

May 18, 2026

From: A. David Larson, East Providence
To: Rhode Island Senate Committee on Environment & Agriculture
Subject: **Support for S2354** - Terminate Gas Line Extension Allowances

Dear Chair Sosnowski and Members of the Senate Committee on Environment & Agriculture:

I am writing in support of Senate Resolution S2354 which would urge 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 who is 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 resolution to the Senate floor for a vote.

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