



December 23, 2011

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR COMMENTS AND TECHNICAL MEETING -  
2012 CONSERVATION AND LOAD MANAGEMENT PLAN

Background

Pursuant to Section 33(d)(1) of Public Act 11-80, An Act Concerning the Establishment of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and Planning for Connecticut's Energy Future (the Act), the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is required to conduct an uncontested proceeding to approve, modify or reject any comprehensive conservation and load management plan submitted under that section. On September 30, 2011, The Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P), The United Illuminating Company (UI) (collectively, the Electric Distribution Companies or EDCs), Yankee Gas Services Company (Yankee Gas), Connecticut Natural Gas Corporation (CNG) and The Southern Connecticut Gas Company (SCG) (collectively, the Natural Gas Companies or LDCs) filed the 2012 combined Electric and Natural Gas Conservation and Load Management Plan (Plan) pursuant to Section 33(d)(1).

The Plan combines the conservation and load management (C&LM) plans for both the EDCs and the LDCs. DEEP will conduct, in accordance with its statutory responsibilities, a review of the electric C&LM plan for the EDCs. Its review will include, *inter alia*, cost-effectiveness testing under Section 33(d)(3), design and efficacy of programs, and the evaluation, measurement and verification processes required by Section 33(b)(4). Natural gas conservation plans, however, is being reviewed by the Public

Utilities Regulatory authority (PURA or Authority) pursuant to General Statutes of Connecticut (Conn. Gen. Stat.)<sup>1</sup> §16-32f.

Any plan modified or approved by DEEP pursuant to Section 33(d)(1) will be submitted to PURA so that the Authority may discharge its responsibilities under Section 33(b) of the Act. Issues associated with rate recovery of any such plan will be adjudicated by PURA.

The Plan also recommends an ambitious expansion of the C&LM programs that incorporates additional investment in, and savings from, programs related to electricity, natural gas and fuel oil. The Department has determined that consideration of this expanded electric program should begin in the context of the Integrated Resource Plan, which is developed and reviewed pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §16a-3a, as amended by the Act. Therefore, DEEP's initial review of the 2012 C&LM Plan will be limited to those programs associated with the electric Base Plan and Budget.

### Conduct of Proceeding

By way of this Notice, DEEP will conduct a comment phase in this proceeding which will include a recorded technical meeting regarding the proposed Plan at which stakeholders can participate. Prior to the technical meeting, the Department will post on its web site materials indicating the areas it intends to explore in depth at the technical meeting, so that persons responsible can prepare responsive information in advance. In recognition of the Office of Consumer Counsel's (OCC) traditional interest and participation in C&LM program review, the OCC will also have an opportunity to post such areas of inquiry in advance.

The Plan review will be conducted in accordance with the following schedule:

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|--|-------------------------------|
| Issue Notice of Request for Comments and Technical Meeting | December 23, 2011             |
| Technical Meeting  | January 12, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. |
| Comments Due   | January 19, 2012              |
| Issue Draft Decision                                       | January 26, 2012              |
| Comments on Draft Decision                                 | February 2, 2012              |
| Issue final approval, modification or rejection of plan    | February 9, 2012              |
| Submission to PURA   | February 10, 2012             |

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<sup>1</sup> Also, while DEEP reserves the right to issue recommendations regarding the eligibility of electric distribution companies for bonus rate of return, Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-19kk is administered by PURA; therefore, final determinations regarding the bonus rate of return will be made by PURA.

The technical meeting will be held on January 12, 2012, at 9:30 a.m., in Hearing Room 1 of PURA, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut and an oral recording of the proceeding will be made available.

More information can be found on the DEEP website at <http://www.ct.gov/deep>. From the DEEP Energy page you can access the page created for this proceeding (Conservation & Load Management). All filings by stakeholders in this proceeding must be submitted directly to Debra Morrell at [Debra.Morrell@po.state.ct.us](mailto:Debra.Morrell@po.state.ct.us). All materials submitted by stakeholders in this proceeding shall be posted on the DEEP website.