

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing and Special Town Meeting will be held on February 21, 2018, 7:30 PM, Ridgefield Town Hall Large Conference Room, 400 Main Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut to consider and act on the proposed Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy ("C-PACE") Agreement. Related documents for the proposed agreement are available for public inspection in the Office of the First Selectman and the Town Clerk and on the Town website ([www.ridgefieldct.org](http://www.ridgefieldct.org)).

  
Rudy Marconi  
First Selectman



## What is C-PACE?

Green energy upgrades for commercial buildings are important, but can be hard for building owners to pay for. C-PACE (Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy) is an innovative financing solution from Connecticut Green Bank that makes it affordable for building owners to modernize their building, lower their energy costs and increase their bottom line:

### All types of properties can use it...

Nearly any type of commercial property is eligible. Privately owned, non-residential buildings (such as industrial, office, retail, agricultural, nonprofit, multifamily, etc.) can all benefit from C-PACE.



### ...to design a custom solution...

Building owners work with a contractor to develop a custom solution to save money and energy. Contractors connect with Connecticut Green Bank and its technical advisors to provide trustworthy savings projections.



### ...with all kinds of energy upgrades.

Contractors develop projects that reduce energy usage, including: lighting, heating and cooling, insulation, motors, pumps, solar panels and other green energy upgrades.



### 100% financing...

Long-term, 100% financing is secured through a capital provider. Terms of up to 25 years allow building owners to spread payments out over time, resulting in positive cash flow for comprehensive projects.



### ...with a simple repayment structure...

C-PACE financing is repaid through an assessment that is placed on a building owner's property by their municipality, similar to a sewer assessment, that can be transferred if there is a change of ownership.



### ...saves energy and money.

Energy savings should more than offset assessment payments. With lower energy costs, building owners unlock positive cash flow for their businesses and increase their buildings' value.



Green energy builds better businesses. Learn more at [cpace.com](http://cpace.com).

**APPROVING RESOLUTION**

**(Draft dated 7/28/14)**

**CITY/TOWN OF \_\_\_\_\_  
RESOLUTION TO APPROVE  
COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY ("C-PACE")  
AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, Section 16a-40g, as amended, of the Connecticut General Statutes (the "Act") established a program, known as the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program, to facilitate loan financing for clean energy improvements to commercial properties by utilizing a state or local assessment mechanism to provide security for repayment of the loans; and

**WHEREAS**, the Act authorizes the Connecticut Green Bank (the "Green Bank"), a public instrumentality and political subdivision of the State charged with implementing the C-PACE program on behalf of the State, to enter into a written agreement with participating municipalities pursuant to which the municipality may agree to assess, collect, remit and assign, benefit assessments to the Green Bank in return for energy improvements for benefited property owners within the municipality and for costs reasonably incurred by the municipality in performing such duties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy ("C-PACE") Agreement (the "C-PACE Agreement") between the City/Town of \_\_\_\_\_ and the Green Bank, as attached hereto, constitutes the written agreement authorized by the Act.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

(a) that we, the \_\_\_\_\_,  
constituting the legislative body of the City/Town of \_\_\_\_\_,  
hereby approve the C-PACE Agreement, and

(b) that \_\_\_\_\_ is hereby authorized and directed,  
on behalf of the City/Town, to execute and deliver the C-PACE Agreement, substantially  
in the form attached to this Resolution, for the purposes provided therein, together with  
such other documents as he or she may determine to be necessary and appropriate to  
evidence, secure and otherwise complete the C-PACE Agreement.

**COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED  
CLEAN ENERGY ("C-PACE") AGREEMENT**

**THIS AGREEMENT** is made and entered into as of the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015, by and between [TOWN NAME], CONNECTICUT, a municipal corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Connecticut (the "Municipality"), and the **CONNECTICUT GREEN BANK**, a quasi-public agency of the State of Connecticut, having its business address at 845 Brook Street, Rocky Hill, Connecticut 06067 (the "Green Bank").

**RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy ("C-PACE") is a program to facilitate loan financing for clean energy improvements to commercial properties by utilizing a state or local assessment mechanism to provide security for repayment of the loans.

**WHEREAS**, section 16a-40g, as amended, of the Connecticut General Statutes (the "Act") established the C-PACE program in Connecticut.

**WHEREAS**, subsection (b)(1) of the Act directs the Green Bank to establish a commercial sustainable energy program, and authorized the Green Bank to make appropriations for and issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the program costs. A commercial sustainable energy program is a program that facilitates energy improvements to commercial or industrial property and utilizes municipal benefit assessments authorized by the Act as security for financing the energy improvements.

