

Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

July 1, 2011

The Honorable Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State
18-20 Trinity Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Madam Secretary:

I am hereby returning without my signature House Bill 6250, *An Act Concerning the Siting Council*. Although there are many provisions of this bill that I support, I have concerns that certain technical changes in the bill would require the Siting Council ("Council") to apply an illogical standard of review to applications for the siting of proposed television and cell towers. It would also potentially have a negative effect on the state's energy policy.

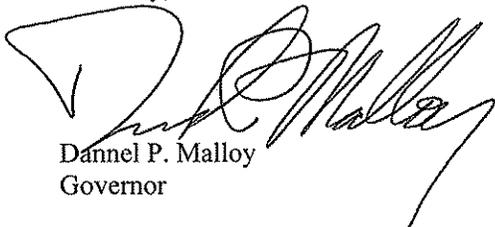
House Bill 6250 would require the Council to apply a standard of review to applications for television and cell phone towers that would necessitate a finding by the Council that the proposed tower is necessary for the reliability of the electric power supply of the state or for the development of a competitive market for electricity before it could be approved. This makes the siting of such towers in the state essentially impossible because television and cell phone towers do not impact the reliability of electricity or the competitive markets for electricity.

Additionally, at the same time this legislation inserted a standard of review which would require television and cell phone tower applications to have some connection with the reliability of the state's electric supply, it removed that same standard for power plants. While this seems to be merely an error or oversight in the bill, it could adversely affect the state's energy policy, particularly in connection with the development and utilization of renewable energy.

While the Council supported this bill prior to the addition of the language outlined above, it has recently passed a unanimous resolution asking me to veto this bill because of these fatal flaws. In this matter, I agree with the members of the Council.

For these reasons, I disapprove of H.B. 6250, *An Act Concerning the Siting Council*. Pursuant to Section 15 of Article Fourth of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, I am returning H.B. 6250 without my signature.

Sincerely,



Dannel P. Malloy
Governor