WHEREAS, Connecticut’s leadership in planning and implementing a comprehensive, integrated strategy for sustainability is well established and has set an example for other states in integrating environmental, clean energy, and economic goals while reducing the cost of government operations; and

WHEREAS, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2008, Public Act 08-98, and Public Act 18-82 established Connecticut as a leader in reducing harmful greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by requiring a transition to more sources of low- and zero-carbon power generation in order to cut economy-wide GHG emissions to 10 percent below 1990 levels by 2020, to 45 percent below 2001 levels by 2030, and to 30 percent below 2001 levels by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy provides a roadmap for achieving the state’s goal, established pursuant to Public Act 14-94, of 60 percent diversion of materials from disposal by 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Final Draft of the State Water Plan recognizes the statutory establishment of water as a public trust, emphasizes the importance of water conservation for both natural resource protection and energy reduction, and recommends strategies to conserve water throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, reducing resource consumption and waste, while increasing the use of renewable energy, will help preserve our State’s and our planet’s environment for future generations and save taxpayer dollars through avoided energy costs, increased efficiency, improved health outcomes, and greater resiliency, while ensuring that Connecticut’s facilities continue to perform their public service missions; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut has succeeded in reducing energy consumption and increasing energy efficiency in state facilities through its Lead By Example program since 2012, reducing electric consumption at state facilities by 8.3 million kilowatt hours and more than 100,000 MMBTU’s through state participation in the Small Business Energy Advantage Program and bond-funded efficiency improvements, avoiding approximately $5.1 million in costs; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 report of the Governor’s Council on Climate Change, established by Executive Order No. 46, called for a 45 percent reduction in GHG emissions below 2001 levels by
2030, equivalent to a 34 percent reduction below 2014 levels, and urged that all state agencies, in the aggregate, reduce their energy use or energy intensity; and

WHEREAS, individual and collective state action to reduce GHG emissions is more important than ever to protect the economic prosperity, health, and safety of people in Connecticut and around the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NED LAMONT, Governor of the State of Connecticut, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Connecticut Constitution and by the statutes of the State of Connecticut do hereby ORDER AND DIRECT:

1. **Goals for State Sustainability.** It shall be the goal of each Executive Branch agency designated as a participating agency pursuant to this Order, and the Executive Branch as a whole, to recommit to and expand the Lead By Example program for the efficient use of energy, materials, and water and in the reduction of waste disposal, GHG emissions, and other pollution, in order to reduce the costs and environmental impacts of state government facilities and operations, by achieving the following goals:
   a. a 45 percent reduction in GHG emissions below 2001 levels by 2030, equivalent to a 34 percent reduction below 2014 levels;
   b. a 25 percent reduction in waste disposal by 2030 from a 2020 statewide baseline;
   c. a 10 percent reduction in water consumption by 2030 from a 2020 state-wide baseline inventory, or alternatively, such goals as shall be established in coordination with the state Water Planning Council in furtherance of the State Water Plan; and
   d. the subordinate goals established pursuant to Section 3 (a) of this Order, provided that such goals shall support long-term reduction in operating and maintenance costs for state government facilities and operations, and shall be developed in recognition of the need to carefully manage the state’s fiscal resources.

2. **Steering Committee on State Sustainability – Establishment and Co-Chairs.** The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), the Commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services (DAS), and the Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) shall:
   a. within thirty (30) days of the issuance of this Order, and from time to time thereafter, recommend to the Governor the agencies that shall participate in the implementation of this Order;
   b. establish, and serve as co-chairs of, an interagency Steering Committee on State Sustainability (Steering Committee) composed of agency Senior Sustainability Officers, designated pursuant to Section 4 of this Order;
   c. establish and disband, as appropriate, interagency subcommittees of the Steering Committee, to assist the Steering Committee in carrying out its responsibilities; and
   d. report on the progress in implementing this Order to the Governor and the chairpersons and ranking members of the Environment Committee and the Energy and Technology Committee of the General Assembly no later than February 1, 2020.
3. **Steering Committee on State Sustainability – Duties.** The Steering Committee shall:
   a. establish specific subordinate goals and targets to meet the overall goals identified in Section 1 of this Order, which goals and targets may include base year, percent reduction, near-term targets, and 2030 targets, and which may address:
      i. GHG emissions from onsite heating and cooling;
      ii. GHG emissions from purchased electricity, and/or energy-intensity;
      iii. GHG emissions from vehicle fleet;
      iv. materials management;
      v. water use;
      vi. GHG emissions and other impacts from product procurement; and
      vii. environmental impacts of land use and grounds management;
   b. develop a strategy for state operations to achieve a 70 percent reduction in GHG emissions from 2016 levels by 2040 and net zero GHG emissions by 2050;
   c. establish guidelines and parameters for information to be included by agencies in their Sustainability Performance Plans, established pursuant to Section 5 of this Order, with respect to tracking agency progress towards meeting the goals of this Order;
   d. coordinate with agency Senior Sustainability Officers and agency leadership to determine applicability of or exemption from specific goals and targets as a result of the unique circumstances of agency operations; and
   e. provide technical assistance, support, and guidance to State agencies to facilitate their implementation of Sustainability Performance Plans and compliance with this Order.

4. **Agency Senior Sustainability Officers.**
   a. Within fourteen (14) days of an agency’s designation by the Governor as a participating agency, the head of each such agency shall designate, from among the agency’s senior management officials, a Senior Sustainability Officer to represent the agency on the Steering Committee and lead the agency’s efforts to comply with this Order; and shall report such designation to the Steering Committee Co-Chairs.
   b. The Senior Sustainability Officer for each agency shall:
      i. Within sixty (60) days of designation by the Governor, and as needed thereafter to achieve the objectives of this Order, provide to the Commissioner of DEEP information necessary to compile a historic baseline on agency performance in such sectors as selected by the Steering Committee, including electricity and water consumption, to establish a state-wide baseline inventory from which targets may be tracked;
      ii. Report quarterly to the head of the agency and to the Steering Committee on the progress and effectiveness of the agency’s efforts to achieve the objectives of this Order.

5. **Agency Sustainability Performance Plans.** Each agency designated by the Governor to participate in implementation of this Order shall, within two hundred seventy (270) days of the issuance date of this Order, and annually thereafter, submit to the Steering Committee Co-Chairs a Sustainability Performance Plan that lists the necessary actions,
milestones, and responsible parties to achieve the sustainability goals and targets established by this Order, as well as the progress on achieving such goals and targets.

6. Accountability and Authority. Each Department Head, executive director, or agency chief executive shall be accountable for his or her department's or agency's compliance with this Order and the policies promulgated by the Steering Committee pursuant to it, provided that each agency head shall maintain all authority provided by law and may vary compliance with this Order when required by an emergency or the exigent need to protect public safety. Any action or variance as a result of any such emergency shall be reported to the Steering Committee by its next meeting, and shall be authorized only as long as necessary or as directed by the Governor.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 24th day of April, 2019.

Ned Lamont
Governor

By His Excellency's Order

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State