

August 16, 2019

Commissioner Katie Dykes
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Commissioner Dykes,

We, the undersigned, are deeply troubled by the recent approval of the Killingly Energy Center (KEC), and in your agency for failing to protect our state from the pollution and environmental degradation that will result from the construction of yet another fossil fuel plant in Connecticut. KEC is permitted by DEEP to emit 2.2 million tons of carbon pollution into the atmosphere each year that it operates. This will be the third new fracked gas power plant built in the state since 2018.

Connecticut's Global Warming Solutions Act requires a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from 2001 levels. By 2030, the law requires a 45% reduction, and by 2050, an 80% reduction. It is DEEP's responsibility to keep us on track and to report on the progress. DEEP has not reported on progress as required by the legislature, and rather than warning about the impact this plant will have on our ability to meet these goals, encouraged the approval of this plant in written comments to the Connecticut Siting Council. DEEP also refused to incorporate enforceable greenhouse gas limits into the air permit for the plant (despite them being proposed by the applicant).

We urge DEEP to protect our climate and environment by stopping the construction of this plant, and we request a moratorium on all new gas and oil infrastructure until we have a plan in place that will get us to our 2030 and 2050 climate goals. DEEP must develop an Integrated Resource Plan as required by state law that will retire fossil fuel infrastructure and replace it with renewables in order to achieve the greenhouse gas emission reductions required by the Global Warming Solutions Act.

Sincerely,

350 CT

Ashford Clean Energy Task Force

Bethany Clean Energy Task Force

Beyond Extreme Energy

Blue Earth Compost

Guy West, Canton Energy Committee

Chester Energy Task Force

Clean Water Action

Connecticut Citizen Action Group

Connecticut Green Building Council

CT Green Building Committee - Energy Council

CT League of Conservation Voters

Eastern CT Green Action
Easton Energy & Environment Task Force
Environmental Team, St. John's Episcopal Church, Vernon
Food & Water Watch
Global Warming Blog
Greater New Haven Peace Council
Hamden Energy Use and Climate Change Commission
Indivisible CT 4 Environment Group
Interreligious Eco-Justice Network
New Haven Leon SCP
Our Revolution Central Connecticut
PACE (People's Action for Clean Energy)
Sierra Club Connecticut
South Coast Neighbors United
Sunrise Movement Connecticut
David Mann, Chair, Sustainable Westport Advisory Team
The Gunntown Group - Naugatuck
Toxics Action Center
UCC Northeast Environmental Justice Center
Windham Energy Commission
Windham Green Town Committee
Windsor Climate Action