CT has a long history of bipartisan leadership on climate protection:

1990 – CT passed first-in-the-nation state global warming legislation to reduce carbon emissions.

2002 – Gov. Rowland established the Governor’s Steering Committee on Climate Change.

2005 – The Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) laid out 55 detailed recommendations for achieving the state’s greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals for 2010 and 2020.

2008 – The Global Warming Solutions Act, signed by Gov. Jodi Rell, incorporated the CCAP’s goals into state law and also established the more ambitious goal of an 80% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050.

Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) Overview

The 2005 CCAP identified the gap between the state’s current GHG trajectory and its 2010 and 2020 goals. It indicated how many tons of reduced GHG emissions would result from each of 55 specific policies.

Process:

- A year-long "Stakeholder Dialogue" in which nearly 100 organizations participated, and five working groups performed policy and technical analyses of various sectors:
  - transportation and land use
  - electricity generation
  - residential, commercial, and industrial energy use
  - agriculture, forestry, and waste emissions
  - education
- Public input: 4 information meetings and written comments
- The stakeholders identified 55 recommendations that would together meet more than 70% of the 2010 and 2020 targets.
- A consultant assisted DEP in developing the CCAP based on those recommendations.

The Challenge

- The last public assessment of the CCAP was issued by DEP in May 2010. That document categorized fewer than half the listed recommendations and sub-recommendations as being “on schedule.”
- The Governor’s Steering Committee has not met since 2011.
- We are not on track to meet the 2050 goal, and the state has no plan for achieving it. (The Comprehensive Energy Strategy stated that “significant additional measures and breakthrough technologies will be required” to achieve that goal.)
- In fact, there are no concrete plans for reaching any post-2020 goals.
Connecticut: Emissions and Emissions Reduction Targets

In order to compare emissions trends with long-term targets, ENE extended EPA State Inventory Tool emissions projections out to 2050.

As part of ClimateVision 2020, ENE completed comprehensive greenhouse gas inventories for the eight northeastern states. Connecticut’s electric power emissions have declined since 1990, but transportation sector emissions have remained relatively steady. Transportation emissions make up a significant portion of Connecticut’s overall emissions today, suggesting that the transportation sector is a key opportunity for achieving further emissions reductions.