on the state's ratepayers.

3453 Sec. 47. Section 16a-3j of the general statutes is repealed and the  
3454 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3455 (a) In order to secure cost-effective resources to provide more reliable  
3456 electric or gas service for the benefit of the state's electric ratepayers and  
3457 to meet the state's energy and environmental goals and policies  
3458 established in the Integrated Resources Plan, pursuant to section 16a-3a,  
3459 as amended by this act, and the Comprehensive Energy Strategy,  
3460 pursuant to section 16a-3d, the Commissioner of Energy and  
3461 Environmental Protection, in consultation with the procurement  
3462 manager identified in subsection (l) of section 16-2, as amended by this  
3463 act, the Office of Consumer Counsel and the Attorney General, may, in  
3464 coordination with other states in the control area of the regional  
3465 independent system operator, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by

3466 this act, or on behalf of [Connecticut] the state alone, issue multiple  
3467 solicitations for long-term contracts from providers of resources  
3468 described in subsections (b), (c) and (d) of this section.

3469 (b) In any solicitation for resources to reduce electric or gas demand  
3470 and improve resiliency and electric or gas grid reliability in the state,  
3471 issued pursuant to this subsection, the commissioner shall seek  
3472 proposals for (1) active or passive demand response measures,  
3473 including, but not limited to, energy efficiency, load management, and  
3474 the state's conservation and load management programs, pursuant to  
3475 section 16-245m, as amended by this act; [that are capable, either singly  
3476 or through aggregation, of reducing electric demand by one megawatt  
3477 or more;] and (2) Class I renewable energy sources and Class III sources,  
3478 as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, provided any such  
3479 project proposal is for a facility that has a nameplate capacity rating of  
3480 more than two megawatts and less than twenty megawatts. The  
3481 commissioner may also seek proposals for energy storage systems, as  
3482 defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, that are capable of  
3483 storing up to twenty megawatts of energy. Proposals pursuant to this  
3484 subsection shall not have a contract term exceeding twenty years. Each  
3485 electric distribution company and gas company, as defined in section  
3486 16-1, as amended by this act, shall, in consultation with the Energy  
3487 Conservation Management Board established pursuant to section 16-  
3488 245m, as amended by this act, assess whether the submission of a  
3489 proposal for active and passive demand response measures is feasible  
3490 pursuant to any solicitation issued pursuant to subdivision (1) of this  
3491 subsection, provided such proposal only includes electric or gas  
3492 demand reductions that are in addition to existing and projected  
3493 demand reductions obtained through the conservation and load  
3494 management programs.

3495 (c) In any solicitation issued pursuant to this subsection, the  
3496 commissioner shall seek proposals from (1) Class I renewable energy  
3497 sources, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, having a  
3498 nameplate capacity rating of twenty megawatts or more, and any

3499 associated transmission; and (2) verifiable large-scale hydropower, as  
3500 defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, and any associated  
3501 transmission. The commissioner may also seek proposals for energy  
3502 storage systems, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act,  
3503 having a nameplate capacity rating of twenty megawatts or more.  
3504 Proposals under this subsection shall not have a contract term exceeding  
3505 twenty years. In soliciting Class I renewable energy sources, and any  
3506 associated transmission, pursuant to this subsection, the commissioner  
3507 may, for the purpose of balancing such Class I energy deliveries and  
3508 improving the economic viability of such proposals, also seek proposals  
3509 for electricity and capacity from Class II renewable energy sources, as  
3510 defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, and existing  
3511 hydropower resources other than those described under section 16-1, as  
3512 amended by this act, provided such resources are interconnected to such  
3513 associated transmission and are located in the control area of the  
3514 regional independent system operator or imported into the control area  
3515 of the regional independent system operator from resources located in  
3516 an adjacent regional independent system operator's control area.

3517 (d) In any solicitation for natural gas resources issued pursuant to this  
3518 subsection, the commissioner shall seek proposals for (1) interstate  
3519 natural gas transportation capacity, (2) liquefied natural gas, (3)  
3520 liquefied natural gas storage, and (4) natural gas storage, or a  
3521 combination of any such resources, provided such proposals provide  
3522 incremental capacity, gas, or storage that has a firm delivery capability  
3523 to transport natural gas to natural gas-fired generating facilities located  
3524 in the control area of the regional independent system operator.  
3525 Proposals under this subsection shall not have a contract term exceeding  
3526 a period of twenty years.