**WHEREAS**, to secure financing for the program, the Green Bank and the Municipality are authorized to enter into a written agreement, as approved by the Municipality's legislative body, pursuant to which the Municipality has agreed to assess, collect, remit and assign, benefit assessments to the Green Bank in return for energy improvements for benefited property owners within the Municipality and for costs reasonably incurred by the Municipality in performing such duties.

**WHEREAS**, this Agreement constitutes the written agreement authorized by the Act.

**NOW THEREFORE**, for and in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements set forth herein and in order to effectuate the purposes of the Act, it is hereby agreed as follows: .

**Section 1 - Definitions.**

- (a) "Energy improvements" means (A) participation in a district heating and cooling system by qualifying commercial real property, (B) participation in a microgrid, as defined in section 16-243y, including any related infrastructure for such microgrid, by qualifying commercial real property, provided such microgrid and any related infrastructure incorporate clean energy, as defined in section 16-245n, as amended by this act, (C) any renovation or retrofitting of qualifying commercial real property to reduce energy consumption, (D) installation of a renewable energy system to service qualifying commercial real property, or (E) installation of a solar thermal or geothermal system to service qualifying commercial real property, provided such renovation, retrofit or installation described in subparagraph (C), (D) or (E) of this subdivision is permanently fixed to such qualifying commercial real property.

- (b) "District heating and cooling system" means a local system consisting of a pipeline or network providing hot water, chilled water or steam from one or more sources to multiple buildings.
- (c) "Qualifying commercial real property" means any commercial or industrial property, regardless of ownership, that meets the qualifications established for the commercial sustainable energy program.
- (d) "Commercial or industrial property" means any real property other than a residential dwelling containing less than five dwelling units.
- (e) "Benefited property owner" means an owner of qualifying commercial real property who desires to install energy improvements and provides free and willing consent to the benefit assessment against the qualifying commercial real property.
- (f) "Commercial sustainable energy program" means a program that facilitates energy improvements and utilizes the benefit assessments authorized by this Agreement as security for the financing of the energy improvements.
- (g) "Benefit assessment" means the assessment authorized by the Act.

**Section 2 - Obligations of the Green Bank.**

- (a) Program Requirements. Pursuant to the Act, the Green Bank:

- (1) Shall develop program guidelines governing the terms and conditions under which state financing may be made available to the commercial sustainable energy program, including, in consultation with representatives from the banking industry, municipalities and property owners, developing the parameters for consent by existing mortgage holders and may serve as an aggregating entity for the purpose of securing state or private third-party financing for energy improvements pursuant to the Act;

- (2) Shall receive and review applications submitted by benefited property owners within the Municipality for financing of energy improvements, and approve or disapprove such applications in accordance with underwriting procedures and requirements established by the Green Bank;

- (3) Shall prepare and deliver to the Municipality an annual report which shall contain information related to each qualifying commercial real property within the Municipality, including:

- i. A list of each qualifying commercial real property for which the benefited property owner executed a financing agreement during the prior year;
    - ii. A list of each qualifying commercial real property where all obligations under the financing agreement have been satisfied or paid in full during the prior year, including the satisfaction date and a copy of the notice of satisfaction;
    - iii. The total benefit assessment payments made to the Green Bank in respect of all qualifying commercial real properties; and

- iv. For each non-satisfied (not paid in full) benefit assessment (including each benefit assessment approved in the prior year):
  - A. The date of the financing agreement;
  - B. The outstanding amount of the financing;
  - C. The total principal balance and accrued interest outstanding; and
  - D. The annual payment(s) due to the Green Bank (which shall include principal and accrued interest) associated with such benefit assessment (including the amount of accrued interest on the initial payment, if different).

(4) Shall establish the position of commercial sustainable energy program liaison within the Green Bank;

(5) Shall establish a loan loss reserve or other credit enhancement program for qualifying commercial real property;

(6) May use the services of one or more private, public or quasi-public third-party administrators to administer, provide support or obtain financing for the commercial sustainable energy program; and

(7) Shall adopt standards to ensure that the energy cost savings of the energy improvements over the useful life of such improvements exceed the costs of such improvements.

(b) Project Requirements. If a benefitted property owner requests financing from the Green Bank for energy improvements under the Act, the Green Bank shall:

(1) Require performance of an energy audit or renewable energy system feasibility analysis on the qualifying commercial real property that assesses the expected energy cost savings of the energy improvements over the useful life of such improvements before approving such financing;

(2) Impose requirements and criteria to ensure that the proposed energy improvements are consistent with the purpose of the commercial sustainable energy program; and

(3) Require that the property owner obtain the consent of any existing mortgage holder of such property, prior to the execution of the financing agreement or the recording of any lien securing a benefit assessment for energy improvements for such property, to have a Benefit Assessment Lien levied on the property to finance such energy improvements pursuant to the Act.

