

Good afternoon members of the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council. My name is Cathy Kristofferson. I am a Conservation Commissioner from Ashby, a town of some 3,000 residents in the North Central part of the state. We are an official Green Community complete with Energy Reduction Plan. And tonight we will have the first meeting of our newly revived New Energy Resource Committee we like to call Solarize Ashby. Our committee has been revived because we care about our environment, our energy sources and consumption, and are excited about what a green energy future could be for us. We are also a town on the original preferred path of the Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas Pipeline Northeast Energy Direct proposed pipeline. I will note though our Green Community status etc. was all in place before Kinder Morgan started knocking on doors, not as a result though we do now have a much more vested interest in the Commonwealth's energy efficiency and renewable energy programs as they are the clean energy future we prefer to see.

Here in the Commonwealth we like to call Energy Efficiency our "First Fuel". With that being the case why isn't this new Three Year Electric and Gas Energy Efficiency Plan setting aggressive goals towards improving our energy efficiency even further? I want to see a plan brought forth by this Advisory Council that set high aggressive goals that are ambitious to achieve. Massachusetts must continue to set the bar high for the entire nation. We need to look towards the commercial and industrial sector to make the same strides as our residents have. I believe your proposed 2 ½% electric and 1% gas savings to be woefully insufficient. The recommended 4% electric and 2% gas savings is much more inline with what we should be aiming for. Please set your goals in that range, if not higher.

Additionally, we must have a plan that sets us on a path to meeting our Global Warming Solutions Act requirements of reducing emissions 25% by 2020 and 80% by 2050. 2020 is not that far away. The current GWSA progress report at MASS.GOV lists "**Continue aggressive implementation of energy efficiency**" as one of its recommendations for meeting GWSA levels. That report also states "**The Commonwealth's commitment to implement all cost-effective energy efficiency is arguably the single-most influential decision influencing progress towards the goals of the 2020 Plan.**" So you must do just that: **Aggressive implementation of all cost-effective energy efficiency.** Please set a plan with aggressive goals for residents and businesses so that we will have hope of being GWSA compliant.

The Commonwealth must not cave to the fossil fuel industry's Easy Button of just bringing in more fracked methane gas, the so-called "cheap gas", nor can we fall prey to the myth they have perpetuated that fracked methane gas is clean because at the burner tip it may produce less CO2 because we know that its full lifecycle from extraction to transportation to burning has been shown it to be worse than coal and oil. Do not set us upon a path of increased dirty fossil fuels, but rather a clean energy future with our First Fuel – Energy Efficiency – front and center.

Thank you for your attention.

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