                                                                                                   March 30, 2022

Dear Commissioner Woodcock,

I am offering this public comment on the proposed changes to the current RPS standards. I am opposed to the categorization that the burning of biomass or trash is in any way a clean source of energy or that it helps us meet our climate goals.

I honestly cannot fathom the delusion that is required, to call the burning of wood or trash the creation of clean renewable energy. I cannot fathom the greenwashing that is required to allow Massachusetts ratepayer dollars, intended for clean energy projects to be allocated to polluting biomass burning electricity plants in New England. I cannot abide the selfish decision to encourage surrounding states to provide us with energy from the burning of biomass thus shifting to them the bulk of the resultant air pollution.

You know, as well as I do, that harmful air pollution is created by burning stuff to create energy. You also know that this air pollution is damaging to human health and our climate. It is simply undeniable that burning stuff for energy, in fact, releases substances that are responsible for asthma in children and lung and heart diseases in adults, in addition to producing the same atmospheric CO2 which is responsible for the current climate emergency.

Polluting “renewable” plants across New England must not be incentivized. Investment in truly clean renewable energy sources is what aligns with our climate goals. We must transition away from those that emit carbon and additional harmful chemicals and particulate matter by incentivizing non-emitting renewables while we simultaneously protect our forests, so they can absorb and sequester carbon.

Do not allow ratepayer dollars to subsidize dirty energy.

Sincerely,

Marcia F Hart RN

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