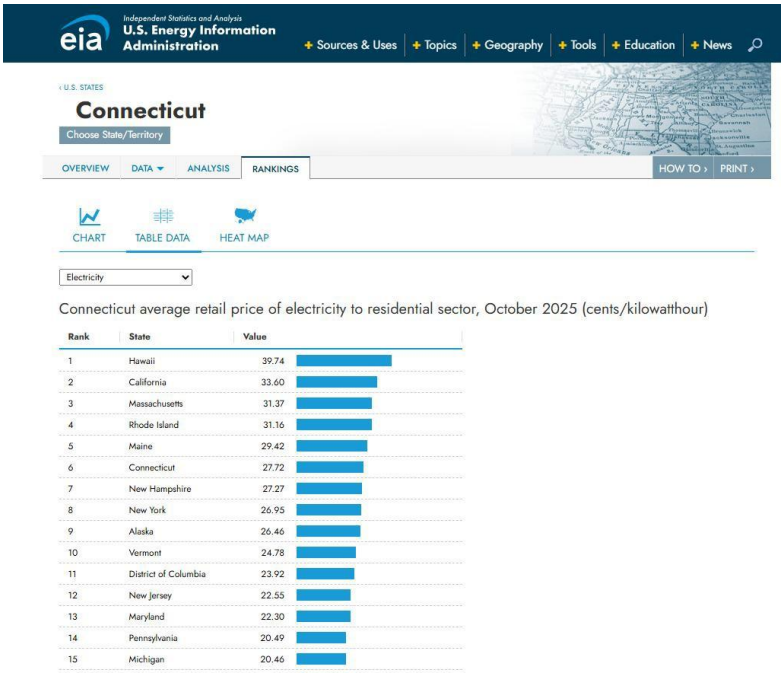
Date Filed: August 11, 2026

Witness: Jessica B. Cain, Michael Goldman and Matthew Nelson
Request from: Office of Consumer Counsel

Question:

(AFFORDABILITY) Please refer to CLP-Customer-1, p. 16, where the Company cites to the US Energy Information Administration ("EIA") website for the proposition that Connecticut residents pay the 25th least amount per person for energy.

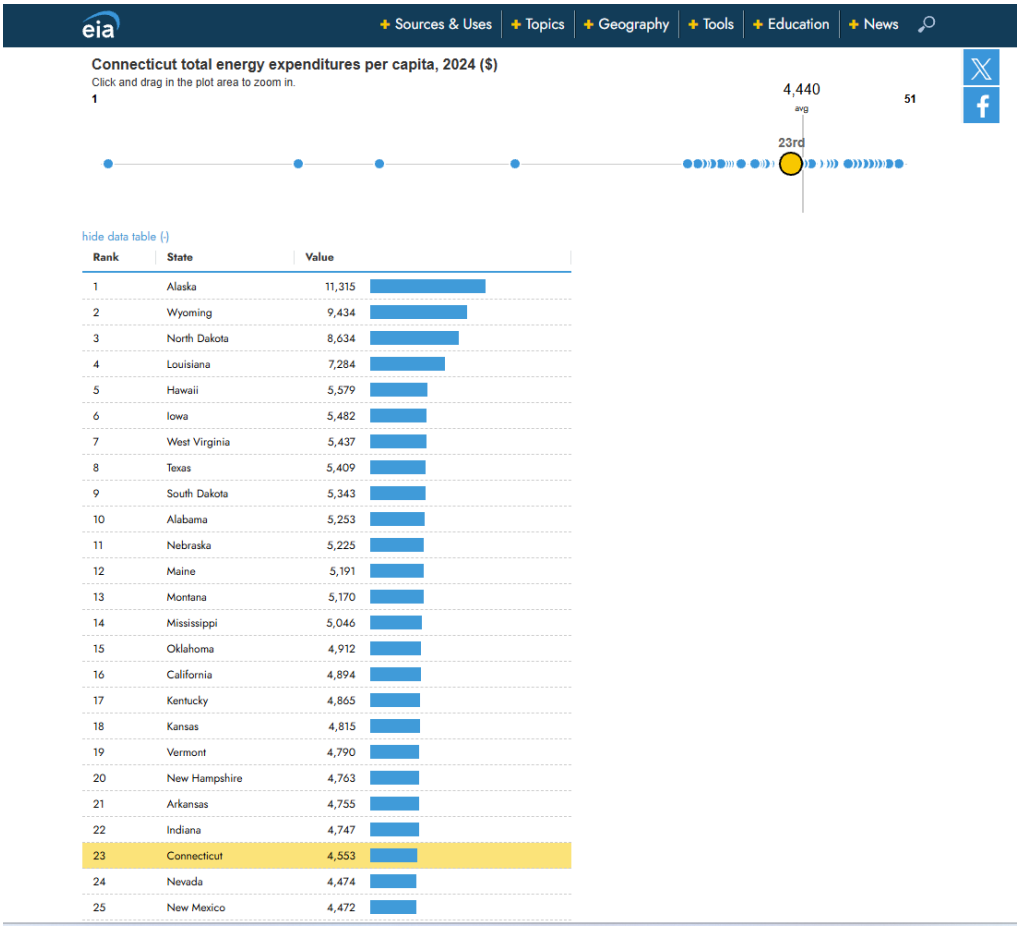
a. Please confirm that the information to which the Company cited in its testimony is the total energy expenditures per capita in 2023.
b. Please confirm that the EIA website to which the testimony cites shows at https://www.eia.gov/states/CT/rankings#series/225 that Connecticut had the sixth highest average residential retail electric price in 2025:



