

WILTON ENERGY COMMISSION

TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

203-563-0100



Chairman
Peter Wrampe
Vice Chair/Secretary
Glenn Hemmerle

Dave Heiden
David Marks
Rich Hubli
Nicole Murphy

WILTON ENERGY COMMISSION
Virtual Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 17th, 2020 @ 7:00 pm
Via ZOOM

Members Present: Glenn Hemmerle, Rich Hubli, David Marks, Nicole Murphy, and Peter Wrampe

Members Absent: Dave Heiden

Invited Guests: None

1. Calling the Meeting to Order: **7:05 pm**
2. Review of this agenda with opportunity to make a motion to add additional items provided that two-thirds of the members present vote to include said item: **One item added unanimously. See below.**
3. Approval of Minutes of September 15th Meeting: **4:0: 1 abstention (David Marks)**
4. Report back on Action Items from last meeting on 9/15:
 - Nicole Murphy: Reported back on Outback Inverter to enable homeowners with solar panels to operate during power outages. See **Attachment A**
 - Dave Heiden: Has some thoughts on what technology or system modifications may be required by residents to continue to use their solar system during power outages.
 - Peter Wrampe: A number of communities in CT that operate their own electric utility service. We know who they are but need to find out how they operate: See: **Attachment B**
5. Next Meeting: **3rd Tuesday of the month, January 19th at 7:00 pm.**

Action: Peter to submit **3rd Tuesday of the month** schedule for 2021 to Town Hall

6. Member comments: **Welcome of David Marks as a new member of the Energy Commission**

7. Public comments (via email to Peter.Wrampe@WiltonCT.org): **None**
8. Adjournment: **7:52 pm**

Attachments

Public Utilities in Cy

ATTCHCHMENT A – Outback Inverters

[6 Best Solar Grid Tie Inverters | 2020 Reviews \(Outback, SolarEdge\) \(ecavo.com\)](#)

The first inverter on the list, The Outback Power Skybox, is the Hybrid inverter that lets you island off-grid.

Click on link and the list comes up.

Another link here:

[Residential & Commercial Solar Solutions with Energy Storage - Outback Power Inc](#)

ATTCHCHMENT B – Public Utilities

PUBLIC UTILITIES CT

1. **Bozrah Light & Power Company. Gilman, CT.**
2. **Groton Utilities.** Groton, CT.
3. **Jewett City Department of Public Utilities.** ...
4. **South Norwalk Electric & Water.** ...
5. **East Norwalk Electric - Third Taxing District of Norwalk.** ...
6. **Norwich Public Utilities.** ...
7. **Mohegan Tribal Utility Authority.** ...
8. **Wallingford** Department of Public Utilities.

Source: <https://www.publicpower.org/public-power-connecticut>

EXISTING MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

There are six electric municipal utilities in the state: the city of Groton, the borough of Jewett City, the second and third taxing districts of Norwalk (South Norwalk and East Norwalk, respectively), the city of Norwich, and the town of Wallingford. All of the municipal utilities own distribution facilities (the poles and wires in front of homes and businesses). Several utilities own a small amount of transmission facilities.

1. **Groton Utilities** was formed by special act adopted in 1903. The legislation gave the former borough of Groton taxing and bonding authority. The borough used this authority to buy the assets of the private

Groton Electric Company (founded in 1900) and the Groton Water Company (founded in 1891). **Groton Utilities provides electric service in the city and town of Groton. In addition to its distribution system, it owns a limited amount of transmission lines that connect its substations to the grid.**

In 1995 Groton Utilities purchased **Bozrah Light & Power (BL&P)**, which previously had been a small electric company. BL&P currently operates as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Groton Utilities. It serves 3,000 customers, including all of Bozrah and parts of Lebanon, Franklin, Montville, and Salem. In addition to providing electric service, Groton Utilities provides water, cable TV, and internet service in its territory.

2. The **Jewett City Department of Public Utilities** was founded by special act in 1897. It serves parts of Griswold and Lisbon. **It owns only distribution facilities.**
3. **Norwalk's Second Taxing District** is a municipal corporation created by special act in 1913. The district owns and operates South Norwalk Electric and Water (SNEW), a water and electric utility.
 - The utility serves approximately **5,000 electric customers in South Norwalk** as well approximately 9,000 water customers in Norwalk, Rowayton, Silvermine, and Wilton.
 - In addition to its participation in the CMEEC projects, SNEW is seeking to redevelop a **17-megawatt** plant that it took out of service on economic grounds. The district also maintains parks and other public spaces in South Norwalk.
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4. **The Third Taxing District encompasses East Norwalk.** The taxing district was created in 1913 and is the successor of the East Norwalk district, which also ran an electric utility. The district is governed by a board of three commissioners elected by the area's residents to 6-year terms. **The district operates an Electric Department that serves East Norwalk residents.** It also owns and maintains several mini-parks, the East Norwalk Historical Cemetery, and the East Norwalk Library building.
5. **Norwich Public Utilities** was founded in 1904. It is governed by a five-member Board of Public Utilities Commissioners. The board, which also serves as the city's sewer authority, is appointed by the city council. **CMEEC owns 17 megawatts** (summer rating) of generation in Norwich.
6. **Wallingford's Electric Division** was established by special act by the former borough of Wallingford in 1899. It provides power to customers in Wallingford and part of Northford and maintains the municipal streetlight system in Wallingford. **In addition to its distribution system, the utility owns a little more than one mile of transmission lines. CMEEC owns the 77-megawatt (summer rating) Pierce generating plant in Wallingford, as well as several small generators there.**

Source: <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2009/rpt/2009-R-0090.htm>