(c) Financing Agreement for Project. The Green Bank may enter into a financing agreement with the property owner of qualifying commercial real property (the "Financing Agreement"). The Financing Agreement shall clearly state the estimated benefit assessment that will be levied against the qualifying commercial real property. The Green Bank shall disclose to the property owner the costs and risks associated with participating in the commercial sustainable energy program, including risks related to the failure of the property owner to pay the benefit assessment

provided for in the Financing Agreement. The Green Bank shall disclose to the property owner the effective interest rate on the benefit assessment, including fees charged by the Green Bank to administer the commercial sustainable energy program, and the risks associated with variable interest rate financing, if applicable. The Green Bank shall notify the property owner that such owner may rescind any Financing Agreement entered into not later than three business days after such Financing Agreement is executed by the property owner and delivered to the Green Bank. The Financing Agreement shall provide for the consent of existing mortgage holders for the Benefit Assessment Lien to be continued, recorded and released by the Municipality, as required by the Act and described in Section 3(c) herein.

(d) Determination of Estimated and Final Benefit Assessments and Payments.

(1) Upon execution of the Financing Agreement, the Green Bank shall determine the total benefit assessment amount, including fees charged by the Green Bank to administer the commercial sustainable energy program, and shall set a fixed or variable rate of interest for the repayment of the benefit assessment amount. Such interest rate, as may be supplemented with state or federal funding as may become available, shall be sufficient to pay the financing and administrative costs of the commercial sustainable energy program, including delinquencies. The Green Bank shall provide written notice of the total benefit assessment amount and interest rate to the Municipality.

(2) It is anticipated that the Green Bank will decide that the benefit assessment shall be payable in two equal payments respectively payable on July 1 and January 1 of each year so that they are due at the same time as the installments of the Municipality's real property taxes. If the Municipality changes its practices concerning the billing of annual real property taxes as to the number of installments and their due dates, the Green Bank will change its practices to the extent possible to correspond with the Municipality's practices.

**Section 3 - Obligations of the Municipality.**

- (a) Levy of Benefit Assessment. Upon receiving written notice from the Green Bank of the benefit assessment as provided in Section 2(d)(1) herein, the Municipality shall promptly levy the benefit assessment against the qualifying commercial real property to be benefited by the energy improvements financed by the Green Bank and described in the Financing Agreement, and shall place a lien on the qualifying commercial real property to secure payment of the benefit assessment in the form of the attached Exhibit A ("Benefit Assessment Lien"). The Benefit Assessment Lien will have two attachments: (1) the legal description of the benefited property and (2) the Financing Agreement payment schedule provided by the Green Bank. As provided in the Act, the benefit assessments levied pursuant to this Agreement and the interest, fees and any penalties thereon shall constitute a lien against the qualifying commercial real property on which they are made until they are paid. The Green Bank will reimburse the Municipality the cost charged by the Town Clerk for recording the Benefit Assessment Lien. Such Benefit Assessment Lien shall be levied and collected in the same manner as the property taxes of the Municipality on real property, including, in the event of default or delinquency, with respect to any penalties, fees and remedies and lien priorities as provided by the Act.
- (b) Continuation, Recording and Release of Lien. As provided in the Act, each Benefit Assessment Lien shall be continued, recorded and released in the manner provided for property tax liens, subject to the consent of existing mortgage holders, and shall take precedence over all other liens

or encumbrances except a lien for taxes of the Municipality on real property, which lien for taxes shall have priority over such Benefit Assessment Lien. The Green Bank shall provide to the Municipality written notice of the consent of existing mortgage holders for the lien to be continued, recorded and released by the Municipality.

(c) Assignment of Benefit Assessment Lien.

(1) Upon the written request of the Green Bank, the Municipality shall assign, in the form of the attached Exhibit B, to the Green Bank any and all Benefit Assessment Liens filed by the Municipality's tax collector, as provided in this Agreement. The Green Bank may sell or assign, for consideration, any and all Benefit Assessment Liens received from the Municipality. The assignee or assignees of such Benefit Assessment Liens shall have and possess the same powers and rights at law or in equity as the Green Bank and the Municipality and its tax collector would have had if the Benefit Assessment Lien had not been assigned with regard to the precedence and priority of such lien, the accrual of interest and the fees and expenses of collection. The assignee shall have the same rights to enforce such Benefit Assessment Liens as any private party holding a lien on real property, including, but not limited to, foreclosure and a suit on the debt. Costs and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred by the assignee as a result of any foreclosure action or other legal proceeding brought pursuant to the assignment and directly related to the proceeding shall be taxed in any such proceeding against each person having title to any property subject to the proceedings. Such costs and fees may be collected by the assignee at any time after demand for payment has been made by the assignee.