3527 (e) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, in  
3528 consultation with the procurement manager identified in subsection (l)  
3529 of section 16-2, as amended by this act, the Office of Consumer Counsel  
3530 and the Attorney General, shall evaluate project proposals received  
3531 under any solicitation issued pursuant to subsection (b), (c) or (d) of this

3532 section, based on factors including, but not limited to, (1) improvements  
3533 to the reliability of the electric system, including during winter peak  
3534 demand; (2) whether the benefits of the proposal outweigh the costs to  
3535 ratepayers; (3) fuel diversity; (4) the extent to which the proposal  
3536 contributes to meeting the requirements to reduce greenhouse gas  
3537 emissions and improve air quality in accordance with sections 16-245a,  
3538 as amended by this act, 22a-174 [,) and 22a-200a; (5) whether the  
3539 proposal is in the best interest of ratepayers; and (6) whether the  
3540 proposal is aligned with the policy goals outlined in the Integrated  
3541 Resources Plan, pursuant to section 16a-3a, as amended by this act, and  
3542 the Comprehensive Energy Strategy, pursuant to section 16a-3d,  
3543 including, but not limited to, environmental impacts. In conducting  
3544 such evaluation, the commissioner may also consider the extent to  
3545 which project proposals provide economic benefits for the state. In  
3546 evaluating project proposals received under any solicitation issued  
3547 pursuant to subsection (b), (c) or (d) of this section, the commissioner  
3548 shall compare the costs and benefits of such proposals relative to the  
3549 expected or actual costs and benefits of other resources eligible to  
3550 respond to the other procurements authorized pursuant to this section.

3551 (f) The commissioner may hire consultants with expertise in  
3552 quantitative modeling of electric and gas markets, and physical gas and  
3553 electric system modeling, as applicable, to assist in implementing this  
3554 section, including, but not limited to, the evaluation of proposals  
3555 submitted pursuant to this section. All reasonable costs, not exceeding  
3556 one million five hundred thousand dollars, associated with the  
3557 commissioner's solicitation and review of proposals pursuant to this  
3558 section shall be recoverable through the nonbypassable federally  
3559 mandated congestion charge, as defined in subsection (a) of section 16-  
3560 1, as amended by this act. Such costs shall be recoverable even if the  
3561 commissioner does not select any proposals pursuant to solicitations  
3562 issued pursuant to this section.

3563 (g) If the commissioner finds proposals received pursuant to this  
3564 section to be in the best interest of [electric] ratepayers, in accordance

3565 with the provisions of subsection (e) of this section, the commissioner  
3566 may select any such proposal or proposals, provided the total capacity  
3567 of the resources selected under all solicitations issued pursuant to this  
3568 section in the aggregate do not exceed three hundred seventy-five  
3569 million cubic feet per day of natural gas capacity, or the equivalent  
3570 megawatts of electricity, electric demand reduction or combination  
3571 thereof. Any proposals selected pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) of  
3572 this section shall not, in the aggregate, exceed ten per cent of the load  
3573 distributed by the state's electric distribution companies or ten per cent  
3574 of the load distributed by the state's gas companies. The commissioner  
3575 may, on behalf of all customers of electric distribution companies, direct  
3576 the electric distribution companies to enter into long-term contracts for  
3577 active or passive demand response measures that result in electric  
3578 savings, electricity time-of-use shifts, electricity, electric capacity,  
3579 environmental attributes, energy storage, interstate natural gas  
3580 transportation capacity, liquefied natural gas, liquefied natural gas  
3581 storage [.] and natural gas storage, or any combination thereof, from  
3582 proposals submitted pursuant to this section, provided the benefits of  
3583 such contracts to customers of electric distribution companies outweigh  
3584 the costs to such companies' customers. The commissioner may, on  
3585 behalf of the customers of gas companies, direct the gas companies to  
3586 enter into long-term contracts for active or passive demand response  
3587 measures that result in gas savings or time-of-use shifts from proposals  
3588 submitted pursuant to this section, provided the benefits of such  
3589 contracts to customers of gas companies outweigh the costs to such  
3590 companies' customers.

