

CONNECTICUT AND ITS ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

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Abstract

This paper gives a case-study of one U.S. state's environmental policy. By comparing the state's characteristics and environmental policies in effect, we find that there is a strong relationship between each state's peculiar circumstances and the resulting policies. It is also shown that several departments are responsible for environmental programs.

1. INTRODUCTION

Global warming is one of the most widespread environmental problems in the world. Each country, however, shows different attitude toward this problem for various reasons. For each country has its own peculiar affairs in designing policies including environmental protection. This paper investigates how environmental policies are implemented in the U.S. by focusing on one U.S. state, Connecticut.

The U.S.A. is a polar nation with respect to environmental policy implementation reflecting unilateralism in the sense of pursuing its own benefits. Environmental policy is strongly dominated by economic policy. In the process of case study, it can be possible to know what the purpose of U. S. environmental policy is at state level, and who is in charge of each policy.

[3] discuss pollution control policies in the U.S., but their contribution is restricted to nation level and comprehensive.¹ At least at internationally recognized journal level, there is no literature which deals with state level environmental policies in the U.S. in a concrete manner. This paper can be regarded as complementing this defect in the literature. It is made clear that environmental policies in the state of Connecticut are organized by several departments in the form of programs. Its categorization deeply reflects surrounding circumstances in both economic and environmental or geographical senses.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. Section II introduces what the state of Connecticut is. Subsequent section explains

1) In order to utilize page space efficiently, we show references by means of numbers inserted in brackets throughout the paper.

*The idea of this article was conceived while I stayed at the University of Connecticut during 2000-2001 . I express my deep gratitude for both Shiga University and the University of Connecticut. And Meg Enkler provided important information concerned with deposit program to me. I also appreciate her good offices. Of course, I am solely responsible for errors, if any.

environmental policies in the state in detail. In the last section we conclude the paper.

. WHAT IS CONNECTICUT ?

In this section, we review what the state of Connecticut is, especially its peculiar features different from other states in the U.S. We shed light on the state from four aspects: history, geography, political concern as well as system, and economy. It is helpful to understand these respects in investigating environmental policies in Connecticut.

1 . HISTORY

Connecticut is one of the most historic states in the U. S. Its prime events after European people touched what is now called the state of Connecticut are summarized in Table 1 .As the table shows, the state of Connecticut is filled with the ' first's and ' innovative's. Among them the state's Fundamental Orders enacted in 1639 were the first written constitution drafted in the New World which were referred to in the process of drafting the Constitution of the United States ([4])² This fact is reflected in the official nickname of the state, the *Constitution State*, which was adopted by the Act of the Legislature 1959 ([12])³ On the other had, Connecticut boasts forerunners in civil right movements who contributed the emancipation of slaves such as Harriet B. Stowe (author of Uncle Tom's Cabin) ([4]) and Prudence Crandall who taught an

2) However, according to [5], this assertion is said to be no better than an anecdote.

African-American child in spite of the opposition of neighbors (in 1832 in [6] while in 1833 according to [5]) .⁴ It might be possible to imagine that such a spirit has been inherited by the subsequent generations. Connecticut also has a long history on religion.[8]proved that Connecticut can be compared with Massachusetts with respect to record of churches in the 19th century.

Connecticut's history, however, is described as that of confrontations and wars just as the U.S. history as a whole. From the viewpoint of English settlers coming into Connecticut from Massachusetts, Puritans, they firstly dominated the Dutch by constructing towns called *colonies* gaining position as the representative European newcomers in the regions ([5]). Secondly, they brought the Native Indians, the Pequot tribe in particular, under their control after Wars of

3) The State of Connecticut has other unofficial nicknames such as *Provisions State* because of the tradition of contribution to the army since the Revolutionary War([2][4][5]), *Nutmeg State* which comes from a tale that early traders sold wooden nutmegs brought by sailors from Spice Islands ([4][5][6]), or the *Land of Steady Habits* which stems from a legend that " Connecticut's insurance companies have a reputation for always paying what they promise "[4][5]). Meanwhile, the name, Connecticut, originates from the Algonquian Indian word, *Quinnehtukqut* in [4] and [12] or *Quinnihukqut* in [5], meaning " at the long tidal river " (in [5][6]) or " besides the long river " in [4] or " Long River Place " ([12]). The present capital is Hartford although both Hartford and New Heaven had been the capitals from 1703 to 1875 ([12]).

