From:	Dee Boyle-Clapp
To:	SMART, DOER (ENE)
Subject:	Forests or Solar?
Date:	Friday, September 27, 2019 2:05:09 PM

Dear DOER,

I am concerned that there has been an effort to tear down forests to install solar panels or solar fields. This is a foolish idea.

First, we need the forests for carbon sequestration and to maintain dwindling wildlife habitat.

Second, we have plenty of space to put up solar fields, namely the tops of each and every big box store, parking lot, residential area, and city/town building such as schools, senior centers, libraries, and more.

Rather than enable a few large, well funded groups to decimate what little we have left, we need to quickly invite partnerships so that more people and communities benefit from solar, not be forced to lose invaluable forest land to create clean energy.

I live in a solar powered, off the grid house, and fully support the creation of new solar, but NEVER, ever, at the expense of losing trees, in particular those in forests such as Wendell State forest. You should make stricter rules to protect trees!

I urge you to play a role in creating new partnerships so that landowners who own meadows and graze animals can utilize the edges of their fields and place panels up high enough so that the land can effectively and simultaneously serve two or more functions.

I urge you to facilitate partnerships so that big box stores are covered (as are their heat sink parking lots!) with solar panels so these spaces create places that are cooled and produce power. The covered spaces in parking lots at UMass for example have become places where drivers want to park, as their cars are not heated, or get snow covered.

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