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# Canton Citizen

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## Note to Gov. Baker: Dirty energy is not the answer

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Dear Canton:

I am proud that Massachusetts has been an example for other states across the nation in terms of clean energy and energy efficiency. In addition to a state energy bill that encourages offshore wind and energy storage for renewable energy, on August 17 the Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled that the “pipeline tax” is unconstitutional. This fee would have made electric ratepayers responsible for paying for Spectra Energy’s unnecessary, unwanted fracked natural gas pipeline expansion project, including high pressure pipelines, storage tanks and compressor stations that would run through significant portions of Massachusetts, endangering densely populated areas and wetlands.

Despite this victory and the outpouring against the costly project, unfortunately, Governor Charlie Baker has chosen to ignore the massive environmental devastation and risks to human life and seems determined to help the utilities profit, no matter the cost to the people of Massachusetts. These pipelines will force our energy dollars out of Massachusetts and into the pockets of the utilities. Recently, I have had the pleasure of speaking with many of our local small business people who have eagerly endorsed a campaign to tell our governor to support making Massachusetts the clean energy powerhouse that we have the potential to become and to oppose Spectra Energy’s fracked natural gas pipeline expansion project.

Governor Baker needs to understand that a greater dependence on gas is not the answer. Fracked natural gas is not a bridge fuel and along with other dirty energy continues to destroy the environment and advances climate change at a rapid rate. Renewable energy like solar and offshore wind is better for our air and water, for our children, and very importantly for our economy, including the proliferation of local clean safe jobs. If we continue to pass legislation like the Massachusetts energy bill, we can save money — and the planet. Tell Governor Baker to stop supporting dirty energy and fully oppose Spectra’s pipeline projects.

Jennifer Wexler  
No Canton Gas Pipeline