(2) The Municipality hereby acknowledges that the Green Bank may sell or assign any and all Benefit Assessment Liens received from the Municipality under Section 3(c) of this Agreement to a trustee for the benefit of the holders of the Green Bank's bonds, notes or other obligations issued to finance the costs of the commercial sustainable energy program, and that the holders of the Green Bank's bonds, notes or other obligations will rely on the Municipality to levy, collect and remit the benefit assessments to the Green Bank. Therefore, the Municipality unconditionally agrees that in the event the Municipality does not discharge its duties under this Agreement, the trustee shall have the right to enforce the Municipality's obligations under this Agreement by institution of legal action against the Municipality.

(d) Amendment of the Benefit Assessment Lien. Pursuant to the Financing Agreement, the final amount of the benefit assessment may be adjusted after the levy of the Benefit Assessment Lien. Such an adjustment would likely be the result of a change in the energy improvement service contract amount during the construction period, a change in the amount of capitalized interest, or an amendment to the Financing Agreement. In the event that the final benefit assessment amount needs to be adjusted at the completion of the project, or any other time, the Green Bank will inform the Municipality of such change, provide the Municipality with an updated payment schedule and new lien amount, and the Municipality shall amend the Benefit Assessment Lien to reflect such adjustment. The Green Bank will reimburse the Municipality the cost charged by the Town Clerk for amending the Benefit Assessment Lien.

(e) Billing and Collection; Payment to the Green Bank.

(1) The Municipality shall bill the benefit assessments in the same manner and at the same time as it bills its real property taxes. The benefit assessment payments shall be a separate clearly defined line item or separate bill and shall be due on the same dates as the Municipality's



real property taxes. The amount of the benefit assessment will be recorded on the Municipality's tax rolls in the same manner as any other benefit assessment, such that the public will have access to its existence and payment status. The penalties and interest on delinquent benefit assessments shall be charged in the same manner and rate as the Municipality charges for delinquent real property taxes.

(2) Payments of the benefit assessments collected by the Municipality shall be segregated from all other funds of the Municipality and deposited in a separate account for the benefit of the Green Bank and identifying the Green Bank as the beneficial owner. The Municipality disclaims any ownership interest or other interests in such account or the amount collected.

(3) The Municipality shall pay all amounts collected with respect to the benefit assessments within any calendar month to the Green Bank or its assignee no later than thirty days after the month that the amounts are collected. The Municipality will provide collection reports to the Green Bank, and the Green Bank, at its own expense, shall have the right to audit the records relating to the benefit assessments upon reasonable notice at reasonable times. The Green Bank and Municipality agree to provide each other with such reasonable information as they may request and the Green Bank and the Municipality agree to provide such information in a computer format satisfactory to the other.

(f) Collection of Delinquent Payments.

(1) In the event that any benefited property owner fails to make a benefit assessment payment pursuant to the payment schedule of the Benefit Assessment Lien in any property tax billing cycle, the Municipality shall provide written notice to the Green Bank of such delinquency in a reasonably timely manner. After providing such notice to the Green Bank, the Municipality has no obligation to collect delinquent benefit assessment payments unless it enters into a separate agreement with the Green Bank described in the following subsection (2).

(2) If the Green Bank makes a written request to the Municipality for its assistance in the collection of delinquent benefit assessments and related charges, the Municipality, in its sole discretion, and the Green Bank may enter into a separate agreement for those services, which agreement shall provide for compensation to be paid to the Municipality for its collection services. The agreement may provide for the Municipality to pursue the collection of any delinquent benefit assessments with the same diligence it employs in the collection of the Municipality's real property taxes, including the commencement of foreclosure proceedings to the extent provided by the then-current statutes of the State of Connecticut, and to take such actions that are required to preserve the Benefit Assessment Lien securing the delinquent benefit assessments. The agreement may also provide that the Green Bank shall have the right to take over the enforcement of any delinquent benefit assessments upon written notice to the Municipality, and thereupon the Municipality will have no further responsibility to collect such amount.

(3) The Municipality will provide written notice to the Green Bank of any sale or assignment of its real property taxes or any institution of a judicial foreclosure or other proceeding against any real property for delinquent real property taxes if such real property is subject to a lien securing a delinquent benefit assessment. Similarly, the Green Bank shall

provide written notice to the Municipality of the institution of a judicial foreclosure or other proceeding against any qualified commercial real property for a delinquent benefit assessment.

