

# CSB Urges Panel to Adopt New Gas-Purging Rules



HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — A second panel created by Gov. M. Jodi Rell is reviewing the Kleen Energy power plant explosion and working on new rules for constructing future power plants in Connecticut.

The committee on Tuesday heard testimony from a representative of the U.S. Chemical Safety Board, who urged the state to adopt legislation prohibiting flammable gas from being used to clean gas piping, a procedure that led to the Feb. 7 Kleen Energy explosion.

Members of the so-called "Thomas Panel," named after chairman James "Skip" Thomas, are required to provide Rell and state energy regulators with ways to prevent tragedies such as the explosion at the Middletown plant, which left six men dead.

The panel is following up on recommendations made by an earlier committee for state regulatory changes.

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