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Statement of DEEP Commissioner Daniel C. Esty on EPA's Proposed Carbon Pollution Standards

Commissioner Daniel C. Esty of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) today issued the following statement concerning the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) release of first-ever national standards to cover greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from new fossil fuel fired power plants (also known as New Source Performance Standard)s:

"EPA took an important step forward today in proposing standards for new fossil fuel power plants that will control greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions linked to climate change. While Connecticut already participates in a program to limit these emissions, I am confident EPA's requirements for new power plants can successfully co-exist with our program – the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative."

"EPA's proposed standards are both reasonable and achievable. These standards will help move Connecticut and the entire nation to a cleaner, cheaper and more reliable energy future."

"Until such time that Congress adopts comprehensive climate legislation, it is critical for Connecticut and other states – with the support of EPA – to play a strong role in addressing climate change. Our approach must be guided by common sense, so that we can achieve the critical goals of protecting our environment, promoting affordable renewable energy and growing our economy."