

Name

Vernon Walker

Organization (If representing one)

Clean Water Action

Email (for verification purposes only)

vwalker@cleanwater.org

Phone

(215) 307-9654

Address

1205 Main Street, Cambridge, MA, Massachusetts

United States

[Map It](#)

Subject of Comment

EEAC 3-Year Planning

Date of related EEAC Meeting (If applicable)

03/20/2024

I would like to speak during public comments at the next EEAC Meeting

- Yes

Write Comments Below

Mass Save is a nationally recognized energy efficiency program that, for nearly two decades, has helped to ease energy burdens on Massachusetts residents. However, the \$4 billion budget for the program isn't being allocated equitably or in a way that meaningfully helps low and moderate-income households – disproportionately renters and small business owners residing in communities of color – access and adopt cost-saving solutions like heat pumps. That means roughly 43 percent of households in the state are paying into a program they're not benefiting from, with most of the energy switching resources going to more affluent communities and homeowners.

The Commonwealth must be intentional about targeting BIPOC and low and moderate-income communities, meet them where they are financially, and offer tangible incentives that will lead to switching from fossil fuels. This requires a thoughtful plan centered on equity that includes, among other things, bold targets to reach and incentives to help low-income and moderate-income households and small businesses, including renters, with heat pump adoption and energy affordability.