(g) Promotion of Program; Assistance for Green Bank Financing; Payment to Municipality.

(1) The Municipality shall use good faith efforts to assist the Green Bank in local marketing efforts and outreach to the local business community to encourage participation in the commercial sustainable energy program, such as including commercial sustainable energy program information on the Municipality's website, distributing an informational letter from chief elected official to local businesses regarding the program, and conducting one or more business roundtable event(s).

(2) The Municipality shall use good faith efforts to assist in gathering and providing information for the Green Bank to offer, sell and issue its bonds, notes or other obligations to provide funds for the commercial sustainable energy program.

(3) The Green Bank agrees to pay the Municipality annually a fee of \$500 (the "Annual Fee") for its services hereunder. In the event such payment is not sufficient to cover the Municipality's out of pocket costs and expenses in discharging its duties hereunder, the Green Bank shall reimburse the Municipality for its actual reasonable costs and expenses associated with the collection and enforcement of the benefit assessments in excess of the Annual Fee. Such costs and expenses include reasonable costs incurred by the Municipality in conjunction with any and all proceedings to collect and enforce the benefit assessments and delinquent benefit assessments, including foreclosure proceedings.

**Section 4 - Indemnification.**

The Green Bank agrees that it will protect, defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Municipality and its officers, agents and employees to the extent of available proceeds derived from the benefit assessments from and against all claims, demands, causes of action, damages, judgments, losses and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, arising out of or in connection with the actions of the Green Bank's officers, employees and agents under this Agreement. This provision shall survive termination of this Agreement.

**Section 5 - Term.**

The term of this Agreement shall commence upon the date first written above. This Agreement shall be in full force and effect until all of the benefit assessments have been paid in full or deemed no longer outstanding. The Municipality may opt-out of continuation in the program at any time on sixty (60) days advance notice to the Green Bank, provided that the provisions of this Agreement shall continue with regard to benefit assessments assessed prior to such termination date until those benefit assessments have been paid in full or are no longer outstanding.

**Section 6 - Default.**

Each party shall give the other party written notice of any breach of any covenant or agreement under this Agreement and shall allow the defaulting party 30 days from the date of its receipt of such notice within which to cure any such default or, if it cannot be cured within the 30 days, to commence and thereafter diligently pursue to completion, using good faith efforts to effect such cure and to

thereafter notify the other party of the actual cure of any such default. The parties shall have all other rights and remedies provided by law, including, but not limited to, specific performance, provided however, in no event shall either party have the right to terminate this Agreement prior to the expiration of the Term, except as provided in accordance with Section 7(c) of this Agreement.

**Section 7 - Miscellaneous Provisions.**

- (a) Assignment or Transfer. Except as provided in Section 3(c) hereof, a party may not assign or transfer its rights or obligations under this Agreement to another unit of local government, political subdivision or agency of the State of Connecticut or to a private party or entity without the prior written consent of the other party and, if required, the prior approval of the holders of the Green Bank's bonds, notes or other obligations. If approval of the assignment by the holders of the Green Bank's bonds, notes or other obligations is required, such approval shall be obtained in accordance with the indenture or other documents entered into by the Green Bank in connection with the bonds, notes or other obligations.
- (b) Amendment and Termination. After the Green Bank sells and issues its bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the costs of the commercial sustainable energy program, this Agreement may not be amended or terminated by the parties without the prior approval of the holders of the Green Bank's bonds, notes or other obligations, which approval shall be obtained in accordance with the indenture or other documents entered into by the Green Bank in connection with the bonds, notes or other obligations.
- (c) Severability. If any clause, provision or section of this Agreement is held to be illegal or invalid by any court, the invalidity of the clause, provision or section will not affect any of the remaining clauses, provisions or sections, and this Agreement will be construed and enforced as if the illegal or invalid clause, provision or section has not been contained in it.
- (d) Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, and all of which together shall constitute but one and the same instrument.
- (e) Notices. All notices, requests, consents and other communications shall be in writing and shall be delivered, mailed by first class mail, postage prepaid, or overnight delivery service, to the parties, as follows:

If to the Municipality:

[Address]

Attention: First Selectman

If to the Green Bank:

Connecticut Green Bank  
845 Brook Street  
Rocky Hill, Connecticut 06067  
Attention: President

