Dear Members of the EFSB, DOER, and Green Communities Division,  
  
I'm concerned that the Draft Model Bylaws for Solar and BESS aren't protective enough of the environment, and that they disempower those who are best situated to know their own communities' environmental, health, and safety priorities.

I'm in strong support of solar energy, which I believe is necessary for our ambitious and appropriate climate goals. Thankfully, the MA DOER's *Technical Capacity*The MA DOER's *Technical Capacity of Solar and Mass Audubon's* and Harvard Forest's *Growing Solar* each independently reach the same, mutually corroborating conclusion. That is, we have the land we need for this solar capacity in MA, without continuing on our current, destructive path of misaligned profit incentives that promote the destruction of biodiverse, sensitive lands. SMART 3.0 is a step in the right direction, but fails to protect Critical Natural Landscapes and watersheds. I'd like to see these draft model bylaws shore up protection for our sensitive forestlands and habitats.  
   
Our towns that treasure forests are not merely resources for the more populous areas of the state. We have locally differentiated environmental, health, and safety priorities that it's only right we be allowed to retain and enforce. Municipalities must have the authority to reject projects that threaten their values, natural resources, drinking water, farmland, forests, and wildlife. The Commonwealth’s clean energy goals must not override community health, safety, or environmental integrity.  
  
I stand in agreement with Responsible Solar's more detailed comments, and join them in asking that you strengthen these draft bylaws' protections for the environment and for local governments.

Thank you for considering these comments.  
  
Sincerely,  
Stacey McCullough

26 N Valley Rd., Pelham MA