

CALL TO ACTION: CONTACT YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE TO BLOCK SUBSIDY FOR BIOMASS ENERGY

They're at it again. Corporate bigwigs and Massachusetts House leadership have combined efforts to produce a House Climate Bill that would subsidize wood biomass energy and enable the construction of a wood-burning incinerator on property abutting an economically marginalized neighborhood in East Springfield.

For 12 years, Springfield residents have actively opposed building this incinerator, but it's been given new "life" **due to language in Section 15 that identifies biomass as a renewable resource and classifies commercial wood-burning biomass incinerators as "non-carbon emitting sources of energy."**

If that language remains in Section 15, the result will be a **taxpayer-supported subsidy of wood biomass** that will incentivize building an incinerator in Springfield while promoting similar facilities in other parts of the state.

What can you do to help prevent this terrible idea from becoming a reality?

—Call or write your State Representative and ask that **they contact current members of the Conference Committee, urging those members to remove the language in Section 15 of the House Climate Bill that identifies biomass as renewable energy and "non-carbon emitting."**

—Tell them that **biomass energy is too dirty to qualify for the state's renewable energy credits—and subsidizing this dirty fuel is an "end run" around current state policy.**

—Mention that biomass has been found to be more polluting than coal for both air standards and climate change, and that Springfield residents should not be exposed to additional health challenges, especially during a pandemic.

—Remind them that we need our forests to stem the impact of carbon emissions. Retaining the language in Section 15 would encourage forest destruction, not only in Massachusetts, but throughout New England.

As taxpayers, why should we subsidize a project that poses a health threat to our community and will contribute to climate change? It's time to put the health of our community—and our planet—before profits. **Please act now with your phone call or email. There is still time to edit Section 15 and enact change.**

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