

Could have more directly challenged the Chamber of Commerce

KUDOS TO Ian Bowles for calling out our local Chamber of Commerce for not pushing new and flourishing clean-energy industries with the same energy they do for established industries. However, Bowles's argument misses the point. Citing Chamber complaints "that solar, wind, and a smarter grid are just too expensive to finance," Bowles justifies efficiency standards and renewable energy policies as cost-cutters.

Rather, Bowles should directly lambaste the Chamber's flawed complaint: solar, wind, and smarter grid are NOT too expensive compared to natural gas. Bowles and clean energy leaders must remind the Chamber, the public and our Governor that clean energy electricity is less expensive than natural gas electricity when all costs are included — including health and environmental costs of natural gas' carbon emissions. Supporting new gas pipelines and power plants without including the cost of carbon in cost-benefit analyses ignores economics, logic, climate science, and public demands for emissions reductions.

Judy Weiss , Brookline

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