

Dear Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council,

I am writing to request that Mass Save create a rebate program for solar hot water systems. It is worth investing in solar hot water.

Solar hot water has the capacity to reduce carbon emissions related to domestic water heating in a way that is more efficient than existing alternatives. For example, it produces 3 - 4 times more energy per square foot than solar electric. Also, since it only uses a small pump to collect energy, it has a coefficient of performance (COP) of 20, which is many times better than heat pump hot water heaters. With a 40 plus year proven track record, we know the benefits of solar hot water will last for decades to come.

Solar hot water can create huge economic savings, as well. Not only are there dollars saved by not burning fuels, but also depending on the type of fuel being offset, a household of 4 could save up to \$1200 annually. On top of that, solar hot water can help reduce upgrade costs to the grid. The grid is facing major upgrade costs as result of the push in Massachusetts to electrify all loads. Solar hot water can reduce the demand by households in the grid in the first place. With lower stress on the grid, upgrade costs reduce as well. The large storage tank of solar hot water essentially acts as an "off-grid" battery.

Current incentives like the Massachusetts CEC rebate are either expiring or dwindling, leaving the solar hot water industry in a precarious state at best. I am asking that Mass Save step up and (Mass) Save the day!

Thank you for considering these thoughts.

All the best,

Lotus Yu