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Please use this opportunity to create guidelines that prioritize protection of irreplaceable farmland and mature forests. As evidenced in the Mass Audubon Harvard Forest report of 2023 *Growing Solar, Protecting Nature* we can preserve nature's capacity to sequester carbon and grow our food and STILL have proper sites for solar energy and battery storage. With this report and the BioMaps data, there is not need to compromise nature when we build a fossil free future. We need the forests to drawdown the existing stores of CO2 already in the atmosphere.

Thank you for your attention to our forest- and farm-filled future.

Laurie Boosahda