4) In 1995 she was honored as the official state heroin. Meanwhile the state adopted Nathan Hale, a patriot in the Independence War, as its official state hero in 1985([6]and[12]).

Pequot (1637) and King Philip (1675-76) ([4], [5], [6]). On the other hand, the Mohegan, another powerful native tribe, were friendly to the English. In the French and Indian War (1754-63), in which England and France fought over control of North America, the Colonists, people in the colonies, contributed to the victory of England ([4]). Only twelve years later, however, they turned their fire on England in the War of Independence or the Revolutionary War (1775-83) in pursuit of freedom, and they won ([4], [5]). Finally (except for wars in the 20th and subsequent centuries) they fought for justice in the form of abolition in the Civil War (1861-65), and they succeeded in releasing the slaves ([4], [5]).⁵

2 . GEOGRAPHY

Connecticut belongs to the New England which besides Connecticut consists of the states of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont ([4]). The state is adjacent to the states of New York in the west, Massachusetts in the north, Rhode Island in the east, and faces the Atlantic (Long Island Sound) in the south. Roughly speaking, it takes the shape of a rectangle with the east-to-west side by 90 miles (about 144 km) and the north-to-south side

by 55 miles (about 88km) which amounts to an area of 5,018 square miles (about 12,997 square kilometers), which ranks Connecticut as the 48th in the U.S. (preceding only the states of Delaware and Rhode Island). ([4], [5], and [12]) The highest point in the state is Mount Frissell in Salisbury (2,380 ft or about 714m), while the lowest point is Sea level along the Long Island Shore ([4], [5]). The Connecticut River runs through almost the central area of the state north to south, and drains into the Atlantic Ocean. The climate is relatively comfortable since the temperature in average ranges from 25 ° 30 ° F (about -5 ° -0 ° C) in winter to 70 ° 85 ° F (about 20 ° 25 ° C) in summer ([4], [5], and daily weather forecast). The population is 3,425,074 in 2001 according to [7] (29th in the U.S.). There seems to be a contrast within the state. On the one hand, densely populated and industrialized cities are observed. About 30 % of the whole population concentrates on city areas such as Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven ([4]). And the southwestern area in the state in effect plays a role of suburbs of New York City. On the other hand, there are many small colonial towns or villages, especially in the northern area of the state. The northeastern area is sometimes called "Quiet Corner" ([6]) by the Connecticutters, the people living in the state ([5]).

3 . POLITICAL CONCERN AND SYSTEM

As the state's official nickname shows, Connecticut's people traditionally have deep interest in politics and democracy. The

5) European American people, however, had a somewhat selfish idea at first. They believed that the African people who had begun to be brought into the colony as slaves in the early 1600s should not be slaves, but they hesitated to agree that the Africans have the same rights as themselves, which led to the objection against Prudence Crandall's idea explained above. ([5])

Charter Oak is said to be “ the most colorful symbol of Connecticut's love of freedom ”([5], [6]).When the British envoy tried to regain the charter in 1687 which guaranteed self-government of the colony, the settlers hid it behind an oak tree and succeeded in holding it. On the other hand, in 1787 when the U.S. Constitution was drafted, R. Sherman of Connecticut played an important role. He proposed a solution to the problem of how many lawmakers each state should send to the Congress. He asserted that each state send two in the Senate while principle of proportional representation be adopted in the Representatives. This is the famous “ Connecticut Compromise ”([4]). Nowadays the State of Connecticut sends 2 U. S. Senators and 6 U. S. Representatives and therefore has 8 Electoral votes, and its own parliament consists of 36 State Senators and 151 State Representatives ([4], [5]).

