

Public Comments to EEAC

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From: Steve Cowell, President

E4TheFuture

Funding our roadmap to net zero

Recent articles in the Boston Globe have criticized the Mass Save program and its Program Administrators for failing to meet the goals and objectives established in [An Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy](#) (the Climate Act) legislation signed earlier this year. While opportunities to improve the three-year plan undoubtedly exist, the authors are missing the most critical issue: The funding needed to achieve ambitious goals cannot fall solely on the backs of electric and gas utility customers.

Dramatically increasing ratepayer costs -- particularly for low- and moderate-income customers -- is not acceptable. In addition, 42 communities with municipal light plants providing electric power do not contribute to Mass Save and therefore would provide no funding.

Mass Save is open to suggestions for improvement, but discussion must include finding new sources of funding. A few ideas: the Transportation Climate Initiative, the HERO act, federal ARPA funds and allocation of state tax funds created by raising income taxes (which would be more equitable).

Steve