

April 2024

Dear Governor Healey and Climate Chief Hoffer,

As environmental and business leaders, municipal officials, scientists, and health professionals, we applaud your commitment to addressing the climate crisis. To protect our families, communities, and environment from the impacts of global warming, we must transition Massachusetts to clean energy. We are pleased that you have made climate policy a priority in the first year of your administration, including your allocation of 1% of the state budget to environment and energy agencies, the creation of the nation's first Office of Energy Transformation to phase out our dependence on fossil fuels, and executive orders reducing single-use plastics and increasing biodiversity across the state. We look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead.

We hope you will make solar energy a key part of Massachusetts' strategy to address climate change. Today, we are asking you to set a target of installing 10 gigawatts of solar capacity — the equivalent of one million solar roofs — by 2030.

When we power our lives with solar energy, our air will be cleaner, our families will be healthier, and we'll help prevent the worst impacts of global warming. Installing solar in our neighborhoods, along with energy storage, can make our grid more reliable and our communities more resilient while reducing energy costs for families, businesses, and local governments.

One million solar roofs is an ambitious goal, but it is within reach. Solar energy generation in Massachusetts has grown 9 times in the last decade. By the end of 2023, Massachusetts had installed just over 5 GW of installed solar capacity: we just need to double that by 2030 to cover a million roofs.

During the Governor's <u>campaign</u>, support was expressed for installing 10 gigawatts of solar by 2030. We ask you to reiterate this commitment and do everything in your power to accelerate the growth of solar energy. Specifically, we ask you to:

- Eliminate unnecessary roadblocks standing in the way of solar projects;
- Ensure adequate and fair compensation for solar energy generation;
- Incentivize solar installations on parking lots, brownfields, rooftops, and other sites that are already developed; and
- Expand access to solar for all Massachusetts residents.

We ask that you make this commitment by Earth Day, April 22nd, 2024. Thank you for considering our request, and we look forward to working with you and your administration to make Massachusetts a national leader for solar energy.

Sincerely,

Breanna Lungo-Koehn Mayor of Medford

Nicole LaChapelle Mayor of Easthampton

Johanna Neumann

Acting Director, Environment Massachusetts

Janet Domenitz

Executive Director, MASSPIRG

Leigh-Anne Cole

Acting Executive Director, Community Action Works

Sean Simonini

Vice Chairman, MASSPIRG Students Board of Directors

Elena Weissmann

Regional Director, Vote Solar

Mary Wambui

Asset Manager, Planning Office Urban Affairs

Co-Chair, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Energy Equity Working Group

Jess Nahigian

State Political Director, Massachusetts Sierra Club

Paula Garcia

Senior Energy Analyst and Energy Justice Lead, Union of Concerned Scientists

Dave McMahon

Commonwealth Green Low-Income Housing Coalition

Quincy Vale, Esq

Chairman and President Gridwealth

Haskell Werlin

Co-founder, MassSolar

Bob Higgins

Owner, Atlantic Alternative Power

Gregory Garrison

President, Northeast Solar

Philip McCarron

President, Beacon Solar

Michael Gilroy

Chief Executive Officer, Sungage Financial

Rob Meyers

Director of Energy Technology, South Mountain Company, Inc.

Isaac Baker

Co-CEO, Co-Founder, Resonant Energy

Michael Hempstead

President, Valley Solar