4 . ECONOMY

Industries in Connecticut have been various both in historical and contemporary contexts mainly thanks to its geographical variety. In the 19th century, cities located along the shoreline utilized their advantage of being faced to the Atlantic to a great extent. The City of New London at the west side of the mouth of the Thames River with its deepwater anchorages is famous for having boasted shipbuilding ([4]) and whaling ([6]) industries. Groton at the east side of the mouth of the same river, on the other hand, had a prosperous time by means of shipping, and it had a facility of building submarines including the

USS *Nautilus* ([4], [5], [6]).⁶ Likewise Essex near the mouth of the Connecticut River was a shipbuilding center while Mystic at the mouth of the Mystic River was famous for inshore fishing shipbuilding ([6]). Other than them, commodities such as clocks, hats, locks were main products in the 18th through early 20th centuries ([4]).⁷ Old Connecticuters also were active in sales business. The Yankee Peddlers in the 18th and 19th centuries, in particular, were famous for door to door sales and their wide business area around the nation by hawking Connecticut products including housewares goods such as needles and buttons in addition to the above goods packed in carts ([4], [5], [6]).⁸

At present electric products, chemicals, plastics, jet engines are among leading manufactured goods in the state ([5]).⁹ Several service industries have founded their roots in the state. In particular, many

6) Connecticuters also have a long tradition of submarine building. In 1775 D. Bushnell invented a primitive one called *American Turtle*, trying to make a contribution in the Revolutionary War. In 1900, a U. S. Navy submarine was launched for the first time, which led to the success of first nuclear submarine in 1954 . ([12])

7) The old Connecticuters exhibited their intelligence in inventing various products. For example, process of vulcanizing rubber by C. Goodyear in 1839 ([4], [6]), portable typewriter in 1843 ([12]), sewing machine by E. Howe in 1846 ([12]), Frisbee in 1920 ([12]), Polaroid camera in 1934 ([12]), and helicopter by I. Sikorsky in 1939 ([12]) have their origins in the state.

8) The word, “ *Yankee* ” has several meanings. It is a nickname for New Englanders (residents in New England) originating in Jan Kees, a Dutch nickname for Connecticut's English settlers ([4]), while according to [5], it means the descendants of New England's Puritans.

insurance companies have their headquarters within this state. About 150 headquarters of them are located in Connecticut, and 55 of which are located in Hartford ([4]). Therefore, Hartford is sometimes called the Insurance City ([5]). Agriculture or farming has been continued in this state even though its importance has greatly declined since the development of manufacturing sector. About 1% (3,500 families) of all of the workers in the state engage themselves in agriculture including broadleaf tobacco and dairy products such as egg and milk ([4], [5]). In addition, gambling or management of casinos is a peculiar source of income for the Native Americans. Since it is only them who can legitimately engage in this kind of activities, they have a monopolistic position and earn enormous revenue. Mashantucket is the most famous place of this kind in the state ([6]).¹⁰

As for living standard of the people in the state, the average income is \$28,000 which contributes to the fact that Connecticut is the first-ranked state in the nation with respect to per capita income ([4], [5], and [7]),¹¹ Connecticuters incur such taxes as 6% sales tax and 10% admissions tax.

9) Of 1.7 million workers, 34% (575,000) engage in service industry, 21% (360,000) in manufacturing, 12% (200,000) working for the government ([4], [5]).

10) Residents of Connecticut are composed as follows. European (mainly Italian, Irish, British): 87%, African: 8%, Hispanic: 6.5%, Asian: 2%, American Indian: 0.2% which are calculated based on [4] .

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES IN CONNECTICUT

In this section, we explore what kinds of environmental policies the state of Connecticut carries out. In examining them, it is proved that the policies reflect natural conditions within the state. First of all, we need to recognize that according to [2], environmental policies called Environmental Programs are implemented by several administrative organizations, not by a single department or bureau. And some programs are controlled by several authorities. Major organizations and their principal programs in charge are listed in Table 2 . The authorities include Departments of Economic Development, Motor Vehicle, and Transportation and even the University of Connecticut. This fact shows that environmental policies are not exclusively delegated to the Department of Environmental Protection, and that the policies are shared among the relevant bodies. It follows that this system has both merits and demerits. While the policies are expected to reflect peculiar features each program has, the overall responsibility becomes vague. How are possible obstacles resulting from inconsistencies among programs implemented by several authorities solved?

