

**TOWN OF WILTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**BOARD AND COMMISSION
CANDIDATE SUBMISSION BY A POLITICAL PARTY (DEMOCRAT)**

Please fill out the following for each candidate being endorsed for a Board or Commission appointment. This application plus additional materials should be emailed to Jackie Rochester in the First Selectman's office. Please note each candidate must also complete a Candidate Application.

Board or Commission: Wilton Energy Commission

Candidate: Rebecca Darst, 1054 Ridgefield Road, Wilton, CT 06897

Number of applicants interviewed for the position: 1

The Democratic Town Committee endorses Ms. Rebecca Darst's candidacy for a position on the Wilton Energy Commission. Rebecca has not previously served as a volunteer in Town Government but is someone whom the Board of Selectmen would be particularly well-advised to put to work.

Rebecca's resume speaks volumes. A *summa cum laude* graduate of Columbia University, she has worked as a market analyst and journalist since entering the work force. These careers have coalesced into her current venture – as founder and editor-in-chief of Investable Universe, "a multi-platform new site that covers thematic investment topics in real assets ... in the global listed and private markets". She is a veteran of working from home and as such understands how critical stable and consistent access to electrical power and the internet is in these times. She has two middle-schoolers at home and is also completing her MBA.

The Democratic Town Committee believes Rebecca will be able to contribute exceptional service to Wilton as a member of its Energy Commission.

TOWN OF WILTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
CANDIDATE APPLICATION**

All candidates who wish to be considered for appointment to a non elected Board or Commission or appointed to a vacancy on an elected Board filled by the BOS must complete this application. Where appropriate, candidates may choose to reference an attached resume, containing the required information.

Board or Commission: Energy

Candidate: Rebecca Darst

Contact information: 1054 Ridgefield Road, Phone: Cell: (203) 837-6562, Home: (203) 762-7475

Political Affiliation: Democrat

Addresses for the last 10 years: 1054 Ridgefield Road, Wilton, CT 06897

Employment history for the last 10 or more years:

INVESTABLE UNIVERSE (2019 – Present)

Founder and Editor-in-Chief

- Founder, writer and audience builder of innovative, first/best-in-class news platform devoted to thematic investment topics in real assets (infrastructure, real estate, land, energy and other commodities) in the global listed and private markets.

TROFAST MEDIA, LLC

Principal / Independent Contractor (2013 – Present)

Founded business to provide asset managers worldwide (e.g. Neuberger Berman) with financial market information.

Co-Produced with Bob Rice of Tangent Capital/Fox Business News and licensed content to Investment News and firm's distribution partners.

NYSE EURONEXT

Managing Director (2008 – 2013)

Acted as options specialist for top-tier NYSE-listed companies and primary point of contact for real-time trading activity in shares and options on all trading venues.

Co-authored NYSE MAC Midday Report and produced and presented MAC Desk Floor Report.

INTERACTIVE BROKERS

Equity Options Analyst (2007 – 2008)

Performed analysis of equity market. Co-authored firm's daily "Futures and Options Intelligence Report," detailing directional trading trends and activities in the American equity options market.

Appeared as analyst guest on shows, such as Your World with Neil Cavuto and CNBC's Squawk Box.

Authored options commentary for thestreet.com and weekly options column for Fortune.com. Served as expert source on equity market for Wall Street Journal, Reuters, and Bloomberg.

Post high school degrees and certifications: Columbia University, B.A. Political Science, summa cum laude, University of Connecticut, M.B.A. Concentration: Finance and Management, expected 5/21

Wilton town or community volunteer positions for the last 10 or more years: I served as a Board Member at the Children's Day School of Wilton (Reporting Secretary) in 2014-2015.

Please attach a statement including, at a minimum why you are seeking the appointment and your qualifications for the appointment.

Please submit this application and, if applicable, your petition to the First Selectman's office. Once all applications are received, interviews will be scheduled.

STATEMENT:

My name is Rebecca Darst. I have lived in the same refurbished farmhouse on the Ridgefield Road in Wilton since 12/31/2006. My husband was born and raised in Wilton. Our (twin) children were born here in 2009, and attend Wilton Public Schools. I have made my living principally as a market analyst and journalist since the year 2000, first in Copenhagen, Denmark, where I was a newswire journalist and stringer for several international news agencies. After moving to Wilton, I worked first as an equity options analyst in Greenwich, CT, and then as a market intelligence officer on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Today, I am the founder and editor-in-chief of Investable Universe, a multi-platform news site that covers thematic investment topics in real assets (infrastructure, real estate, energy, land, and natural resource commodities) in the global listed and private markets. I have worked mostly remotely since 2013, in order to mitigate the effects of daily commuting on my home life and sanity. Stable and consistent access to basic amenities like electrical power and internet defines my ability to earn a living--while living in Wilton. Since the onset of covid-19, I expect there are many more people like me.

Local energy infrastructure should be safe, resilient, reliable, cost-effective and sustainable. Meeting these challenges is central to our ability to be a functioning 21st century community, and should be largely apolitical. The energy sector is undergoing tremendous change, from the renewables transition to the emerging popularity of behind-the-meter energy storage options. In addition, we face challenges to our ability to access energy reliably when faced with destructive, severe weather events, as we learned (much to our own discomfort and chagrin) after Tropical Storm Isaias this past summer. Energy is an area of tremendous innovation and promise, and a policy area where I relish the opportunity to roll up my sleeves and work toward solid solutions on a task force of my fellow citizens.