Washington, DC—The Connecticut Congressional Delegation responded today to the joint Federal Energy Regulatory Commission/North America Electric Reliability Corporation report into the causes and unacceptable response of Connecticut Light & Power and its parent company, Northeast Utilities, to last October's snowstorm that left more than two million households without power, including over 850,000 in Connecticut. The delegation called for the investigation last year.

"We were deeply troubled and frustrated by two major power disruptions in as many months, which wreaked havoc on the lives of our constituents, and called on FERC to investigate the reliability of Connecticut's electric system. This important investigation by FERC and NERC has resulted in recommendations that must be taken seriously to ensure Connecticut residents and businesses will not find themselves in a similar situation again. Some of the report confirms what we already knew—such as downed trees were the leading cause of outages—but also makes clear utility companies need to be more vigilant to ensure a debacle like last fall is not repeated. We urge CL&P and Northeast Utilities to work with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to ensure trees and other vegetation are better maintained to reduce the severity of future power outages."