- (g) Amendment and Waivers. Except as otherwise set forth in this Agreement, any amendment to or waiver of any provision of this Agreement must be in writing and mutually agreed to by the Green Bank and the Municipality.
- (h) Applicable Law and Venue. This Agreement and its provisions shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Connecticut. In any action, in equity or law, with respect to the enforcement or interpretation of this Agreement, venue shall be in the State of Connecticut.
- (i) Entire Agreement. This instrument constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all previous discussions, understandings and agreements between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement.
- (j) Headings. The headings in this Agreement are solely for convenience, do not constitute a part of this Agreement and do not affect its meaning or construction.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Municipality and the Green Bank have each caused this Agreement to be executed and delivered as of the date indicated above:

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

**[TOWN NAME]**

\_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
[Name, Title]

**CONNECTICUT GREEN BANK**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan T. Garcia, President

**EXHIBIT A**

**CERTIFICATE OF LEVY AND LIEN OF BENEFIT ASSESSMENT**

The undersigned Tax Collector of the CITY/TOWN OF \_\_\_\_\_, Connecticut ("Municipality"), with an office at \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Connecticut, for and on behalf of the Connecticut Green Bank (the "Green Bank"), formerly known as the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority, with an office at 845 Brook Street, Rocky Hill, Connecticut 06067, pursuant to the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Program established under Connecticut General Statutes Section 16a-40g, as amended (the "Act"), and the Municipal Agreement between the Municipality and Green Bank dated \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, HEREBY LEVIES A BENEFIT ASSESSMENT AGAINST AND LIEN UPON certain real property commonly referred to as \_\_\_\_\_ and described more particularly in the attached **Exhibit A** (the "Property"), situated in the Municipality and owned on the date hereof in whole or in part by \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Property Owner"), said levy and lien shall secure the repayment of financing for energy improvements made or to be made to the Property pursuant to that certain Financing Agreement between Property Owner and Green Bank dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2015, as may be amended (the "Financing Agreement"). The amount and repayment of said levy and lien, as determined by Green Bank and provided to Municipality, are as follows: an installment payment plan is in effect for payment of the benefit assessment, and is based on the principal amount of the benefit assessment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_, with interest thereon at a fixed rate equal to \_\_\_\_\_% per annum, with equal installments of principal and interest due and payable pursuant to the Financing Agreement, all as set forth in the attached **Exhibit B**. In the event that any such installment shall remain unpaid for thirty days after the same shall become due and payable, interest and other charges shall be charged upon the unpaid installment(s) at the rate of 18% per annum, as provided by the Act and by law. At such time as the principal and interest payments of the benefit assessment have been satisfied and paid in full, a release of this Certificate shall be filed in the Land Records of the Municipality evidencing such release.

This Certificate constitutes a certificate of lien and is filed pursuant to the provisions of the Act to evidence a lien for the benefit assessment levied upon the Property for the special benefits conferred upon said Property by the renovation or retrofitting for energy improvements related thereto. Pursuant to the Act, this lien shall take precedence over all other liens or encumbrances except a lien for taxes of the Municipality on real property, which lien for taxes shall have priority over this lien. For the purposes of this lien, the Green Bank and any future successors, assigns or heirs of such lien shall be bound by and irrevocably subordinated to any environmental land use restriction recorded on the land records of the Municipality pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22a-133o after this lien is filed on the land records of the Municipality.

The portion of this Certificate which constitutes a levy of benefit assessment and notice of installment payment of benefit assessments is filed pursuant to the provisions of the Act and the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended.

By order of the Tax Collector of the City/Town of \_\_\_\_\_.

Dated at \_\_\_\_\_, Connecticut this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tax Collector

Received for Record: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ A.M./P.M.

Recorded in the \_\_\_\_\_ Land Records at Volume \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/Town Clerk

**EXHIBIT B**

**ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFIT ASSESSMENT LIEN**

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that the CITY/TOWN OF \_\_\_\_\_, a Connecticut municipal corporation (hereinafter referred to as "Assignor"), acting herein by \_\_\_\_\_, its Tax Collector, duly authorized pursuant to a Municipal Agreement dated \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, between the Assignor and the Connecticut Green Bank (hereinafter referred to as "Assignee"), in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other valuable consideration paid to Assignor by the Assignee, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, hereby quit-claims, grants, bargains, sells, conveys, assigns, transfers and sets over unto Assignee, without warranty covenants and without recourse, all of its right, title and interest in and to that certain benefit assessment lien and the debts secured thereby together with such interest, fees, and expenses of collection as may be provided by law, filed by the \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Collector on the \_\_\_\_\_ Land Records, on property owned on the date hereof in whole or in part by \_\_\_\_\_ and as described on **Exhibit A** and also commonly referred to as \_\_\_\_\_, attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "Lien"), to have and to hold the same unto the said Assignee, its successor and assigns forever.