3591 (h) Any agreement entered into pursuant to this section shall be  
3592 subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities Regulatory  
3593 Authority. The electric distribution company or gas company shall file  
3594 an application for the approval of any such agreement with the  
3595 authority. The authority shall approve such agreement if it is cost  
3596 effective and in the best interest of electric or gas ratepayers. The  
3597 authority shall issue a decision not later than ninety days after such  
3598 filing. If the authority does not issue a decision within ninety days after

3599 such filing, the agreement shall be deemed approved. When an electric  
3600 distribution company or gas company both apply for recovery of net  
3601 costs of the same such agreement, the authority shall determine which  
3602 net costs are attributable to each company. The net costs of any such  
3603 agreement, including costs incurred by the electric distribution  
3604 company or gas company under the agreement and reasonable costs  
3605 incurred by the electric distribution company in connection with the  
3606 agreement, shall be recovered on a timely basis through a fully  
3607 reconciling component of electric rates for all customers of the electric  
3608 distribution company or the conservation adjustment mechanism  
3609 established pursuant to section 16-245m for all customers of the gas  
3610 company. Any net revenues from the sale of products purchased in  
3611 accordance with long-term contracts entered into pursuant to this  
3612 section shall be credited to customers through the same fully reconciling  
3613 rate component for all customers of the contracting electric distribution  
3614 company. For any contract for interstate natural gas transportation  
3615 capacity, liquefied natural gas, liquefied natural gas storage or natural  
3616 gas storage entered into pursuant to this section, the electric distribution  
3617 company may contract with a gas supply manager to sell such interstate  
3618 natural gas transportation capacity, liquefied natural gas, liquefied  
3619 natural gas storage or natural gas storage, or a combination thereof, into  
3620 the wholesale markets at the best available price in a manner that meets  
3621 all applicable requirements pursuant to all applicable regulations of the  
3622 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

3623 (i) Certificates issued by the New England Power Pool Generation  
3624 Information System for any Class I renewable energy source or Class III  
3625 source procured by an electric distribution company pursuant to this  
3626 section [may be: (1) Sold into the New England Power Pool Generation  
3627 Information System renewable energy credit market to be used by any  
3628 electric supplier or electric distribution company to meet the  
3629 requirements of section 16-245a, so long as the revenues from such sale  
3630 are credited to electric distribution company customers as described in  
3631 this subsection; or (2) retained by the electric distribution company to  
3632 meet the requirements of section 16-245a. In considering whether to sell

3633 or retain such certificates the company shall select the option that is in  
3634 the best interest of such company's ratepayers] shall be disposed of  
3635 pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to subsection (g) of  
3636 section 16-245a, as amended by this act.

3637 Sec. 48. Section 16-2 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
3638 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3639 (a) There shall continue to be a Public Utilities Regulatory Authority  
3640 within the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for  
3641 administrative purposes only, which shall consist of five electors of this  
3642 state, appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of both  
3643 houses of the General Assembly. Not more than three [members of said  
3644 authority] utility commissioners in office at any one time shall be  
3645 members of any one political party. The Governor shall appoint five  
3646 members to the authority. The procedure prescribed in section 4-7 shall  
3647 apply to such appointments, except that the Governor shall submit each  
3648 nomination on or before May first, and both houses shall confirm or  
3649 reject it before adjournment sine die. [Any utility commissioner  
3650 appointed by the Governor and confirmed by both chambers of the  
3651 General Assembly between February 1, 2019, and June 1, 2019, shall  
3652 serve a term expiring on March 1, 2024. Any utility commissioner  
3653 appointed by the Governor and confirmed by both houses of the  
3654 General Assembly between February 1, 2018, and June 1, 2018, shall  
3655 serve a term expiring on March 1, 2022. Between July 1, 2019, and May  
3656 1, 2020, the Governor shall appoint three utility commissioners,  
3657 provided one such commissioner shall serve a term expiring on March  
3658 1, 2021, and two such commissioners shall serve terms expiring on  
3659 March 1, 2023.] Any utility commissioner appointed on or after [May 1,  
3660 2020] January 1, 2025, shall serve a term [of] beginning on the date such  
3661 utility commissioner is appointed and qualified and continuing for  
3662 years from the July first immediately following the date of appointment  
3663 by the Governor, and may continue in office until a successor is  
3664 appointed and qualified. The utility commissioners shall be sworn to the  
3665 faithful performance of their duties.

