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| **From:** | Kyle Vincent |
| **To:** | SMART, DOER (ENE) |
| **Subject:** | 400 MW Review Public Comments |
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It is critical that in our well-intentioned efforts to go "carbon-neutral", we don't lose the forest for the trees - LITERALLY. We are incentivising, unintentionally of course, the clear-cutting of our forests in the name of "going green". There is no single better partner in our fight against the climate crisis than a tree, yet large multi-national private equity firms are flocking into the Commonwealth and gobbling up forest land to make a quick hit-and-run buck under the guise of being green. Unfortunately, it sometimes appears that the only green they care about are the greenbacks they are pocketing while we're left with less and less critical forest land. Our small towns and citizens are spending their hard earned money and time fighting back against these efforts. Usually we lose. This is the tragic and ironic cost of over-incentivising solar.

The good news is that there are answers. Canada has introduced a formula for giving renewable energy credits for landowners who keep their trees. Each tree has a value. This is something Massachusetts should consider to show leadership in the importance of saving our forests.

Please address this issue in the updated SMART rules. Not just by suggestions and guidelines, but by actual rules and laws. We cannot afford to lose any more acres of forest land, or all of our efforts will be for naught.

Our priority needs to be to put solar on every rooftop, every capped landfill, every storage unit facility, every mall, every school, every parking lot.

Thank you for your efforts!

Kyle Vincent
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