

## Comments on Proposed MEPA Amendments (301 CMR 11.00)

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To MEPA-regs (EEA) <MEPA-regs@mass.gov>

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**Dear Secretary Tepper and Governor Healey,** 

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed amendments to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) regulations, 301 CMR 11.00. MEPA's environmental review process ensures that major projects are carefully evaluated for their full impacts on air, water, land, and communities.

Weakening or "streamlining" these reviews in favor of rapid development would undermine public health, environmental justice, and climate resilience across the Commonwealth. Reducing public participation and oversight would silence the communities most affected by these projects and allow harmful impacts—from flooding and pollution to habitat loss and traffic—to go unchecked.

Massachusetts has long led the nation in environmental protection. I urge you to reject any amendments that weaken MEPA's review standards or limit public input. Instead, strengthen environmental safeguards, expand community engagement, and ensure all development aligns with the state's climate and environmental justice goals.

As a long time resident of Nantucket and having served on the Nantucket Conservation Commission and the Nantucket Conservation District, I understand how important it is to protect our environment from unchecked development. Once the environment is gone it can not be replaced.

Thank you for protecting the health, safety, and future of our communities.

Sincerely,

**Diane Holdgate** 

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