

THE PROBLEM

Our climate crisis has been exacerbated by the fossil fuels we burn every day. Connecticut has set ambitious targets to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate the impacts of climate change on our home state. In 2019, Governor Lamont issued Executive Order #3 to bring Connecticut to a 100% zero-carbon electric grid by 2040.

As investments in renewable energy grow in Connecticut and the region, we must ensure that our laws mandating clean energy are intact. Executive Order #3 must be codified into law to make our state accountable to achieving that goal.

While Connecticut continues to move forward with aggressive climate goals and procurement of clean offshore wind, new fracked gas power plants like the 650 megawatt plant in Killingly and the 375 megawatt plant in Middletown are taking us in the wrong direction. By codifying Executive Order #3, Connecticut's current and future elected leaders will be legally required to find alternatives to polluting power plants and adopt policies that will achieve our zero emission goals.

In December 2020, the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection released the state's draft Integrated Resources Plan (IRP), a recurring assessment of the State's future electric supply needs and potential means to meet those needs. This plan confirms that a carbon-free electric supply is achievable by 2040 and will anchor Connecticut's fight against climate change while emphasizing affordability and equity. The plan underscores a continued focus on regional market reform, modernized transmission, and investment in efficiency, storage, and renewables.

FAST FACTS

- ◆ Natural gas accounts for **40%** of New England's energy mix, and **49%** in Connecticut.
- ◆ In 2019, Connecticut passed legislation to procure up to **2,000 megawatts** in clean offshore wind energy.
- ◆ According to the CT DEEP IRP, sea level could rise by as much as **80 inches by 2100** if we continue business-as-usual and don't reduce any GHG emissions.



A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION

In 2021, lawmakers need to codify in statute Governor Lamont's Executive Order #3 to achieve a 100% zero-carbon electric grid by 2040. If we fail to do this we are putting our clean energy goals in jeopardy and further hurting our already overburdened communities with new pollution sources.

Oil and gas plants are often sited in towns and cities that already bear the brunt of pollution from fossil fuel generation. We need to ensure that these communities receive clean, non-polluting energy that protect the public health of our most vulnerable populations.

MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the 100% legislation, contact:

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