

Testimony in opposition to S2645: Utility Ownership of Electric Generating Facilities

Dr. Hans Scholl, 71 Fales Avenue, Barrington, RI 02806

Date of Hearing: April 28, 2026

To Chair Britto and the honorable Members of the Senate Commerce Committee:

I oppose S2645 because allowing our utility to exert even more influence on our energy system by using its monopoly resources to also control our electric supply is against the public interest and will provide Rhode Island Energy with another lever to increase electricity cost for the rate payers in favor of their shareholders and executive bonuses.

Electric restructuring passed the RI General Assembly to take our utility out of the competitive supply of electricity for the very good reason that its financial interests in our electric supply were not consistent with the public interest.

Nothing has changed since.

In the opposite, our utility's influence over the ever-increasing electricity cost has grown worse. Our regulators themselves (DPUC, PUC and OER) made that clear when they issued the Transforming the Power Sector Phase 1 Report in 2017.

Please do NOT bring the bill to a vote.

Thank you very much for considering my input.



Dr. Hans Scholl

Apr 27, 2026

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