3666 (b) Not later than June 30, 2023, and between June first and June  
3667 thirtieth in each odd-numbered year thereafter, the Governor shall  
3668 select the chairperson of the authority from among the utility  
3669 commissioners. The chairperson shall serve a two-year term starting on  
3670 July first of the same year. Each June, the utility commissioners shall  
3671 choose, from among said commissioners, a vice-chairperson, who shall  
3672 serve for a one-year term starting on July first of the same year. The vice-  
3673 chairperson shall perform the duties of the chairperson in his or her  
3674 absence.

3675 (c) Any [matter] proceeding coming before the authority may be  
3676 assigned by the chairperson to a panel of three or more utility  
3677 commissioners, provided the chairperson shall assign all appointed and  
3678 qualified utility commissioners to the panel for a proceeding conducted  
3679 pursuant to sections 16-41, 16-19a or 16-19, as amended by this act.  
3680 [Except as otherwise provided by statute or regulation, the panel shall  
3681 determine whether a public hearing shall be held on the matter, and  
3682 may designate one or more of its members to conduct such hearing or  
3683 may assign a hearing officer to ascertain the facts and report thereon to  
3684 the panel. The decision of the panel, if unanimous, shall be the decision  
3685 of the authority. If the decision of the panel is not unanimous, the matter  
3686 shall be approved by a majority vote of the utility commissioners.]

3687 (1) The chairperson shall serve as, or designate one utility  
3688 commissioner to serve as, the presiding officer of such panel. The  
3689 presiding officer shall ensure the orderly conduct of the proceeding,  
3690 including issuing notices and scheduling hearings. The presiding officer  
3691 shall also issue rulings on procedural, evidentiary and intermediate  
3692 matters on behalf of the panel, including motions, provided that a  
3693 majority of the panel support such issuances following communication  
3694 and conferencing pursuant to subsection (n) of this section. Any such  
3695 action shall constitute an action of the panel unless modified by a  
3696 majority of the panel.

3697 (2) Except for in a rate amendment proceeding pursuant to sections  
3698 16-19a or 16-19, as amended by this act, the chairperson may assign a

3699 hearing officer to develop the administrative record and, if applicable,  
3700 file a proposed final decision pursuant to section 4-179. The hearing  
3701 officer may also issue rulings on procedural, evidentiary and  
3702 intermediate matters, including motions.

3703 (3) The final decision of the authority shall be approved by a majority  
3704 vote of the panel and the vote of each panel member shall be reduced to  
3705 writing and made available for public inspection not later than forty-  
3706 eight hours of such decision and be recorded in the minutes of the  
3707 session at which such vote was taken.

3708 (4) For purposes of recusal or disqualification, commissioners shall  
3709 be considered administrative adjudicators.

3710 (d) The utility commissioners of the Public Utilities Regulatory  
3711 Authority shall serve full time and shall file a statement of financial  
3712 interests with the Office of State Ethics in accordance with section 1-83.  
3713 Each utility commissioner shall receive annually a salary equal to that  
3714 established for management pay plan salary group seventy-five by the  
3715 Commissioner of Administrative Services, except that the chairperson  
3716 shall receive annually a salary equal to that established for management  
3717 pay plan salary group seventy-seven.

3718 (e) To [insure] ensure the highest standard of public utility  
3719 regulation, on and after October 1, 2007, any newly appointed utility  
3720 commissioner of the authority shall have education or training and three  
3721 or more years of experience in one or more of the following fields:  
3722 Economics, engineering, law, accounting, finance, utility regulation,  
3723 public or government administration, consumer advocacy, business  
3724 management, and environmental management. On and after July 1,  
3725 1997, at least three of these fields shall be represented on the authority  
3726 by individual utility commissioners at all times. Any time a utility  
3727 commissioner is newly appointed, at least one of the utility  
3728 commissioners shall have experience in utility customer advocacy.

3729 (f) (1) The chairperson of the authority [, with the approval of the

3730 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection,] shall prescribe  
3731 the duties of the staff [assigned to] of the authority [in order to (A)  
3732 conduct comprehensive planning with respect to the functions of the  
3733 authority; (B) cause the administrative organization of the authority to  
3734 be examined with a view to promoting economy and efficiency; and (C)]  
3735 and organize the authority into such divisions, bureaus or other units as  
3736 necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the authority. [and  
3737 and may from time to time make recommendations to the Commissioner of  
3738 Energy and Environmental Protection regarding staff and resources.]

