

Rosemary Wessel  
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January 20, 2015

Christina Halfpenny, Director, Energy Efficiency & EEAC Chair (to distribute to all councilors)  
c/o Maggie McCarey  
Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources  
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 1020  
Boston, MA 02114

--- SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY VIA [maggie.mccarey@state.ma.us](mailto:maggie.mccarey@state.ma.us)

Re: EEAC Public Comments

Dear Ms. Halfpenny and Members of the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council:

I'd like to thank you for this opportunity to comment in the 3YP development process. My name is Rosemary Wessel, founder of No Fracked Gas in Mass, a citizens' organization working against the expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure, especially natural gas pipelines. Our concerns are that at a time when Massachusetts is leading the nation in clean energy and climate policies, including energy efficiency thanks to your programs, increasing our dependence on fossil fuels by allowing expansion of the region's natural gas infrastructure system we would now be leading the region in the wrong direction.

We thoroughly believe that continued expansion of energy efficiency as our primary "fuel source" can let us stop expansion of fossil fuel use by minimizing or eliminating need for more electric generation capacity. Such reductions in demand can greatly assist in the transition to a clean energy economy, a transition that is crucial as we work to mitigate the effects of climate change and to adhere to our Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA) goals. Energy efficiency is integral to meeting these goals and is a substantial component of the Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2020 (CECP). We also note that the Green Communities Act (GCA) requires that "...electric and natural gas resource needs shall first be met through all available efficiency and demand reduction resources that are cost effective or less expensive than supply."

Not only maintaining, but expanding our energy efficiency incentives is also crucial to bolstering Massachusetts' economic growth. With a return on investment of over 500%, consumers can save money, making more income available for expanding the economy. Energy efficiency programs also create local, permanent jobs, further boosting our state's economy. Although accomplishments made in the residential sector are impressive and should be celebrated, savings achieved in the Commercial & Industrial sector will have the greatest impact. These savings can be achieved very cost-effectively as it costs a mere \$0.02 to \$0.03 per kilowatt hour to save C&I electricity. Since C&I is responsible for roughly twice as much electric load as residential, the capacity for savings and positive impacts in reducing demand rests in this sector. Increased energy efficiency becomes a key means to cut the potential negative economic impacts of the recent spikes in electric rates for our region.

As a Massachusetts ratepayer and on behalf of members of No Fracked Gas in Mass, I strongly urge the Council to develop, and ultimately advance a plan that includes robust savings goals that are in line with what is required to meet the GWSA emission reduction targets and as called for in the Green Communities Act. Doing so will ensure MA continues to lead the region and the nation on a path towards a truly clean energy future.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on what I see as the most necessary piece of our state's energy policy.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Wessel  
Founder, No Fracked Gas in Mass

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[www.nofrackedgasinmass.org](http://www.nofrackedgasinmass.org)

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