

Wassam, John (ENE)

From: Kiana Estime <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2021 12:01 PM
To: DOER RPS (ENE)
Subject: RPS Public Comment YAY

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John Wassam,

Dear Commissioner Woodcock,

I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to Massachusetts' Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) program pertaining to burning woody biomass.

Read with openness.

First, I completely agree that biomass power plants should not be located in or near Environmental Justice communities. Please keep this amendment without change: “A Generation Unit using Eligible Biomass Woody Fuel or Manufactured Biomass Fuel that is either: (i) sited in an environmental justice population or (ii) sited within 5 miles of an environmental justice population, shall not qualify as an RPS Class I Renewable Generation Unit.”

I am however concerned about your plans to only require new biomass power plants to meet a 60% efficiency requirement. Your proposal to eliminate efficiency requirements for existing biomass plants would allow dozens of highly polluting and inefficient biomass plants in Maine and across the Northeast to qualify for ratepayer subsidies if they claim to burn “non forest derived residues.”

C'mon political folks. Step up further. We are behind you.

The DOER's plan to use Massachusetts' ratepayer funds to prop up failing out-of-state biomass power plants will do nothing to mitigate climate change, reduce harmful air pollution, or promote new sources of clean, renewable energy.

We are more than failing stocks and big business bail outs. We need YOU to match our passion, and be brave enough to challenge structural VIOLENCE, upon the land and in turn, upon THE PEOPLE.

Extra money for the state means NOTHING, without healthy children. Wake up now. Or lose it all. And we know THE REALITY is that simple. But money is complicated.

I urge you to remember you are not alone in this CHANGE. We believe that our representatives can challenge the Status Quo of "dump and forget." Our future generations deserve more than our WASTEFUL behavior and investments. Our children deserve a world where they do not suffer from the mistakes we have. Be transparent in the obstacles you face. We can help. Believe in us, not the current powers that seek to destroy our lands, water, and children just for an extra dollar.

Do not waste your time with greed and lies. MA is bigger than our fear. We can create new paths. Welcome REGENERATIVE responses to climate change, and ask for help.

Thank you.

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