

SENATOR JOAN B. LOVELY ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER Second Essex District

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON STEERING AND POLICY

April 26, 2021

Matthew H. Nelson, Chair Department of Public Utilities 1 South Station, 5th Floor Boston, MA 02110

RE: DPU 21-29

Dear Chair Nelson,

I write to share strong concerns from constituents regarding the proposed gas/oil peaking plant in Peabody. I have heard confusion and dismay regarding the process by which this project has come into being without a public process until this hearing on the \$170 million commitment.

As a result, I urge additional public processes for all affected communities before a final decision is made. Many have concerns about how this plant will impact their immediate environment, questions about the operation of the plant, and how the financing will affect ratepayers. It is imperative that the entire process be open to public input, and that these concerns, among others, be addressed before final approval.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Joan B. Lovely