



Environment Council of Rhode Island

Testimony by Peter Trafton, Providence Rhode Island on behalf of the Environment Council of Rhode Island in Support of H5573

Dear Chair Solomon and Honorable Members of the House Committee on Corporations, I write in strong support of your Chairman's House Bill 5573.

This bill proposes several measures that would expand grid capacity more rapidly and at a lower cost than currently. As we move toward increasing electrification, such grid enhancing technologies (GETs) become increasingly important to promote necessary improvements for our aging, power-limited electrical grid.

The bill encourages collaboration between the EFSB and PUC for transmission and distribution to promote transition to advanced conductors. It offers financial incentives for the deployment of GETs and advanced conductors and encourages an expanded transmission siting review including measures to replace, rebuild, or expand existing infrastructure rather than focusing on totally new developments.

Improving our electrical grid is a necessary part of the transition that we must make from polluting fossil fuel power generation to cleaner and more copious electrical power. This bill shows the way and deserves urgent passage, in the name of sufficient power at greater efficiency and lower cost. It will help advance our Act on Climate.

Please pass 5573 and move it on to the house with a strong recommendation for support. We will all benefit from this package of electrical grid improvements, with ultimately greater efficiency and lower costs.

Thanks for considering my comments.

Respectfully,

Peter Trafton,
Co-VP of Policy, Environmental Council of Rhode Island