



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
House of Representatives  
24 Beacon Street  
State House, Boston 02113 - 1054

LINDSAY N. SABADOSA  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
1ST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT

Mr. John Wassam  
Department of Energy Resources  
100 Cambridge St #1020  
Boston, MA 02114  
March 31, 2022

Dear Mr. Wassam,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on DOER's proposed changes to Class I and Class II regulations for Massachusetts' Renewable Portfolio Standard ("RPS"). I'm writing today to voice my opposition to any changes to the RPS that would subsidize the use of large-scale biomass energy. While biomass may seem a convenient source of energy, investing and expanding its use moves us in the wrong direction, particularly in terms of large-scale biomass.

Given the amount of greenhouse gasses and other pollutants that are emitted during combustion, large-scale biomass is a dangerous trajectory. It is extremely important for the Commonwealth to move away from fossil fuels, but we must replace those fuels with renewable sources. A rush to biomass could result in the loss of our forests and natural lands, which serve as critical carbon sinks. Biomass energy worsens climate change and raises the danger of harm to our environmental justice communities.

The Commonwealth would be better served by continuing to focus on truly renewable energy, which is relatively free of pollution, constantly falling in cost, and promises just as much opportunity for job creation and innovation. Meeting peak demand for energy can, and must, be met without worsening CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and I have no doubt that the Commonwealth's capacity for innovation will more than meet the challenge of supplying the full amount of energy we need without compromising on our climate goals.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Phase 2 Proposal and look forward to continued dialogue with DOER as we work together to follow the science, address the climate crisis, and secure a clean and equitable energy future for the Commonwealth.

Respectfully,

Lindsay N. Sabadosa  
State Representative, 1st Hampshire