

## Smart Public Comment

NicholasBJones <nbjones@comcast.net>

Fri 5/29/2020 4:11 PM

To: SMART, DOER (ENE) <doer.smart@mass.gov>

**CAUTION:** This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

As a member of Planning Board in Whately, Ma. I am very interested in what the State is doing to incentivize solar development. We are an agricultural town and we seem to be a popular spot for large scale solar development. Our town is supportive of solar power, but we have been frustrated by seeing farmland turned over to fences and solar panels. Anything that can be done at the State level to incentivize putting solar on existing buildings, over parking areas, along interstate freeways and in other already developed, but still available spaces, would be great.

In Whately, we are currently revising our zoning bylaws to try to protect the most valuable farmland as well as forests, but it often seems to us that more could be done at the State level to direct appropriate solar development. Additionally, we are a rural town and from an infrastructure standpoint it would make sense to put as much solar as possible close to the places where the most energy is needed.

Thanks for your consideration.

Nicholas Jones  
175 Chestnut Plain rd  
Whately, Ma 01093