

## Wassam, John (ENE)

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**From:** E Broadbent <info@email.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 27, 2021 1:21 PM  
**To:** DOER RPS (ENE)  
**Subject:** RPS Public Comment

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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.

Biomass is not renewable in the timeframes that should be encoded in the RPS. It's not a viable fuel source for large-scale power generation, and if it is allowed under these regulations then many harmful incentive mechanisms will follow.

Plans to allow new biomass power plants to meet lower efficiency requirement under the RPS regulations will result in large quantities of health-harming air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change.

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. This proposal is inconsistent with the state's recent acknowledgement of the health impacts from biomass power plant emissions and is a major step backwards for a state that has been a national leader on climate issues.

I urge you to leave the existing biomass eligibility criteria in the RPS intact, while adding the proposed provision to protect environmental justice communities.

Thank you.

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