Table 3 shows what each program targets, or what subjects are included in which program. This table indicates that

11) In the latest statistics (Census) Connecticut is ranked the second-highest state following the state of New Jersey. In relation to this, the proportion of the population who graduated from college is 27% (5th in the nation) ([4], [11]).

environmental programs target a very wide range of subjects, aiming at both pollution control and environmental protection.

Among them, there exists a unique program called Environmental Equity Program which is a deposit program for beverage containers and simply called "Bottle Bill" as its subjects imply.¹² This policy started over 20 years ago in order to reduce litter and to promote recycling.¹³ The program is compulsorily run by distributors and retailers. The mechanism is as follows. Retailers collect a deposit from consumers (5 cents per container) when they sell related goods (bottles and cans) to them, and pay the deposit back out when consumers return them. The distributors collect deposit funds and reimburse retailers for what they must refund. Consumers have no obligation to return the goods. Therefore some deposits are never refunded because the empty cans get thrown out or put in municipal recycling bins. And the distributors keep these unclaimed deposits.

Although this program is fascinating in the sense that it has a function to make consumers have an incentive to return the goods, it also involves weak points. Firstly, as mentioned above, this program coexists with

municipal recycling service. On the one hand, this guarantees to consumers two ways to treat empty bottles and cans. On the other hand, the state must incur costs necessary in the recycling process which can be saved if the deposit-refund system functions perfectly. Secondly, the law does not require retailers and distributors to report how many bottles or cans they receive for a certain term. And the authority has no data concerning the effect of this program. If the government wishes to control pollution efficiently it is needed to collect these data regularly.

. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Connecticut and Shiga in Japan share many aspects in common. Geographically, there exists a large body of water in each area; the Connecticut River in Connecticut, Lake Biwa in Shiga. From a viewpoint of economy, both areas produced similar merchants. In Connecticut, the Yankee Peddlers were active in the 18-19 centuries as explained in the text, while in *Omi* (old name of Shiga) *Omi Shonin* (Omi Merchants) resounded their name throughout the country in the *Edo* Era.¹⁴ It is very interesting that both people did business mainly by peddling during almost the same period. These historical backgrounds may be helpful in designing policies including environmental schemes.

This paper focused on environmental policies

14) The literature and WEB pages concerning Omi Merchants have been widely published and released. [9] and [10] are among them.

12) This paragraph owes intensively and exclusively to Meg Enkler.

13) As the name "Bottle Bill" indicates, this program is stipulated in Section 22a-243 in Chapter 446d Solid Waste Management of the Connecticut General Statutes. In the text, terms such as "beverage", "beverage container", "consumer", "dealer", "distributor", "manufacturer", "place of business of a dealer", "redemption center", "use of consumption", and "nonrefillable beverage container" are clearly defined.

in one state of the U.S., Connecticut. The investigation shows us that the policies are well arranged, but have some difficulties at the same time. Environmental policies are implemented not only by the Department of Environmental Protection but also by several other departments, which might bring about conflicts of interests among the bodies.

In the U.S. environmental policies are carried out at both federal and local levels in the sense of government. Then it is possible to have a case that the policies cannot be enforced efficiently.¹⁵ It will be required to empirically study such a problem by focusing on real cases.

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- [12] <http://www.ct.gov/> (Accessed September 24, 2003).

15) [1] surveyed theoretical analysis of this problem.

Table 1 : Prime Events Occurred in Connecticut After Europeans Arrived There¹⁶

Year	Event
1614	Dutch explorer, A. Block sails up the Connecticut River. ¹⁷
1633	English Puritans from Massachusetts Bay Colony led by R. T. Hooker start their settlements. (Windsor, Wethersfield, and Hartford appear in 1633, 1634, and 1635, respectively. And they form the Connecticut Colony in 1636.)
1638	Another Puritans settle in New Heaven.
1639	The State's Fundamental Orders are drafted.
1662	King Charles gives the Charter to the Colony of Connecticut.
1701	Yale College (later Yale University) is established.
1764	Connecticut Courant (later Hartford Courant) , the oldest newspaper in America starts.
1784	The first law school in America is established by T. Reeve in Litchfield.
1788	Connecticut becomes the 5th State in the U. S. A. on January 9.
1792	Eli Whitney invents the cotton gin. ¹⁸
1795	Mutual Assurance Company (the first insurance company in America) is founded in Norwich
1835	Samuel Colt invents a pocket revolver, Colt Firearm.
1839	The slave ship, <i>Amistad</i> , arrives at New London.
1848	Slavery is outlawed within the state.
1861	Yale University awards the first Ph. D. degree in philosophy in the U.S.
1877	First telephone exchange in the world is established in New Heaven. ¹⁹
1954	First atomic-powered submarine, USS <i>Nautilus</i> , is launched in Groton.

