

June 7, 2019  
9 North St., Box 773  
Williamsburg, MA 01096

Mr. John Wassam  
Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources  
100 Cambridge Street Suite 1020  
Boston, MA 02114

Re: Proposed Changes to the Renewable Portfolio Standard—Biomass

Dear Mr. Wassam,

I understand the deadline for public comment on this issue was 5:00 PM today, but I hope you will accept this letter a few minutes late. **I write to strongly oppose new incentives for biomass power generation.** I have lived in Western Massachusetts for over 50 years, having spent my entire working life here as a professor, and having raised my family (two daughters) here. I cherish living in this state for many reasons, among them the thoughtful way in which the state government is responsive to the health and welfare of its citizens.

I have been following the developments surrounding this biomass question for the past several weeks. I know that you have received many, many articulate, scientifically informed comments on this issue and I will not repeat them here. I have just read though, the letter sent to you by Ellen Moyer, Ph.D., P.E., and I believe it particularly well addresses the issues and I urge you to read it carefully (again!).

It is clear that bioenergy is not carbon neutral; it is clear that forests sequester carbon; it is clear that we need more forests, not fewer; and, to quote from Dr. Moyer's letter, "It's time to say no to corporate welfare and yes to honest-to-god clean energy. To successfully address our self-inflicted climate crisis, we need to stop burning biomass for energy and begin preserving and restoring plants and soils."

For the health and welfare of all of us, and for the planet, I urge the DOER to not go backward, but to remove the proposed incentives for biomass power generation. Please. This is vitally important.

Thank you,

Susan Waltner

