

To: Maggie McCarey - Energy Efficiency Advisory Council - DOER
From: Patricia Larson - Orange, MA 01364

Dear Ms. McCarey:

Thank you for the time you are taking to hear from the public along with the industry and government "experts" on the issue of energy efficiency. For one, I support the ideas presented by Janice Kurkoski from No. Quabbin Energy calling for legislation that would mandate a "stepped rate" for electricity, under which consumers who used less would pay a lower rate per kilowatt hour than those who used more. Along with this more money should be put into programs to help people insulate homes and apartments and upgrade lighting, heating units and appliances so that less energy is used. Also more money should be put into publicizing home energy audits through MassSAVE. As a person working with a town energy committee I know that there are many people who do not make use of the free services offered by MassSAVE. We need to do more using phone and door-to-door campaigns to get as many people as possible to participate in MassSAVE programs and raise the percentage of users to over 70% soon. This means investing more money into publicity for energy efficiency programs and then supplying more money to help people get the work of insulation, lighting upgrades and other things completed to make older homes more energy efficient.

We should also encourage people to use less and use energy more wisely now and in the future. Thank you.

Pat Larson

Orange Town Energy Committee and No. Quabbin Energy