

106 Black Birch Trail
Florence, MA 01062
May 14, 2019

Commissioner Judith Judson
Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 1020
Boston, MA 02114

Re: Proposed regulatory changes to SREC I eligibility, 225 C.M.R. 14.00

Dear Commissioner Judson:

I am writing on behalf of myself and Rocky Hill Cohousing in Northampton, Massachusetts. Our cohousing community is very much concerned about the threat of climate change to our earth and the future of our and many other species. One tenet of the Mission and Values statement of our community is "Improving our collective and individual stewardship of the earth and minimizing our impact on the planet."

Our concerns led several households to construct solar panels on our houses or over our parking lot for houses not facing in a direction desirable for solar panels. We felt this was a significant way to support our beliefs and concerns. However, this effort was costly. In my case, the cost was \$ 45,000, a considerable sum for a retired middle-class couple on a fixed income. We were informed and promised that there were various ways to at least partially recoup this major expense, including selling solar recs periodically.

The proposed changes in DOER regulations would cut back on the period for us to sell solar recs on the market, thus taking several thousand dollars out of our pockets in the future, when we will most need this assistance. Changing the rules in this program mid-stream seems a bit like a "bait and switch" tactic. This action is detrimental to the interests of many of us who early on invested in alternative energy. You are in effect penalizing early adaptors when you should be encouraging such efforts. Further, you will be threatening the future of the solar market by limiting means for financing investment.

This change is part of a recent pattern of regulatory uncertainty that is clearly harming the solar industry in Massachusetts, which is losing thousands of jobs. This added betrayal would further harm our efforts to move from damaging fossil fuels to alternative energy sources. We should be encouraging solar job creation and solar adoption by consumers like me as a means of weaning ourselves from burning fossil fuels.

To label this proposed change as a "clarification" is obfuscation and misleading. I strongly encourage you to not adopt these proposed changes and ensure that our solar projects keep their eligibility to the end of the program as intended.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



David Entin