



By His Excellency Ned Lamont, Governor: an
Official Statement

WHEREAS, energy efficiency continues to be the cheapest, quickest, and cleanest way to meet our energy needs and reduce utility bills for residential, business, and industrial customers and can also make our homes and workspaces healthier, safer, and more comfortable; and

WHEREAS, smarter energy use reduces the amount of electricity we need to power our lives, which helps avoid power plant emissions that can harm our health, pollute our air, and warm our climate and saves U.S. consumers billions of dollars on utility bills each year, up to \$500 per household from appliance efficiency standards alone; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut's energy efficiency programs save as much energy as a 149-megawatt power plant produces in one year; and

WHEREAS, implementing energy efficiency and other clean energy policies and programs can help boost economic opportunities and job creation while continuing to move toward a sustainable future, as demonstrated by Connecticut's energy efficiency programs directly and indirectly supporting the employment of 39,000 individuals in the heating, ventilation and air-conditioning, lighting insulation, and advanced materials building sectors; and

WHEREAS, the buildings sector is responsible for approximately 31 percent of greenhouse gas emissions in Connecticut and the 2018 Governor's Council on Climate Change found that the state has to reduce building emissions by 34 percent to meet the 2030 target; and

WHEREAS, improved energy codes for homes and commercial buildings can significantly reduce utility costs and create new jobs, and Connecticut has a history of improving energy efficiency through updated building codes; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that certain communities face disproportionate energy burdens and barriers to accessing energy efficiency programs, my Administration, through the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, recently launched an Equitable Energy Efficiency proceeding to define equity in the context of energy efficiency and expand the inclusion and participation of individuals in underserved communities; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, DEEP has pursued energy efficiency programs that have the potential to alleviate energy affordability issues felt even more acutely by Connecticut residents and businesses and ensured a safe return to work for energy efficiency contractors, including through the adoption of Health and Safety Protocols and the addition of virtual-pre-assessments for residential, commercial, and industrial projects; and

WHEREAS, I have supported maintaining the budgets of Connecticut's energy efficiency programs so that we can continue to bring these significant benefits to Connecticut's utility customers; and

WHEREAS, a network of energy efficiency groups and partners has designated the first Wednesday in October as the fifth national annual Energy Efficiency Day; now

THEREFORE, I, Ned Lamont, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially urge citizens to join us in supporting our clean energy goals and moving toward more energy efficiency and proclaim October 7, 2020 as

ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY

in the State of Connecticut.



Ned Lamont

GOVERNOR