This Assignment is made, given and executed pursuant to the authority granted to Assignor as a municipality by Connecticut General Statutes Section 16a-40g, as amended.

By execution of this Assignment, the Assignor assigns to Assignee, and the Assignee assumes, all of the rights at law or in equity, obligations powers and duties as the Assignor and the Assignor's Tax Collector would have with respect to the Lien, if the Lien had not been assigned with regard to precedence and priority of such lien, the accrual of interest, charges, fees and expenses of collection, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 16a-40g, as amended.

This Assignment by the Assignor is absolute and irrevocable and the City/Town shall retain no interest, reversionary or otherwise, in the Lien.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and seal this \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

Assignor

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Tax Collector

STATE OF CONNECTICUT )  
COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

ss.: \_\_\_\_\_

On this the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, before me \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned officer, personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_, Tax Collector, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that he/she executed the same for the purposes therein contained and that he/she acknowledged the same to be his/her free act and deed, before me, in his/her capacity as said Tax Collector.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner of the Superior Court

## C-PACE Enabling Legislation

### **Connecticut General Statutes Section 16a-40g. Commercial sustainable energy program.**

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Energy improvements" means (A) participation in a district heating and cooling system by qualifying commercial real property, (B) participation in a microgrid, as defined in section 16-243y, including any related infrastructure for such microgrid, by qualifying commercial real property, provided such microgrid and any related infrastructure incorporate clean energy, as defined in section 16-245n, (C) any renovation or retrofitting of qualifying commercial real property to reduce energy consumption, (D) installation of a renewable energy system to service qualifying commercial real property, or (E) installation of a solar thermal or geothermal system to service qualifying commercial real property, provided such renovation, retrofit or installation described in subparagraph (C), (D) or (E) of this subdivision is permanently fixed to such qualifying commercial real property;

(2) "District heating and cooling system" means a local system consisting of a pipeline or network providing hot water, chilled water or steam from one or more sources to multiple buildings;

(3) "Qualifying commercial real property" means any commercial or industrial property, regardless of ownership, that meets the qualifications established for the commercial sustainable energy program;

(4) "Commercial or industrial property" means any real property other than a residential dwelling containing less than five dwelling units;

(5) "Benefited property owner" means an owner of qualifying commercial real property who desires to install energy improvements and provides free and willing consent to the benefit assessment against the qualifying commercial real property;

(6) "Commercial sustainable energy program" means a program that facilitates energy improvements and utilizes the benefit assessments authorized by this section as security for the financing of the energy improvements;

(7) "Municipality" means a municipality, as defined in section 7-369;

(8) "Benefit assessment" means the assessment authorized by this section;

(9) "Participating municipality" means a municipality that has entered into a written agreement, as approved by its legislative body, with the bank pursuant to which the municipality has agreed to assess, collect, remit and assign, benefit assessments to the bank in return for energy improvements for benefited property owners within such municipality and costs reasonably incurred in performing such duties; and

(10) "Bank" means the Connecticut Green Bank.

(b) (1) The bank shall establish a commercial sustainable energy program in the state, and in furtherance thereof, is authorized to make appropriations for and issue bonds, notes or other obligations for the purpose of financing, (A) energy improvements; (B) related energy audits; (C) renewable energy system feasibility studies; and (D) verification reports of the installation and effectiveness of such improvements. The bonds, notes or other obligations shall be issued in accordance with legislation authorizing the bank to issue bonds, notes or other obligations generally. Such bonds, notes or other obligations may be secured as to both principal and interest by a pledge of revenues to be derived from the commercial sustainable energy program, including revenues from benefit assessments on qualifying commercial real property, as authorized in this section.

(2) When the bank has made appropriations for energy improvements for qualifying commercial real property or other costs of the commercial sustainable energy program, including interest costs and other costs related to the issuance of bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the appropriation, the bank may require the participating municipality in which the qualifying commercial real property is located to levy a benefit assessment against the qualifying commercial real property especially benefited thereby.

(3) The bank (A) shall develop program guidelines governing the terms and conditions under which state financing may be made available to the commercial sustainable energy program, including, in consultation with representatives from the banking industry, municipalities and property owners, developing the parameters for consent by existing mortgage holders and may serve as an aggregating entity for the purpose of securing state or private third-party financing for energy improvements pursuant to this section, (B) shall establish the position of commercial sustainable energy program liaison within the bank, (C) shall establish a loan loss reserve or other credit enhancement program for qualifying commercial real property, (D) may use the services of one or more private, public or quasi-public third-party administrators to administer, provide support or obtain financing for the commercial sustainable energy program, and (E) shall adopt standards to ensure that the energy cost savings of the energy improvements over the useful life of such improvements exceed the costs of such improvements.

