

April 27, 2026

From: A. David Larson, East Providence
To: Rhode Island House Corporations Committee
Subject: **Support for H7891** - Terminate Gas Line Extension Allowances

Dear Chair Solomon and Members of the House Corporations Committee:

I am writing in support of House Bill 7891 which would charge the PUC to push for removal of gas line extension allowances.

Every gas line extension expands the utility's infrastructure with the future maintenance costs passed along to ratepayers. These subsidies are loss leaders for the utility to boost their future revenues. Subsidies can cloud the comparison of the lifetime cost of different fuels providing heat or other services for a customer (residential or commercial). If natural gas is the best choice over the long run, let the customer requesting the extension pay for that extension. If forced to pay for that extension, they may come to realize that another fuel source (stored fuel and/or electricity) might be more suitable and offer a lower lifetime cost.

I also feel that expansion of our natural gas infrastructure is shortsighted given the rapid rise of greenhouse gasses in our atmosphere, largely caused by methane and other fossil fuels.

I urge you to advance this legislation to the House floor for a vote.

Thank you so much for your consideration,
A. David Larson (East Providence)