July 16, 2012

Dear Massachusetts Legislator:

Don't let an unfair deal cost Massachusetts families and businesses billions of dollars over the next 15 years.

Legislation being considered by state lawmakers (House Bill 4225) currently includes a condition (Section 42) that forces Massachusetts electric consumers to purchase power for the next 15 years from a new, natural gas power plant being built on the site of a retired coal plant.

If passed, Section 42 will cost consumers **billions of dollars** for potentially **uneconomic, unnecessary power plants** and **hurt Massachusetts' clean energy policy**. Here's what you should know about Section 42:

- This policy circumvents consumer protections and leaves electricity consumers throughout the state vulnerable to unnecessarily high costs and budget overruns.
- Guaranteeing long-term contracts for conventional generation plants undermines clean energy policy and would be a significant step backward for our state's clean energy leadership.
- This policy proposes long-term contracts for a new plant without proof that we need a new power source and blocks a transparent, competitive market, which ensures consumers get the best price. Government shouldn't pick energy winners and losers.
- Consumers face all the risk. If a new plant is not a prudent enough investment opportunity for a for-profit company, why should electric consumers have to accept the risk?

Don't let Section 42 undermine Massachusetts' leadership on clean energy policy and competitive markets.

Tell the HB 4225 conferees that you want Section 42 removed from the bill.

Sincerely,

Dan Dolan
NEPGA President

Daniel Allegretti
RESA New England Chair