

## The Town of Barnstable

## Office of Town Manager

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February 22, 2024

The Honorable Maura Healey Governor of Massachusetts Massachusetts State House 24 Beacon Street, Room 280 Boston, MA 02133

RE: Commission on Clean Energy Siting and Permitting

Dear Governor Healey,

I am writing to you regarding the Commission on Clean Energy Siting and Permitting (CEISP) and requesting that you consider appointing representation from Barnstable to the Committee.

The CEISP is a Commission that is described as one that will bring together stakeholders to swiftly remove barriers to responsible clean energy infrastructure development. The CEISP will be tasked with reducing permitting timelines, ensuring communities have input in the siting and permitting of clean energy infrastructure, and ensuring that the benefits of the clean energy transition are shared equitably. Barnstable's experience is invaluable in achieving the objectives of this Committee.

We have reached out through State Senator Julian Cyr and received feedback on February 1, 2024 that the Commission has only had internal meetings as they get themselves organized. They are working to get something for the public to engage with very soon. It was suggested that we direct any comments through the appointed representatives from the Massachusetts Municipal Association, Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, or the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission. Barnstable will certainly prepare comments as directed but this does not appear to be an effective means of achieving the Committee's assigned tasks.

I am available at your convenience to further discuss this important matter and participate on the Committee as you deem appropriate.

Respectfully,

Mark Ells

Barnstable Town Manager

cc: Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll

State Senator Julian Cyr

State Representative Kip Diggs

State Representative Steven Xiarhos

Town Council President Felicia Penn