

Angel Lopez Written Testimony in Opposition to House Bill 6169

April 5, 2021

To the House Committee on Corporations,

My name is Angel Lopez and I am a resident of the Silver Lake neighborhood in Providence. I write this in opposition to House Bill 6169 regarding “Net Metering”. I oppose this bill because it marginalizes communities from the decision-making table. Amendments to the current law should empower and civically engage communities all over this State instead of drawing the lines where corporations have more power over communities. House Bill 6169 even constructs the distribution of credits in favor of corporations inhibiting any community from organizing its own renewable energy project.

Page 9 lines 22-25 state, ***“It is prohibited to co-locate multiple renewable energy resources on one or more contiguous parcels, unless the total capacity of the co-located projects is less than ten megawatts (10MW) in aggregate. This prohibition does not apply to projects that are wholly sited in preferred siting locations.”***

The proposed amendment above will cripple a community or neighborhood effort to lower carbon emissions. It limits surrounding homes from acquiring solar panels or windmills, diminishing the sharing of renewable energy benefits with others, while invisibly increasing the dependency on the sole supplier of energy distribution in the State.

Please do not support laws that empower monopolies to continue to exist in our economy. The largest cost savings to our state budget will come from slashing corporate giveaways to monopolies. The well-being of your constituents is more important than a corporation’s shareholders. Reject this bill and promote community-based decision making.

Sincerely,

Angel Lopez

Providence, RI 02909