

*Dear Ms. McCarey,*

*Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Commonwealth's Statewide Three-Year Energy Efficiency Investment Plan.*

*I am concerned that opportunities to conserve energy are being lost. For example, I was very happy to hear Secretary Beaton this morning speak of energy justice. It is sadly ironic that those who have the least are also much less able to take advantage of the benefits of the Commonwealth's energy efficiency programs.*

*Also, people who do not pay their utilities directly have little incentive to conserve. There are ways to encourage even those folks to turn the thermostat down (or up in the summer). There could be incentives, whereby the building as a whole could return funds saved through conservation, as well as education outreach to explain why conservation is good at so many levels.*

*There needs to be more outreach to the general public, as well, to explain how the whole power grid system works and to offer ways to decrease usage, especially during peak periods. There is almost no understanding among the public as to how we might lessen or peak needs and our costs.*

*It is remarkable to me that at this stage of our climate's deterioration, we continue to bolster our fossil fuel infrastructure. Not remarkable that the industry is hell-bent on doing it - remarkable that our elected and appointed leaders have not yet cried "Halt!"*

*We are planning pipelines, be it the Kinder Morgan or the West Roxbury Lateral, with no concern that we are pushing further and further away from a climate solution. In the name of company profits, and under the lie of "local demand," we are condemning our species to a harrowing future. The new pipelines will carry fracked gas to foreign markets, to the detriment of our habitat and our economy.*

*Hannah Arendt, the philosopher-historian, covered the trial of Adolph Eichmann. She infuriated many by calling Eichmann not a monster, but a cipher. She said he simply performed his routine role in the Nazi machinery, as a cog. I hope there are leaders - at any level in the hierarchy of Governor Baker's administration - who have the courage and integrity to stand up and say "No, we must not go this way." I do not have an inside track with Mother Nature, but I have a gut feeling that we do not have much more time.*

*Sincerely, and seriously,*

*Cathy Ann Buckley*

*(I volunteer with the MA Serra Club, the Environmental Defense Fund, 350MA, and other groups, but these words are my own.)*