

Trafton testimony in behalf of the Environment Council of Rhode Island supporting HR 7891, House Committee on Corporations , April 28, 2026.

Dear Chair Solomon and Honorable Committee Members,

I'm Peter Trafton from Providence, Co-VP of Policy for the Environment Council of Rhode Island (ECRI) writing in strong support of H7891, the House Resolution requesting that the RI PUC terminate allowances for gas line extension parenthesis (in Docket 25 – 45 – GE). We are grateful for Rep Cortvriend and colleagues' sponsorship.

Asking all ratepayers to bear the costs of extending gas lines beyond their current extent is an unfair advantage for the utility and an unfair benefit for those who will be served directly by the extended line. Rhode Island's Act on Climate mandates that our state transition from fossil fuels (like methane gas) to clean energy. It would be far better to require that those living beyond the gas line use fully electrified power technology rather than promoting, and supporting, the ongoing sale of methane gas.

This resolution is a "no-brainer." Please pass it as rapidly as you can. Should it not be adopted by the PUC, please be prepared to outlaw immediately the archaic practice of gas line extension allowances.

The Environment Council of Rhode Island strongly supports your passing 7891.

Thanks very much for considering my comments in ECRI's behalf.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "PTrafton". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

Peter Trafton
Co-VP for Policy
The Environment Council of Rhode Island