

# WATERFORD DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE

182 Niantic River Rd • Waterford, CT • 06385

September 28, 2022

Paul Goldstein  
Moderator, RTM  
15 Rope Ferry Rd  
Waterford, CT 06385

RE: Ad Hoc Energy Task Force Appointment

Dear Moderator Goldstein,

On behalf of the Waterford Democratic Town Committee, I offer this letter of support for the nomination of Tennyson Benedict for appointment to the Ad Hoc Energy Task Force, to fill the elector seat just opened by Emily Polakowski's resignation due to a career-required relocation out of state. His contact information is as follows:

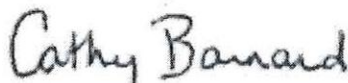
Tennyson Benedict  
239 Great Neck Rd  
Waterford, CT 06385-2224  
[tennyson@jeffbenedict.com](mailto:tennyson@jeffbenedict.com)  
860-550-2871

A graduate of the UConn School of Law, Mr. Benedict earned a certificate for his academic work in Energy and Environmental Policy and has authored columns on energy policy for the *Hartford Courant* and *CT Mirror*. Currently, he is a Special Assistant Attorney General in the Environmental Enforcement division of the CT Office of the Attorney General.

We are confident that he would prove to be an informed and engaged member if granted the opportunity to serve on the new task force charged with creating a long-term plan for our town's green energy initiatives and sustainability efforts. And we strongly encourage the RTM to address the vacancy when they meet on Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> so that the task force can proceed with a full complement as they begin to work on their formidable charge.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Catherine Barnard  
Chair, Waterford DTC

cc: Dave Campo, Town Clerk

2022 SEP 29 AM 8:50

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
TOWN CLERK

September 29, 2022

Paul Goldstein  
Moderator, RTM  
15 Rope Ferry Rd  
Waterford, CT 06385

2022 SEP 30 AM 10:19

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
TOWN OF WATERFORD

RE: Ad Hoc Energy Task Force Appointment

Dear Moderator Goldstein and the Members of the RTM,

It is an honor to be nominated to the Ad Hoc Energy Task Force (hereafter the "Task Force"). It would be a great privilege to serve the Town of Waterford (hereafter "Waterford" or "the Town") and to help develop a long-term plan to shift the Town towards affordable *and* sustainable energy sources.

To paraphrase Charles Dickens, this is the best and worst of times for our planet and energy future. On the one hand, every day brings a fresh reminder that burning carbon-based fuels for centuries has precipitated a climate crisis; and skyrocketing energy prices hurt consumer finances. At the same time, we have the technology and financial incentives to divorce ourselves from carbon fuels and achieve true energy independence.

With the growth and advancement of the clean energy industry, combined with the financial incentives within the recently-passed Inflation Reduction Act, moving beyond fossil fuels will not just protect the environment—it will also protect our checkbooks. If we invest in renewable energy, electrification, energy audits, and energy efficiency improvements, we can save taxpayer dollars.

I have a background that could benefit the Task Force as it advises the Town on the smartest way to make those changes. In May 2021 I earned my JD from the University of Connecticut School of Law, along with a certificate in energy and environmental policy, reflecting my academic focus in this study area. Since being sworn into the Connecticut Bar in November 2021, I've worked as a legal and policy analyst at the Connecticut Legislature and currently work at the Connecticut Office of the Attorney General as a Special Assistant Attorney General within the environmental enforcement division. Finally, I've written opinion pieces for both the *Hartford Courant* and the *Connecticut Mirror* on regional energy policy.

If given the chance, I would enthusiastically apply my knowledge to Waterford's benefit.

Thank you for your consideration. I'll make myself available, through the Moderator, to answer any questions or concerns of the RTM.

Sincerely,

Tennyson Benedict, Esq.

Juris Number: 442970  
Great Neck Road  
Waterford, CT 06385

cc: Dave Campo, Town Clerk