(c) Before establishing a commercial sustainable energy program under this section, the bank shall provide notice to the electric distribution company, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, that services the participating municipality.

(d) If a benefited property owner requests financing from the bank for energy improvements under this section, the bank shall:

(1) Require performance of an energy audit or renewable energy system feasibility analysis on the qualifying commercial real property that assesses the expected energy cost savings of the energy improvements over the useful life of such improvements before approving such financing;

(2) If financing is approved, require the participating municipality to levy a benefit assessment on the qualifying commercial real property with the property owner in a principal amount sufficient to pay the costs of the energy improvements and any associated costs the bank determines will benefit the qualifying commercial real property;



(3) Impose requirements and criteria to ensure that the proposed energy improvements are consistent with the purpose of the commercial sustainable energy program;

(4) Impose requirements and conditions on the financing to ensure timely repayment, including, but not limited to, procedures for placing a lien on a property as security for the repayment of the benefit assessment; and

(5) Require that the property owner provide written notice, not less than thirty days prior to the recording of any lien securing a benefit assessment for energy improvements for such property, to any existing mortgage holder of such property, of the property owner's intent to finance such energy improvements pursuant to this section.

(e) (1) The bank may enter into a financing agreement with the property owner of qualifying commercial real property. After such agreement is entered into, and upon notice from the bank, the participating municipality shall (A) place a caveat on the land records indicating that a benefit assessment and lien is anticipated upon completion of energy improvements for such property, or (B) at the direction of the bank, levy the benefit assessment and file a lien on the land records based on the estimated costs of the energy improvements prior to the completion or upon the completion of said improvements.

(2) The bank shall disclose to the property owner the costs and risks associated with participating in the commercial sustainable energy program established by this section, including risks related to the failure of the property owner to pay the benefit assessment. The bank shall disclose to the property owner the effective interest rate of the benefit assessment, including fees charged by the bank to administer the program, and the risks associated with variable interest rate financing. The bank shall notify the property owner that such owner may rescind any financing agreement entered into pursuant to this section not later than three business days after such agreement.

(f) The bank shall set a fixed or variable rate of interest for the repayment of the benefit assessment amount at the time the benefit assessment is made. Such interest rate, as may be supplemented with state or federal funding as may become available, shall be sufficient to pay the financing and administrative costs of the commercial sustainable energy program, including delinquencies.

(g) Benefit assessments levied pursuant to this section and the interest, fees and any penalties thereon shall constitute a lien against the qualifying commercial real property on which they are made until they are paid. Such lien, or if the financing agreement provides that the benefit assessments shall be paid in installments then each installment payment, shall be collected in the same manner as the property taxes of the participating municipality on real property, including, in the event of default or delinquency, with respect to any penalties, fees and remedies. Each such lien may be recorded and released in the manner provided for property tax liens, and, subject to the consent of existing mortgage holders, and shall take precedence over all other liens or encumbrances except a lien for taxes of the municipality on real property, which lien for taxes shall have priority over such benefit assessment lien. To the extent benefit assessments are paid in installments and any such installment is not paid when due, the benefit assessment lien may be foreclosed to the extent of any unpaid installment payments and any penalties, interest and fees related thereto. In the event such benefit assessment lien is foreclosed, such benefit assessment

lien shall survive the judgment of foreclosure to the extent of any unpaid installment payments of the benefit assessment secured by such benefit assessment lien that were not the subject of such judgment.

(h) Any participating municipality may assign to the bank any and all liens filed by the tax collector, as provided in the written agreement between the participating municipality and the bank. The bank may sell or assign, for consideration, any and all liens received from the participating municipality. The consideration received by the bank shall be negotiated between the bank and the assignee. The assignee or assignees of such liens shall have and possess the same powers and rights at law or in equity as the bank and the participating municipality and its tax collector would have had if the lien had not been assigned with regard to the precedence and priority of such lien, the accrual of interest and the fees and expenses of collection. The assignee shall have the same rights to enforce such liens as any private party holding a lien on real property, including, but not limited to, foreclosure and a suit on the debt. Costs and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred by the assignee as a result of any foreclosure action or other legal proceeding brought pursuant to this section and directly related to the proceeding shall be taxed in any such proceeding against each person having title to any property subject to the proceedings. Such costs and fees may be collected by the assignee at any time after demand for payment has been made by the assignee.