3739 (2) The chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority [, in  
3740 order to implement the comprehensive planning and organizational  
3741 structure established pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection,]  
3742 shall: (A) [coordinate] Coordinate the activities of the authority and  
3743 prescribe the duties of the staff [assigned to] of the authority, including,  
3744 but not limited to, assigning staff to fulfill the duties of the procurement  
3745 manager where required pursuant to titles 16 and 16a; (B) for any  
3746 proceeding on a proposed rate amendment in which staff of the  
3747 authority are to be made a party pursuant to section 16-19j, determine  
3748 which staff shall appear and participate in the proceedings and which  
3749 shall serve the [members of the authority] utility commissioners; (C)  
3750 enter into such contractual agreements, in accordance with established  
3751 procedures, as may be necessary for the discharge of the authority's  
3752 duties; (D) subject to the provisions of section 4-32, and unless otherwise  
3753 provided by law, receive any money, revenue or services from the  
3754 federal government, corporations, associations or individuals,  
3755 including payments from the sale of printed matter or any other  
3756 material or services; [and] (E) require the staff of the authority to have  
3757 expertise in public utility engineering and accounting, finance,  
3758 economics, computers and rate design; and (F) ensure that utility  
3759 commissioners who choose to write a concurring or dissenting opinion  
3760 are provided staff to assist in writing such opinion.

3761 (g) No utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities Regulatory  
3762 Authority] or employee of the Department of Energy and

3763 Environmental Protection assigned to work with the authority shall  
3764 have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or engage in  
3765 any business, employment, transaction or professional activity, or incur  
3766 any obligation of any nature, which is in substantial conflict with the  
3767 proper discharge of his or her duties or employment in the public  
3768 interest and of his or her responsibilities as prescribed in the laws of this  
3769 state, as defined in section 1-85, concerning any matter within the  
3770 jurisdiction of the authority; provided, no such substantial conflict shall  
3771 be deemed to exist solely by virtue of the fact that a utility commissioner  
3772 of the authority or employee of the department assigned to work with  
3773 the authority, or any business in which such a person has an interest,  
3774 receives utility service from one or more Connecticut utilities under the  
3775 normal rates and conditions of service.

3776 (h) No current or former utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities  
3777 Regulatory Authority] or employee of the Department of Energy and  
3778 Environmental Protection assigned to work with the authority, during  
3779 such assignment, shall accept other employment which will either  
3780 impair his or her independence of judgment as to his or her official  
3781 duties or employment or require him or her, or induce him or her, to  
3782 disclose confidential information acquired by him or her in the course  
3783 of and by reason of his or her official duties.

3784 (i) No utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities Regulatory  
3785 Authority] or employee of the Department of Energy and  
3786 Environmental Protection assigned to work with the authority, during  
3787 such assignment, shall wilfully and knowingly disclose, for pecuniary  
3788 gain, to any other person, confidential information acquired by him or  
3789 her in the course of and by reason of his or her official duties or  
3790 employment or use any such information for the purpose of pecuniary  
3791 gain.

3792 (j) No utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities Regulatory  
3793 Authority] or employee of the Department of Energy and  
3794 Environmental Protection assigned to work with the authority, during  
3795 such assignment, shall agree to accept, or be in partnership or

3796 association with any person, or a member of a professional corporation  
3797 or in membership with any union or professional association which  
3798 partnership, association, professional corporation, union or professional  
3799 association agrees to accept any employment, fee or other thing of value,  
3800 or portion thereof, in consideration of his or her appearing, agreeing to  
3801 appear, or taking any other action on behalf of another person before  
3802 the authority, the Connecticut Siting Council, the Office of Policy and  
3803 Management or the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
3804 Protection.

3805 (k) No utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities Regulatory  
3806 Authority] shall, for a period of [one year] three years following the  
3807 termination of his or her service as a utility commissioner, and no  
3808 employee of the authority shall, for a period of one year after  
3809 termination of his or her employment with the authority, unless such  
3810 employee was terminated by the authority, accept employment: (1) By  
3811 a public service company or by any person, firm or corporation engaged  
3812 in lobbying activities or legal representation with regard to  
3813 governmental regulation of public service companies; (2) by a certified  
3814 telecommunications provider or by any person, firm or corporation  
3815 engaged in lobbying activities or legal representation with regard to  
3816 governmental regulation of persons, firms or corporations so certified;  
3817 [or] (3) by an electric supplier or by any person, firm or corporation  
3818 engaged in lobbying activities or legal representation with regard to  
3819 governmental regulation of electric suppliers; or (4) by any related  
3820 entity, as defined in section 12-218b, of any entity described in  
3821 subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of this subsection, for any purpose  
3822 described in subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of this subsection. No such  
3823 utility commissioner [who is also an attorney] shall in any capacity,  
3824 appear or participate in any matter, or accept any compensation  
3825 regarding a matter, before the authority, for a period of one year  
3826 following the termination of his or her service as a utility commissioner.

