

Wassam, John (ENE)

From: maria_bartlett@verizon.net
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 2:07 PM
To: DOER RPS (ENE)
Subject: RPS Rulemaking proposed changes

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Dear Reader,

I am writing regarding the Biomass Changes proposed for the RPS Rulemaking.

I applaud the proposed changes, which as I read them, would disallow the Springfield biomass plant from being eligible for any subsidies. This is great news and I sincerely hope it means that plant will NOT be economically viable. It also safeguards other economic justice communities from such a plant in the future.

However, the proposed rules do NOT go far enough. There is no defensible reason for allowing biomass to continue to provide any electricity to anyone in Massachusetts, or anywhere else, for that matter. Not only are forests in the southeastern US being destroyed to provide wood pellets for European biomass plants as well as encroachments happening against forests in New England, the burning of biomass releases CO2 at higher rates than fossil fuels, as well as hazardous particulate matter. We need our forests to sequester CO2 and to safeguard biodiversity and habitat. Biomass for generating electricity is just a terrible idea and should not be supported in any way whatsoever.

Thank you for the opportunity to give input.

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