

February 10, 2026

Senate Finance Committee

Rhode Island State House

82 Smith Street

Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Chair DiPalma and Finance Committee Members,

I work as a sustainability and decarbonization engineering consultant for an international engineering consulting firm. I support companies and technology developers to decarbonize and achieve ambitious climate goals that are critical not only for the planet, but for our economic development. Fossil fuels are a thing of the past, and while America is increasingly lagging behind other countries under the new federal administration, Rhode Island should not.

As a constituent in Providence, **I do not support** the 17-year delay to the Renewable Energy Standard (Article 11, Section 7).

As a constituent in Providence, **I do not support** the proposal to add a grid access fee to large-scale solar, (Article 11, Section 10).

As a constituent in Providence, **I do not support** a cap on energy efficiency programs. (Article 11, Section 3).

All of those proposed changes would hinder the renewable energy industry in Rhode Island. Why would you limit the availability of cheaper, sustainable electricity in our state? Purchasing more fossil fuels will not create jobs, so why would you limit the potential job growth tied to sustainable infrastructure?

As a member of my community, I oppose policy and politicians that move us backwards and fund fossil fuels that are destroying our planet. If you need funds for the state, how about you tax the rich and corporations more instead of kowtowing in fear to them and the fossil fuel lobby?

Sincerely,

Santiago Gonzalez Hernandez

Providence, Rhode Island