

Client Alert

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Daniel C. Esty Appointed next Commissioner of the New Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

Daniel C. Esty has been appointed the Commissioner of the new Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (“DEEP”). At the same time Governor Dannel P. Malloy (D) introduced his appointee for this position he also announced the consolidation of the Department of Public Utility Control (“DPUC”) with the Department of Environmental Protection “to allow for a more effective coordination of state energy and environmental policies.” The state’s energy policy will be centralized in two new bureaus of the DEEP: the Bureau of Energy Policy and Efficiency which will develop and analyze the state’s energy policy and the Bureau of Utilities Control that will be formed by the transfer of the DPUC.

In announcing his appointment of Mr. Esty and the decision to consolidate the state’s energy functions in one agency, Governor Malloy said, “I am glad that Dan Esty has agreed to accept this challenge, and with it, the directive to better integrate and coordinate our state’s energy and environmental policy in order to strengthen our ability to protect the environment; to clean, conserve and lower the cost of energy; and to set the table for rapid and responsible economic growth. His experience advising private companies and the President of the United States, coupled with his knowledge of environmental law and policy is second-to-none, and I know this new department will be on the cutting edge of environmental and energy policy with Dan at the helm.”

Mr. Esty currently is a Hillhouse Professor of Environmental Law and Policy at Yale University. Additionally, Mr. Esty is the Director of the Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy and the Center for Business and the Environment at Yale. Mr. Esty is the author of nine books including *Green to Gold: How Smart Companies Use Environmental Strategy to Innovate, Create Value, and Build Competitive Advantage*, which in part explains how some companies have brought environmental thinking into their core business strategies. Mr. Esty served as an advisor on energy and environmental issues for President Obama’s campaign and transition team. Prior to his current position at Yale, Mr. Esty was a Senior Fellow at the Institute for International Economics (1993-94), served in a variety of senior positions on the US Environmental Protection Agency (1989-93), and practiced law in Washington, DC (1986-89).

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