



TOWN OF ACTON
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Board of Selectmen

December 3, 2014

Dear Governor-elect,

As local and state civic leaders, we encourage you to make solar energy a key element of Massachusetts' energy future.

By using solar energy to power our homes, businesses, schools, farms and government buildings, we can reduce pollution, cut energy bills, and boost local economies. Currently, only a small fraction of Massachusetts' power comes from the sun.

Solar is growing, in Massachusetts and across the country. Over past three years solar capacity grew by 84 percent per year in Massachusetts. In the first half of 2014, more than half of the new electric power capacity installed in the U.S. was solar. Recent progress shows we can take it to the next level.

Solar helps the environment, boosts local economies, and creates local jobs that cannot be outsourced. The solar industry jobs grew ten times faster than the rest of the economy in 2013. And because solar has no fuel costs, it helps protect us from rising fossil fuel prices.

For the sake of our environment, our health, and the economy, we ask that you join us in committing the state to getting 20 percent of our power from the sun by 2025. We can achieve that goal if we grow solar by 27 percent per year.

The cost of solar is declining. The cost of air and water pollution from fossil fuels is growing, along with the threats posed by climate change. Please help to set strong goals for solar in Massachusetts, to put us on a path to clean energy leadership.

Sincerely,

Acton Board of Selectmen

 Michael J. Gowing, Chairman

 Janet K. Adachi

 Katherine E. Green, Vice-Chairman

 Frances J. Osman

 Peter J. Berry, Clerk