16) This table is made up by summarizing literature in References.

17) According to [5] , this event happened in 1610.

18) According to [4] , Whitney invented the machinery in 1793 while [12] mentioned that it happened in 1794.

19) [12] reports that the establishment happened in Bridgeport.

20) These tables originate from [2] , and information in them is reorganized by the author of this paper.

Table 2: List of Environmental Programs in the state of Connecticut ²⁰

Organization	Environmental Program
Department of Agriculture	Farmland preservation, aquaculture (marine) , commercial fishing
Department of Economic Development	Supervision of tourism (including skiing, sleighing)
Department of Consumer Protection	Water conservation, urea formaldehyde, plumbing fixtures, well (drilling board)
Department of Motor Vehicle	Control of emissions, boating (registration)
Department of Public Health	Control of air pollution (asbestos and radon) , disposal (septic systems, sewage, and subsurface) , drinking water (quality and testing) , lead poisoning, bottle water, food protection, lyme disease, smoking regulations, well (maintaining)
Department of Transportation	Supervision of ferry crossing
U.S. Department of Labor	Control of indoor air pollution
University of Connecticut	Climate, global warming
U.S. Department of Agriculture (Soil Conservation Service)	Sediment and erosion control

Table 3: Environmental Programs and their Subjects²⁰

Program	Subject
Air management	Acid rain, air, asbestos, bubble policy, automobile emissions, burning, catalytic converter, chlorofluorocarbons, coal, continuous emission monitoring, data processing, fugitive dust, emissions testing, exhaust emissions, Freon, fumes, indirect source permit, federal and state legislation (clean air act, etc.) , notice of violation, odors, oxygenated gasoline, ozone, permits and licenses (boiler, point source) , public participation, radiation, sandblasting, state, sulfur contents in fuel, tax relief application, transportation, vapor recovery, wood burning stoves, X-ray equipment inspections
Boating safety	Boating, Long Island Sound, motorboat information, permits and licenses, young skipper instructions

Environmental equity program	Bottle bill, beverage container deposit law
Forestry	Arbor day, cordwood cutting permit, fire warden, firewood cutting, foliage information, forest, forester registration, gypsy and control, land, logging, lumber, northeastern forest fire protection commission, forest trees nursery, permits and licenses, pruning trees information, rural community fire protection, sawmill, seedling sales, state, tent caterpillars, timber sales (state and private land) , tree, urban forestry
Inland fisheries	Aquatic resources education, Atlantic salmon, scientific collector's permit, commercial fishing, fishing derby/tournament, all inquiries on fish, fisheries conservation management act, fisheries management, fishing, flood, fly fishing only areas, fish hatcheries, lakes and ponds, no kill fishing area, permits and licenses, private water registration act, pond public fishing, record fish, shad, spearfishing, sport fishing, stream fishing, striped bass, trout stocking, wildlife
Marine fisheries	American shad, anadromous fish restoration program, Atlantic salmon, blue crabs, commercial fishing, fishing, lobsters, marine resources, menhaden, whales
Inland water resource management	State building code, dam inspection and safety, diversion program, encroachment line program stream channel, erosion control, federal emergency management agency, flood, inland wetland commissions, federal and state legislation, low flow program, maps, marsh land, municipal, permit and licenses, rainfall, riparian rights, river levels, river management, river protection commissions, sediment and erosion control, stream, swamps, municipal training, water, disposal of water company land, water diversions
Law enforcement	Terrain vehicles regulations, boating, conservation, fishing, game, gun confiscation, hunting, jacklighting, law enforcement (natural resources) , poaching, snowmobiling, wildlife
Land acquisition and management	Land appraisals, easements, flood, gifts of land to the

