

**CAPE COD REGIONAL GOVERNMENT
ASSEMBLY of DELEGATES
2024 Session
Proposed Resolution No. 1**

Supporting a balanced approach to regulating the transition to clean energy

Whereas, the Cape Cod Commission has regional oversight in Barnstable County

Whereas, Each of the 15 towns in Barnstable County have local control or home rule currently;
and

Whereas, there has been an effort to remove regional oversight and local control through legislative action at the state level which has been referred to the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy; and

Whereas, public comments may be submitted to said Joint Committee and others at the State Legislature and public comments may be submitted the Governor's appointed Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting; and

Whereas, there is wide-spread public support for local control and regional regulatory oversight in Barnstable County both with citizens and town government;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Cape Cod Regional Government Assembly of Delegates:

Supports the continuation of both regional regulatory oversight and local control or home rule. The attached letter will be used as public comment to the Massachusetts Legislature and the Governor's appointed Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting in response to proposed legislation which removes regional oversight and/or local control. This letter serves to inform legislators in both the Massachusetts Senate and House and the Governor's appointed Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting as to the vote of the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates which represents all 15 towns in Barnstable County.

Submitted by: Wellfleet Delegate Lilli-Ann Green, Orleans Delegate Jon Fuller,
Sandwich Delegate James Killion, and Yarmouth Delegate Susan Warner
Delegate

Date: March 6, 2024

The Assembly of Delegates postponed consideration of the foregoing Resolution No. 1 indefinitely at its regular meeting on March 6, 2023 by a roll call vote with delegates representing 100.00% of the population of Barnstable County voting in the affirmative.

Attested by:

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'O. G. Fletcher'.

Owen Fletcher, Clerk
Assembly of Delegates

March xx, 2024

ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES BARNSTABLE COUNTY COMPLEX
OLD SHERIFF'S HOUSE 3195 MAIN STREET – ROUTE 6A
P.O. BOX 427 BARNSTABLE, MA 02630

Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy Senator Michael J. Barrett,
Chair

24 Beacon Street, Room 109-D Boston, MA 02133
Representative Jeffrey Roy, Chair 24 Beacon Street, Room 43
Boston, MA 02133

Re: Comments regarding legislation to regulate the transition to a clean energy environment

Dear Senator Barrett, Representative Roy, members of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy and members of the Governor appointed Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting:

Members of the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates have reviewed some pending legislation before the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (TUE), have followed the proceedings of the Clean Energy Transmission Working Group and have reviewed the proposed recommendations of the Governor's appointed Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting. As the legislative branch of County Government, and representing the 15 towns in our county, we submit the following comments for your review and careful consideration.

Our primary concerns are about threats to a balanced approach of regulating the transition to a clean energy environment inherent in pending state legislation. Our main objective is to preserve local control and regional regulatory oversight.

Protecting and maintaining local control or home rule and regional oversight in any TUE legislation.

Representative Roy's bill H.3215 and several other bills reviewed by Assembly Delegates would consolidate review and approval authority for permitting electric decarbonization infrastructure projects. Specifically, it denies a role to host communities and denies a role for regional oversight. We are in opposition to that effort. The Barnstable County Cape Cod Commission (CCC) is our regional planning and land use agency and currently does have regional regulatory oversight. Maintaining the role and responsibilities of the CCC to protect our fragile environment is critical to our county. Furthermore each municipality and the citizens of our county currently have a role to provide input for projects this legislation seeks to revise. Many of our citizens are informed and involved in community affairs. Frequently they

provide well thought out solutions to complicated issues. They can understand the many aspects and potential adverse impacts of a project that industry and the state government entities are not privy to. We therefore cannot support this legislation as currently drafted.

CC:

Senator Marc R. Pacheco, Vice Chair
Representative Richard M. Haggerty, Vice Chair
Senator Julian Cyr
Senator Barry R. Finegold
Senator Paul W. Mark
Senator Bruce E. Tarr
Representative Priscila S. Sousa
Representative Kate Lipper-Garabedian
Representative Steven Owens
Representative Dylan A. Fernandes
Representative Joan Meschino
Representative James K. Hawkins
Representative David Allen Robertson
Representative Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (Ranking Minority) Representative
Steven S. Howitt
Senator Susan Moran
Representative Kip A. Diggs
Representative Christopher Richard Flanagan
Representative Sarah K. Peake
Representative David T. Vieira
Representative Steven George Xiarhos
Governor's appointed Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting