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To whom it may concern,

It has been brought to my attention that the state is seeking commentary on electric prices in our regions. Having moved to western Massachusetts rather recently, from a region just as prone to cold and snow as this one, I feel uniquely qualified to tell you that your electric prices are completely out of control.

Electric suppliers, of which we have some choice, are routinely two to three times more expensive per kWh than the options available in my previous state. This assumes you choose a less expensive supplier. If you are getting your electric through your distributor, your charges will be even higher for the electric itself. Electric distributors, of which we typically have zero choice, are often charging more per kWh for distribution than the electricity itself costs. Right now, my electricity costs roughly 15 cents per kWh. National Grid charges me nearly 16 cents to deliver it. If I had some control over my distributor, I could save a few cents, as Eversource has worked out a better deal with my electric supplier and charges less for delivery. In my opinion, neither option is even remotely affordable for the average resident.

I live in a house that brings in significantly more than average nationally, and more than average for my region. Despite this fact, we are having serious discussions about whether we can afford to live in a town we intentionally chose to move to, not because our taxes are too high, but because of electricity costs. I am deeply concerned by the fact that the state is, effectively, letting electric suppliers and distributors price people out of entire regions, all while actively encouraging a massive shift towards renewable electric energy sources.

The state needs reasonable governmentally mandated caps on energy prices throughout the region, and it needs them yesterday. Without them, people are going to either end up with heat or cold related injuries, or end up leaving the region because it's simply too expensive to live here.

Respectfully,

Lyndsey Wasio 27 Martha Lane Lenox, MA 01240