3827 (l) [The chairperson of the authority shall assign authority staff to  
3828 fulfill the duties of procurement manager where required pursuant to

3829 this title and title 16a] Any declaratory judgment action or proceeding  
3830 filed under section 52-29 after January 1, 2025, in which the authority is  
3831 a party shall be subject to the requirements of subsection (a) of section  
3832 4-175.

3833 (m) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the  
3834 decisions of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, including, but not  
3835 limited to, decisions relating to rate amendments arising from the  
3836 Comprehensive Energy Strategy, the Integrated Resources Plan, the  
3837 Conservation and Load Management Plan and policies established by  
3838 the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, shall be  
3839 guided by said strategy and plans and such policies.

3840 (n) Two or more utility commissioners serving on a panel established  
3841 pursuant to subsection (c) of this section may confer or communicate  
3842 regarding the matter before such panel. Any such conference or  
3843 communication that does not occur before the public at a hearing or  
3844 proceeding shall not constitute a meeting as defined in section 1-200.

3845 Sec. 49. Section 16-2a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
3846 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3847 (a) There shall be an independent Office of Consumer Counsel,  
3848 within the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for  
3849 administrative purposes only, to act as the advocate for consumer  
3850 interests in all matters which may affect [Connecticut] consumers in the  
3851 state with respect to public service companies, electric suppliers and  
3852 certified telecommunications providers, including, but not limited to,  
3853 rates and related issues, ratepayer-funded programs and matters  
3854 concerning the reliability, maintenance, operations, infrastructure and  
3855 quality of service of such companies, suppliers and providers. The  
3856 Office of Consumer Counsel is authorized to appear in and participate  
3857 in any regulatory or judicial proceedings, federal or state, in which such  
3858 interests of [Connecticut] consumers in the state may be involved, or in  
3859 which matters affecting utility services rendered or to be rendered in  
3860 this state may be involved. The Office of Consumer Counsel shall be a

3861 party to each contested case before the Public Utilities Regulatory  
3862 Authority and shall participate in [such proceedings] any such  
3863 contested case to the extent [it] the Consumer Counsel deems necessary.  
3864 [Said] The Office of Consumer Counsel may appeal from a decision,  
3865 order or authorization in any such state regulatory proceeding  
3866 [notwithstanding its failure to appear or participate in said] regardless  
3867 of whether the Office of Consumer Counsel appeared or participated in  
3868 such proceeding.

3869 (b) Except as prohibited by the provisions of section 4-181, the Office  
3870 of Consumer Counsel shall have access to the records of the Public  
3871 Utilities Regulatory Authority and shall be entitled to call upon the  
3872 assistance of the authority's and the [department's] Department of  
3873 Energy and Environmental Protection's experts, and shall have the  
3874 benefit of all other facilities or information of the authority or the  
3875 department in carrying out the duties of the Office of Consumer  
3876 Counsel, except for such internal documents, information or data [as]  
3877 that are not available to parties to the authority's proceedings. The  
3878 department shall provide such space as necessary within the  
3879 department's quarters for the operation of the Office of Consumer  
3880 Counsel, and the department shall be empowered to set regulations  
3881 providing for adequate compensation for the provision of such office  
3882 space.

3883 (c) There [shall be] is established an Office of State Broadband within  
3884 the Office of Consumer Counsel. The Office of State Broadband shall  
3885 work to facilitate the availability of broadband access to every [state  
3886 citizen] resident of the state and to increase access to and the adoption  
3887 of ultra-high-speed gigabit capable broadband networks. The Office of  
3888 Consumer Counsel may work in collaboration with public and  
3889 nonprofit entities and state agencies, and may provide advisory  
3890 assistance to municipalities, local authorities and private corporations  
3891 for the purpose of maximizing opportunities for the expansion of  
3892 broadband access in the state and fostering innovative approaches to  
3893 broadband in the state, including the procurement of grants for such

3894 purpose. The Office of State Broadband shall include a Broadband  
3895 Policy Coordinator and such other staff as the Consumer Counsel deems  
3896 necessary to perform the duties of the Office of State Broadband.

