



CT Roundtable on Climate & Jobs



Enforce the Law; Reduce the Residential Fixed Charge

Comment on Docket No. 16-06-04

Application Of The United Illuminating Company To Increase Its Rates And Charges
September 2016

We are participants in a statewide roundtable on climate and jobs that includes labor unions, community organizations, religious groups, the business community, and environmental organizations. We are deeply concerned about the need to build a sustainable economy with good-paying jobs here at home while reducing the threat of climate disruption here and around the world. We believe that Connecticut faces an important opportunity to address both the economic crisis and the climate crisis: Let's put people to work protecting the climate.

In 2015, we helped win state legislation to rein in runaway increases in monthly fixed charges for CT's electric customers. Residential customers saw their monthly fixed charge more than double in a decade (2004-2014), resulting in the highest (Eversource; \$19.25/mo) and second highest (UI; \$17.25/mo) in New England for any major utility. Legislators recognized the need for change, and they passed a law clearly limiting what costs can be included in the fixed charge: "...only the fixed costs and operation and maintenance expenses directly related to metering, billing, service connections and the provision of customer service." The current rate case for United Illuminating (UI) is the first test for enforcement of this new law.

The Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC) has submitted expert testimony showing that UI's monthly fixed charge under the new law should be \$7.63/month, a reduction of almost \$10. Electric customers in Massachusetts already pay fixed charges of less than \$7/month.

We strongly encourage the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) to adjust UI's residential fixed charge, as required by statute.

Reducing the fixed charge to satisfy the law would also serve the public interest:

- it would give residential consumers greater control over their energy costs – especially efficient users, those on limited incomes, seniors, and households with rooftop solar;
- it would enhance the incentives for energy efficiency and rooftop solar, which are critical elements of the state's plan for achieving its climate goals; and
- it would encourage the expansion of a clean energy sector that provides green jobs for workers right here in Connecticut.

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We urge PURA to protect the public interest in affordable electricity, climate protection and clean energy jobs. Reduce UI’s residential fixed charge, as required by state law.

*The following people have endorsed this statement **as individuals** and NOT on behalf of or representing any organization or institution. (List is sorted by town.)*

NAME	TOWN	AFFILIATION (for identification purposes ONLY)
Monique Golden	Ashford	GEU-UAW Local 6950
Jeanne Fish	Avon	
Michael Sherber	Avon	
John Eickel	Bloomfield	
Kara Jankowski	Bloomfield	C-TEC Solar
Warren Kritko	Bloomfield	C-TEC Solar
Donna Landerman	Bloomfield	Save Our Water CT
David Mann	Bloomfield	Bloomfield Conservation Energy Environment Cmttee
Carol Noyes	Bloomfield	
Vikki Reski	Bloomfield	Ironwood Community Partners
David Roones	Bloomfield	
John Stewart	Bolton	University of Hartford, emeritus prof
Michael Duffy	Branford	
Susan Trucksess	Branford	
Abigail Hubbard	Bristol	
John Skinger	Bristol	
Ken Jones	Canton	
Jane Latus	Canton	
Christopher Henderson	Clinton	
Todd Vachon	Colchester	GEU-UAW Local 6950
Jeremy Brecher	Cornwall	Labor Network for Sustainability
William Foster	Danbury	SolarCity
Michael Harris	Deep River	City of Middletown/Harris Mgmt. Services
Donna Martin	East Haddam	People's Action for Clean Energy
Kelly Jane Forbush	East Hartford	First Congregational Church of East Hartford
Margarita Nieves	East Haven	
Tim Schneider	Ellington	People's Action for Clean Energy (PACE)
Robert Dortenzio	Fairfield	Sun-Wind Solutions
Shawn O'Sullivan	Fairfield	Fairfield Earth Day
Peter McKnight	Fairfield	Project LEAN
Noreen Cullen	Glastonbury	
Rod Zander	Goshen	People's Action for Clean Energy (PACE)
David Desiderato	Granby	
Richard Ameriling	Guilford	
Jerry Silbert	Guilford	Watershed Partnership, Inc.

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Robert Dubrow	Hamden	
Mary Emerson	Hamden	Laudato Si Ministry Team - Archdiocese of Hartford
Rod Groff	Hamden	
Diane Hoffman	Hamden	
Amanda Kallenbach	Hamden	Hamden Alliance for Trees
Fathima H	Hartford	
Dorothy Lovett Buckley	Hartford	Sierra Club
Mary Lee Morrison	Hartford	
Michael Harder	Hebron	Hebron Citizens Green Committee
Eszter Samodai	Hebron	Hebron Citizens Green Committee
Lynn Fulkerson	Litchfield	Interreligious Eco-Justice Network (IREJN)
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Eugene DeJoannis	Manchester	Solar Energy Assoc of CT
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Jon Morris	Middletown	Jonah Center for Earth and Art
Diane Lentakis	Milford	Sierra Club-CT Chapter & 350 CT
Peter Hornat	Montville	Laurel Lock Campground
Michael Moffatt	Moodus	
Mary Beth Mordecai	Moodus	
Christina Andersen	Morris	
Nancy Brockett	New Britain	
Karen Hanson	New Canaan	
Peter Hanson	New Canaan	
David Henri	New Hartford	Solar Energy Association of CT
Jan Cunningham	New Haven	
Stephen V. Kobasa	New Haven	
Henry Lowendorf	New Haven	
Marie Moore	New Haven	
Paula Panzarella	New Haven	Fight the Hike
Jeremy Schulick	New Haven	New Haven Climate Movement
Chris Schweitzer	New Haven	New Haven Leon Sister City Project
Martha Smith	New Haven	
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Kenny Foscue	North Haven	North Haven Clean Energy Task Force
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Paul Retter	Norwalk	
Rose Mary Sullivan	Norwalk	CND Justice and Peace
John Donnelly	Old Saybrook	Claadagh Financial Group
Torrance Downes	Old Saybrook	
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Raymond Parr	South Windsor	
Jonathan Schulz	Stamford	C-TEC Solar
Josh Caley	Stonington	C-TEC Solar
Cathy Klein	Stonington	
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Adam Jacobs	Storrs	GEU-UAW Local 6950
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Charles Emerson	Stratford	
Donna Caporaso	Stratford	
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Joshua Angelus	Waterbury	

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Jeff Howard	West Hartford	Unitarian Society Hartford
Kevin Lynch	West Hartford	CT Alliance for Retired Americans
Nancy Mason	West Hartford	Hartford Friends Meeting
Kate Miller	West Hartford	
Jean Peterson Virchow	West Hartford	
David Schonfeld	West Hartford	
Elizabeth Vitale	West Hartford	
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Robert Marra	West Haven	
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Jeff Pipeling	West Haven	
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Girard Hayes	Wethersfield	
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Grace Adams	Windham	
Jean de Smet	Windham	
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Kathleen Ragon	Windham	
Siavash Samei	Windham	GEU-UAW Local 6950
Charles Button	Windsor	
Leticia Colon	Windsor	
Jorge Jimenez	Windsor	C-TEC Solar
LouAnne McDonald	Windsor	
Jeff Schwartz	Windsor	
William Corcoran	Windsor	
Carole Osborn	Winsted	
Lydia Straus-Edwards	Woodbury	