

**From:** Ralph Baker  
**To:** [DOER RPS \(ENE\)](#)  
**Subject:** RPS Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, March 31, 2022 7:03:30 PM

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Dear DOER:

I am a retired environmental scientist who spent my long career in the private sector addressing and treating hazardous contaminants in air, soil and groundwater.

I am writing to oppose weakening the standard for biomass in the RPS. Wood-burning power plants are not “clean energy” - they emit large quantities of harmful air pollution, especially particulate matter and are damaging to our health, our climate, and our forests. Burning biomass for electric generation is less efficient and produces more pollution than burning coal!

The new regulations open the door even wider for dozens of existing, highly polluting biomass power plants across New England to sell renewable energy credits in Massachusetts. This is not the way to achieve the goals of the Global Warming Solutions Act or of the Commonwealth’s commitments to achieve the goals of the Paris accords. It’s not even an acceptable “bridge” to move in that direction.

I along with many other Massachusetts ratepayers don’t want to subsidize polluting biomass power plants with our clean energy dollars, here or elsewhere!

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours truly,

Ralph S. Baker, Ph.D.

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