

Prep for clean energy

David Tuerck, executive director of the Beacon Hill Institute, gives a very strange response to the state attorney general's report that building new natural-gas pipelines is unnecessary and wasteful ("AG study punctures gas pipelines," Nov. 19).

Tuerck says the AG is advocating the "de-industrialization of Massachusetts."

But building unneeded pipelines poses serious risks to ratepayers, who have to foot the bill. These pipelines could become what economists call a "stranded asset," once our economy adopts cleaner sources of energy than natural gas and more efficient practices. In fact, Bloomberg is now offering a "Carbon Risk Valuation Tool" for companies and money managers to assess the risk to earnings and share prices under tighter carbon-pollution constraints.

However, Tuerck's Beacon Hill Institute has been labeled a "global warming skeptic organization" by the Union of Concerned Scientists. In addition, the Boston institute has received funds from the Koch brothers, whose wealth springs from the fossil-fuel industry.

— Judy Weiss, Brookline

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