From: Tremell Collins
To: Pura.ExecutiveSecretary
Subject: public testimony for docket number- 26-05-10
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Dear Chair Gillett and Members of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority:

My name is Tremell Collins, and I am a candidate for State Senate in the 6th Senate District. I am submitting this testimony in strong opposition to Eversource's request for another rate increase.

Connecticut families are already struggling under some of the highest utility costs in the country. Across the 6th District, residents are being forced to make difficult choices because electric bills keep climbing while wages, retirement income, and household budgets cannot keep up. For seniors on fixed incomes, working families, small business owners, and young people trying to build a future here, another rate increase is not a minor inconvenience. It is another direct hit to affordability.

Before any additional costs are shifted onto ratepayers, Eversource should be required to fully justify every dollar it seeks. Connecticut residents deserve a rigorous review of executive compensation, storm response expenses, administrative overhead, capital spending, and any costs that are the result of corporate decisions rather than true necessity. Ratepayers should not be treated as a blank check.

This is also a matter of trust. Residents are repeatedly told that higher rates are necessary for reliability, yet they continue to see large bills, service concerns, and little accountability. If utility companies are permitted to raise rates again and again without meaningful consequences for performance, then the system is not working for the public.

The people of the 6th Senate District are already carrying the burden of higher taxes, housing costs, groceries, insurance, and energy bills. State government and regulators should be focused on lowering the cost of living in Connecticut, not approving increases that make it harder for families, seniors, and small businesses to stay here.

I respectfully urge PURA to reject or substantially reduce this proposed increase and require Eversource to demonstrate that any approved costs are necessary, reasonable, and directly tied to improved service for Connecticut ratepayers.

Connecticut residents deserve reliable utilities, but they also deserve affordability, transparency, and accountability.

Respectfully submitted,

Tremell Collins
Candidate for State Senate

6th Senate District