	state, grants, land (public act 490) , leases, municipal, open space, outdoor recreation grants, property (DEP) , relocation assistance, states, survey
Licensing and revenue	Archery, hunting permit, bait store licenses, bow hunting permit, bus passes (DEP employees) , fishing, hunting, menhaden, permits and licenses, scuba diving
Long Island Sound programs	Beach and shore erosion, beach improvement, bypass channel, coastal, disposal, dock construction permit, dredging and marine construction in coastal areas, films, grants, harbor management planning, " land s end " -Long Island Sound Program newsletter, federal and state legislation, Long Island Sound, maps, marine resources, march land, municipal, navigable waters, navigation projects (dredging) , offshore oil and gas development, permits and licenses, seawalls, stream, structures and dredging in coastal areas, tidal wetlands and waters, water, wetland management, coastal zoning
Parks	Bus passes(state parks) , all inquires on camping, canoeing, C.A.R.E., Charter Oak Pass/Senior citizens Pass, concessions on state land, dog sledding on DEP land, dogs in state parks, equestrian trails, grass cutting on DEP land, handicapped access, hiking on state land, historic monuments and sites, horse, ice skating on state land, naturalist interpretation program, state land life guard, parks maintenance, metal detecting, motorcycle trails, museum exhibits and Gillette Castle and Dinosaur Park, Parks and recreational areas, permits and licenses, picnicking, recreation, scuba diving, ski touring, snowmobiling, state, swimming, trails on state land only, tubing on the Farmington River
Pesticide management	Alar, pesticide permit for algae control
Recycling	Automobile (oil and battery replacement) , used motor oil
Waste management	Abandoned waste sites, ash disposal, bees, biomedical

	<p>waste, bulky waste, chemical spill, collection of chemical liquids and hazardous waste and endangered species/ plants, commercial recycles, composting, delegation of authority to local governments, disposal, disposal area operator, energy, landfills engineering evaluations, explosions federal insecticide (fungicide and rodenticide act liaison) , garbage, gypsy moth control, hazardous materials (declarations relating to property transfers) , hazardous waste, control of hornets, household cleaners and hazardous waste, illegal chemical dumping, insect control, control of Japanese beetles, lakes and ponds, landfill (sanitary) , lawn and garden chemicals, leaf disposal, federal and state legislation, manifest system, medical waste, mercury, municipal, oil and solvents, oil spills, packaging, paper recycling, permits and licenses, pesticides, pollution prevention office, polychlorinated biphenyls, pesticides in pressure treated wood, public participation, publications, recycling, resource conservation and recovery (act of 1976) , resources recovery permit coordination, soil contamination, solid waste, solvents and oils, source separation, spill, storage tanks and underground for oil and gasoline and chemicals, termite control/complaints, toxic substances control act of 1976, transfer station permit, underground storage tanks, control of wasps, waste disposal sites for hazardous materials, waste oil disposal (storage) , waste reduction, wastewater, water weed control (pesticides)</p>
Water management	<p>Basin planning, car wash regulations, clean water act, construction grants and municipal sewer, discharges into surface water (sewers and groundwater) , disposal, contamination of drinking water, eutrophication of lakes, federal water pollution control act, grants, groundwater (aquifers) , groundwater quality samples, lakes and ponds, leaching fields (septic system) , federal and state legislation, licensed environmental professional, Long Island Sound, maps, municipal,</p>

	negative declaration, permits and licenses, phosphates, public participation, safe drinking water act of 1974, SARA, septic systems and sewage disposal (subsurface) , sewage treatment plants, sludge disposal, state, stream, superfund sites, transfer bill, wastewater, water, water quality, water sample, water softeners, water use
Wildlife	Non domestic animals, injured animals, archery information and wildlife issues, animal bag limits, bald eagle program, bat infestation, beaver/muskrat trapping, bluebird program, breeder § license game, scientific collector § permit, deer program, dog field trials, ducks, game, geese, hunter education, hunting, non harvested wildlife, nuisance wildlife, oil covered wildlife, osprey program, permits and licenses, pheasant program, pigeons as a nuisance, skunks as a nuisance, snakes, starling as a nuisance, target shooting, trapping, wild turkey program, waterfowl, wildlife, wood duck