Rank	State	Value
1	Hawaii	39.74
2	California	33.60
3	Massachusetts	31.37
4	Rhode Island	31.16
5	Maine	29.42
6	Connecticut	27.72
7	New Hampshire	27.27
8	New York	26.95
9	Alaska	26.46
10	Vermont	24.78
11	District of Columbia	23.92
12	New Jersey	22.55
13	Maryland	22.30
14	Pennsylvania	20.49
15	Michigan	20.46

Response:

a. Yes. The Company confirms it cited total energy expenditures per capita provided on the EIA website, which displayed Connecticut's ranking as 25th using 2023 data,[1] and now reflects Connecticut's ranking as 23rd using 2024 data, as displayed in the image below. This remains consistent with Connecticut being in the middle of the pack in terms of average overall energy expenditures per capita. Overall energy expenditures best aligns with the customer affordability energy burden analysis that has been performed in Connecticut and used in many other states. Customer costs are determined by both prices and usage, which is a factor in both regional weather differences and housing stock. For this reason, the Company believes the most meaningful comparison should represent what customers pay for energy, not just the level of a specific rate.



Rank	State	Value
1	Alaska	11,315
2	Wyoming	9,434
3	North Dakota	8,634
4	Louisiana	7,284
5	Hawaii	5,579
6	Iowa	5,482
7	West Virginia	5,437
8	Texas	5,409
9	South Dakota	5,343
10	Alabama	5,253
11	Nebraska	5,225
12	Maine	5,191
13	Montana	5,170
14	Mississippi	5,046
15	Oklahoma	4,912
16	California	4,894
17	Kentucky	4,865
18	Kansas	4,815
19	Vermont	4,790
20	New Hampshire	4,763
21	Arkansas	4,755
22	Indiana	4,747
23	Connecticut	4,553
24	Nevada	4,474
25	New Mexico	4,472

[1] At the time of pulling the information from the EIA website for the initial testimony, the site used 2023 data. The EIA has since updated their site and now displays rankings based on 2024 data.

b. The Company also confirms that for the average residential retail electric price in October 2025, the EIA website places Connecticut within the range of the other New England states. Connecticut ranked fourth out of the New England states, behind Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Maine, with New Hampshire ranked directly after it. Vermont is also ranked in the top ten. This clustering of New England states in the top ten can partially be explained by high regional energy supply costs, which the Company does not have control over nor profit from. The Company fully supports efforts by Connecticut to both address regional energy supply constraints and provide retail energy supply cost protections for residential low-income customers that it has implemented in recent years. In addition to energy supply costs, overall electric rates are also impacted by other costs, such as public policy and transmission costs, that are outside of the control of the Company. The Company fully supports the Public Act No. 25-173[2] directive for OCC to evaluate the purpose, costs, and benefits of combined "public benefits" charges and submit a report in October 2026 [emphasis added in bold]:

> *The Office of Consumer Counsel, in consultation with the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority and the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, shall prepare a report that describes the line items included in the charges known as the "combined public benefits charges" on a bill to any end use customer of an electric distribution company, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended by this act. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, an* ***examination of the enabling authority for the imposition of any such line item, and the purpose, costs and benefits associated with any such line item****. Not later than October 1, 2026, the Consumer Counsel shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology.*

This type of analysis, transparency, and reporting help ensure that Connecticut intentionally strikes the right balance of public benefits value compared to costs to all customers pay for them.

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[2] See Public Act No. 25-173, Section 18, *available at*: https://www.cga.ct.gov/2025/act/Pa/pdf/2025PA-00173-R00SB-00004-PA.PDF.