3897 (d) The Office of Consumer Counsel shall be under the direction of  
3898 [a] the Consumer Counsel, who shall be appointed by the Governor  
3899 with the advice and consent of either house of the General Assembly.  
3900 The Consumer Counsel shall be an elector of this state and shall have  
3901 demonstrated a strong commitment and involvement in efforts to  
3902 safeguard the rights of the public. The Consumer Counsel shall serve  
3903 for a term of five years unless removed pursuant to section 16-5. The  
3904 salary of the Consumer Counsel shall be equal to that established for  
3905 management pay plan salary group seventy-one by the Commissioner  
3906 of Administrative Services. No Consumer Counsel shall, for a period of  
3907 one year following the termination of service as Consumer Counsel,  
3908 accept employment by a public service company, a certified  
3909 telecommunications provider or an electric supplier. No Consumer  
3910 Counsel who is also an attorney shall, in any capacity, appear or  
3911 participate in any matter, or accept any compensation regarding a  
3912 matter, before the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, for a period of  
3913 one year following the termination of service as Consumer Counsel.

3914 (e) The Consumer Counsel shall hire such staff as necessary to  
3915 perform the duties of [said] the Office of Consumer Counsel and may  
3916 [employ] retain from time to time outside consultants knowledgeable in  
3917 [the utility regulation field] utilities regulation, including, but not  
3918 limited to, economists, capital cost experts, [and] rate design experts and  
3919 engineers. The salaries and qualifications of the [individuals] staff so  
3920 hired shall be determined by the Commissioner of Administrative  
3921 Services pursuant to section 4-40.

3922 (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent any party  
3923 interested in such proceeding or action from appearing in person or  
3924 from being represented by counsel therein.

3925 (g) As used in this section, "consumer" means any person [, city,

3926 borough or town] or municipality, as defined in section 7-148, that  
3927 receives service from any public service company, electric supplier or  
3928 from any certified telecommunications provider in this state whether or  
3929 not such person [, city, borough or town] or municipality is financially  
3930 responsible for such service.

3931 (h) The Office of Consumer Counsel shall not be required to post a  
3932 bond as a condition to presenting an appeal from any state regulatory  
3933 decision, order or authorization.

3934 (i) The expenses of the Office of Consumer Counsel shall be assessed  
3935 in accordance with the provisions of section 16-49.

3936 (j) Any proprietary commercial and proprietary financial information  
3937 of a holding company or subsidiary provided to the Office of Consumer  
3938 Counsel pursuant to subsection (c) of section 16-8c, as amended by this  
3939 act, shall be confidential and protected by the Office of Consumer  
3940 Counsel, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 14. No employee  
3941 of the Office of Consumer Counsel shall wilfully and knowingly  
3942 disclose, for pecuniary gain, to any other person, confidential  
3943 information acquired by such employee in the course of and by reason  
3944 of such employee's official duties or employment or use any such  
3945 information for the purpose of pecuniary gain.

3946 Sec. 50. Subsection (d) of section 16-19b of the general statutes is  
3947 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3948 *1, 2025*):

3949 (d) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall adjust the retail  
3950 rate charged by each electric distribution company for electric  
3951 transmission services periodically to recover all transmission costs  
3952 prudently incurred by each electric distribution company. The Public  
3953 Utilities Regulatory Authority, after notice and hearing, shall design the  
3954 retail transmission rate to provide for recovery of all Federal Energy  
3955 Regulatory Commission approved transmission costs, rates, tariffs and  
3956 charges and of other transmission costs prudently incurred by an

3957 electric distribution company in accordance with section 16-19e.  
3958 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 16-19, the authority shall  
3959 adjust the retail transmission rate in accordance with the provisions of  
3960 subsections (e) and (h) of this section and to fund costs associated with  
3961 retaining consultants for the Department of Energy and Environmental  
3962 Protection and the Office of Consumer Counsel to enable the said  
3963 department and said office to participate in proceedings of the  
3964 Connecticut Siting Council, and evaluations and analysis conducted  
3965 pursuant to section 27 of this act. A transmission rate adjustment clause  
3966 approved pursuant to this section shall apply to all electric distribution  
3967 companies similarly affected by transmission costs. The Public Utilities  
3968 Regulatory Authority's authority to review the prudence of costs shall  
3969 not apply to any matter over which any agency, department or  
3970 instrumentality of the federal government has exclusive jurisdiction, or  
3971 has jurisdiction concurrent with that of the state and has exercised such  
3972 jurisdiction to the exclusion of regulation of such matter by the state.

