



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL

DONALD W. DOWNES
CHAIRPERSON

April 18, 2008

Gretchen Deans
CERC
805 Brook Street, Building 4
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Dear Colleague:

As the CEAB continues its vital work in assisting lawmakers and policy makers in planning for its energy future, I believe that it is critical that we understand the scope and capacity of the Connecticut energy zone so that recommendations that our body makes are better informed by the reality of extant resources.

To that end, I believe that in order to make valuable and well informed recommendations for actions to legislators and key policy makers, a clear understanding must be reached regarding what load and general capacity exists in the Connecticut energy zone for both general power and power derived from renewable resources, as well as required installed capacity reserves for the zone. Much of what the legislature has asked, and continues to ask, of the CEAB relies on the belief that such a clear understanding exists. I contend that it does not and strongly urge the CEAB to undertake an assessment to determine our resources so that we are making recommendations based on reality and not on supposition.

I would also stress that the time has come to do an in-depth analysis of the application of combined heat and power (CHP) principles to large scale power generation. As concern regarding the release of heat into the atmosphere continues to grow and as the state makes regular investments in smaller scale CHP projects; I believe it is time to conduct a study of CHP's broader application to larger projects. I would suggest that an organization such as the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering might be an excellent choice to conduct such a study.

With the passage of time, the legislature is increasingly turning to the CEAB for thoughtful analysis and advice that will inform their policy decisions in the near future. For us it is critical we move past the conceptual understanding of the Connecticut zone and the use of CHP and do assessments that will allow us to provide the most accurate

and valuable advice possible to the policy makers and law makers who have put so much trust in our analysis and expertise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Downes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Donald Downes
Chairman
DPUC