

SMART Public Comment

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

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I urge you to revise the SMART program to avoid, or at least significantly reduce, the number of forests and farmlands that are being converted to large-scale ground mounted solar arrays. Forests cannot be replaced in a timely manner but would take years to be able to absorb the same amount of CO2 as the trees that are being removed.

We need more rooftop arrays on our public (and private) buildings as well as make the commitment to mount solar arrays over public (and private) parking areas of which there are many throughout the state.

We need more incentives to protect old growth and publicly owned forests, not just for CO2 capture but for the need to save as much of our endangered eco system as possible.

Please consider the need to preserve our forests while locating needed solar system where they will not damage the fragile environment.

Thank you, Nathalie Brtidegam
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