

From: Darcy Sweeney
To: [DOER RPS \(ENE\)](#)
Subject: RPS Public Comment
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Department of Energy Resources (DOER)

March 29, 2022

100 Cambridge Street, Suite 1020

Boston, MA 02114

Re: RPS Public Comment

Dear Commissioner Woodcock et al,

I strongly oppose the proposed weakening of the RPS regulations regarding biomass plants. These plants will continue to emit greenhouse gases in a time when the Commonwealth must do everything it can to reduce GHG emissions, it will also result in the destruction of thousands of trees. Trees are our first line of defense in drawing down and storing carbon. We should be doing everything we can to preserve our precious forest--not burning them for heat and electricity! Biomass burning also has an adverse effect on human health no matter where a biomass plant is situated.

Furthermore, the proposed regulations would permit out-of-state-biomass burning plants to receive Massachusetts ratepayer incentives. This would be a travesty, since the RPS dollars that ratepayers pay were earmarked to increase the amount of clean, truly renewable energy to the Massachusetts electric grid.

Biomass-burning plants are neither clean nor renewable in the time-scale required in this time of looming climate catastrophe. Please do not weaken our current RPS biomass regulations.

Thank you for your consideration,

Darcy Sweeney

Florence, Massachusetts