3973 Sec. 51. Subsection (c) of section 16-8c of the general statutes is  
3974 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3975 *1, 2025*):

3976 (c) [Proprietary] Any proprietary commercial and proprietary  
3977 financial information of a holding company or subsidiary provided  
3978 pursuant to this section shall (1) be confidential and protected by the  
3979 authority, subject to the provisions of section 4-177, and (2) be provided  
3980 to the Office of Consumer Counsel.

3981 Sec. 52. Section 16-6b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
3982 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3983 The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may, in accordance with  
3984 chapter 54, adopt such regulations with respect to: (1) Rates and charges,  
3985 services, accounting practices, safety and the conduct of operations  
3986 generally of public service companies subject to its jurisdiction as it  
3987 deems reasonable and necessary; (2) services, accounting practices,  
3988 safety and the conduct of operations generally of electric suppliers

3989 subject to its jurisdiction as it deems reasonable and necessary; and (3)  
3990 standards for systems utilizing cogeneration technology and renewable  
3991 fuel resources. [, in accordance with the Department of Energy and  
3992 Environmental Protection's policies.]

3993 Sec. 53. Subsection (b) of section 16-19 of the general statutes is  
3994 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
3995 *passage*):

3996 (b) [If] (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this section, if the  
3997 authority has not made [its] a finding [respecting] with respect to an  
3998 amendment of any (A) electric distribution or gas company rate within  
3999 three hundred fifty days from the proposed effective date of such  
4000 amendment thereof, or [if the authority has not made its finding  
4001 respecting an amendment of any] (B) public service company rate,  
4002 except an electric distribution or a gas company rate, within two  
4003 hundred seventy days from the proposed effective date of such  
4004 amendment thereof, such amendment [may] shall become effective,  
4005 pending the authority's finding with respect to such amendment,  
4006 upon the filing [by the company with the authority] of assurance satisfactory  
4007 to the authority [, which] by the company. Such assurance may include  
4008 a bond with surety [,] of the company's ability and willingness to refund  
4009 to its customers with interest such amounts as the company may collect  
4010 from [them in excess of] such customers exceeding the rates fixed by the  
4011 authority in [its] the authority's finding or fixed at the conclusion of any  
4012 appeal taken as a result of a finding by the authority.

4013 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, the authority may  
4014 extend the time described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision  
4015 (1) of this subsection to make a finding concerning a rate amendment  
4016 application if such application is filed by a public service company  
4017 having more than seventy-five thousand customers not later than sixty  
4018 days after the filing of a rate amendment application by another public  
4019 service company having more than seventy-five thousand customers.  
4020 The extension of such time to make a finding by the authority pursuant  
4021 to this subdivision shall not exceed ninety days.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-245m(d)(1)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-262c(b)
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-262d
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	PA 24-31, Sec. 2
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-244z
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245e
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245f(a)
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245g
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245h(a)
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245i
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245j(b) and (c)
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245k(l)
Sec. 18	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-19gg(b)
Sec. 19	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 20	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-19f(a) and (b)
Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-243n
Sec. 23	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 24	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-32e
Sec. 25	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-32l
Sec. 26	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-32m
Sec. 27	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 28	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 29	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-18a(c)
Sec. 30	<i>upon passage</i>	New section
Sec. 31	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 32	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3m(e)
Sec. 33	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-244m(a) and (b)
Sec. 34	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 35	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 36	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	22a-136
Sec. 37	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section

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Sec. 38	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-102(a)
Sec. 39	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-1(a)(20)
Sec. 40	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-245a
Sec. 41	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3g
Sec. 42	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3h
Sec. 43	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3i(d)
Sec. 44	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3n(c)
Sec. 45	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3p(c)
Sec. 46	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3a(j)
Sec. 47	<i>from passage</i>	16a-3j
Sec. 48	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-2
Sec. 49	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-2a
Sec. 50	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-19b(d)
Sec. 51	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-8c(c)
Sec. 52	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-6b
Sec. 53	<i>from passage</i>	16-19(b)