



# **HIGHER ENERGY BILLS, LOST JOBS, AND GROWING UNCERTAINTY:**

**How Trump's War on Clean Energy is Hurting Massachusetts Families**



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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since Trump took office nearly one year ago, more than 165,000 energy jobs, \$53 billion in private investment, and 324 projects across red and blue states have been lost or stalled.<sup>1</sup> As the two United States Senators for Massachusetts, we are concerned about how Trump's destructive energy agenda has caused great harm nationwide, and particularly how it has impacted our home state.

Massachusetts is a leader in clean energy, and in 2024, was home to over 7,500 clean energy businesses and 115,000 clean energy workers.<sup>2</sup> The Trump Administration has attempted to terminate or freeze billions of dollars of clean energy funding and projects and rolled back energy efficiency regulations and standards.<sup>3</sup> Massachusetts has been disproportionately harmed by these attacks: the state is ranked second in the country for the number of clean energy jobs lost or delayed over the last year, after Texas.<sup>4</sup>

To understand how Massachusetts residents are impacted by the Trump Administration's attacks on clean energy, our offices interviewed thirteen Massachusetts stakeholders, including industry trade associations, labor union leaders, and clean energy experts, about the impact of these policies on communities in the Commonwealth. These interviews revealed the following key findings:

1. President Trump's reckless attacks on renewable energy, energy efficiency, and other related programs will raise energy costs across the country, including in Massachusetts. According to an industry association member, the Administration's actions are "**handcuffing people to rising energy costs and limiting their ability to make their bills affordable.**"<sup>5</sup>
2. The Trump Administration's attempted termination of clean energy projects will hurt the state's economy as well as our nationwide prospects, causing a loss of jobs and a deceleration of innovation. President Trump's attacks on clean energy projects have meant that over \$8.6 billion in investment has been lost or delayed in Massachusetts, costing over 16,750 jobs.<sup>6</sup> One labor advocate remarked that because of Trump, there are "**not enough jobs to go around.**"<sup>7</sup>
3. The Trump Administration's actions are inhibiting future economic growth nationwide, including in Massachusetts, by sowing executive and investor doubt about the future of the clean energy sector. The clean energy sector contributed close to \$16 billion to the Commonwealth's Gross State Product (GSP) in 2023.<sup>8</sup> Industry executives reporting project financing concerns are left wondering, "**Is this worth it? Do I need this?**"<sup>9</sup>
4. Trump's funding freezes are threatening clean energy research excellence, including at Massachusetts institutions, while ceding vital ground, information, and talent to global competitors. The Commonwealth is home to dozens of world-renowned universities, research institutions, and companies that rely on federal funding to support their research. One researcher at a top institution shared that they "**don't know day to day whether they are going to have a job.**"<sup>10</sup>

# BACKGROUND: THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S WAR ON CLEAN ENERGY

## Since Trump took office

More than 165,000 jobs have been lost or delayed in the U.S. clean energy sector

More than \$53 billion in private investment has been lost or delayed

324 projects across the country have been delayed, been cancelled, or laid off staff<sup>11</sup>

Since the first day of the Trump Administration, President Trump has launched an all-out assault on the American energy industry by targeting clean energy projects. One of his first executive orders, "Unleashing American Energy," eliminated multiple Biden Administration executive orders that supported the clean energy industry and paused the disbursement of *Inflation Reduction Act* and *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* funding.<sup>12</sup> Soon after, Trump declared an "energy emergency," authorizing broad emergency powers for agencies to increase fossil fuel-based energy supply while leaving renewable energy sources out of the mix.<sup>13</sup>

The offshore wind industry, which is poised to supply much-needed power to Massachusetts and across the country, has been a particular target for the Administration.<sup>14</sup> Since taking office, President Trump has taken more than 25 actions<sup>15</sup> to "further regulate, stymie or imperil offshore wind projects"<sup>16</sup> including freezing permitting for new wind energy projects on federal lands and waters<sup>17</sup> and cancelling millions of dollars for offshore wind port projects.<sup>18</sup> The President has also pushed agencies that have "little to do with"<sup>19</sup> the offshore wind energy sector to "thwart the country's offshore wind industry."<sup>20</sup> In late December 2025, President Trump took another extreme step to attack offshore wind—suspending leases for all large-scale offshore wind projects under construction in the United States.<sup>21</sup> This decision to pause the leases for five offshore wind projects along the East Coast has "injected uncertainty into \$25 billion worth of projects that were expected to power more than 2.5 million homes and businesses,"<sup>22</sup> and could endanger the approximately 4,300 direct and indirect jobs associated with these projects.<sup>23</sup>

The Trump Administration's attacks on clean energy are not limited to offshore wind—Trump has slashed federal clean energy grant funding across the country. These include programs administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), like those that comprised the historic national climate finance network—the nearly \$14 billion National Clean Investment Fund,<sup>24</sup> the \$6 billion Clean Communities Accelerator,<sup>25</sup> and the \$7 billion Solar for All Program<sup>26</sup>—and the \$3 billion Climate Justice Block Grant Program.<sup>27</sup> As of December 8, 2025, 78 percent of the \$37 billion meant for community environmental and renewable energy grants from the EPA, funded by the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act*, has "been canceled or frozen and are now inaccessible

to grantees and communities.<sup>28</sup> These grants help fund programs that incentivize rooftop solar to lower energy costs, remove lead and asbestos in schools and homes, protect communities from floods, and support many other essential priorities.<sup>29</sup> In addition, on October 2, 2025, the Department of Energy touted its cancelation of more than \$7.5 billion in federal funding for 223 clean energy projects, including for solar, grid resiliency, and industrial decarbonization.<sup>30</sup>

In Massachusetts, the Trump Administration has terminated, frozen, or attempted to cancel approximately \$3.7 billion in federal funding, including over \$187 million cut for the environmental sector.<sup>31</sup> These grant cancellations range from \$156 million in cancelled funding for the EPA's Solar For All Program, which would help "more than 29,000 Massachusetts households lower their energy bills by 20 percent," to more than \$6 million for the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Local Food Purchase Assistance Program, which helps provide local foods to schoolchildren.<sup>32</sup> Other lost funding opportunities across the state include nearly \$34 million in canceled funding for the Port of Salem, which would have been used in part to facilitate offshore wind activities.<sup>33</sup>

To make matters worse, the *One Big Beautiful Bill* Act, which Congressional Republicans passed, and President Trump signed into law in July 2025, cut clean energy tax credits along with healthcare in order to give tax breaks to billionaires.<sup>34</sup> This bill will significantly raise prices for Americans. A report by Energy Innovation found that, as a result of the *One Big Beautiful Bill* Act:<sup>35</sup>

5. Power generation capacity will fall by 340 gigawatts by 2035, enough energy to power close to 255 million homes<sup>36</sup>
6. Electricity rates will increase by 9-18% by 2035
7. Household energy costs will increase by \$170 annually by 2035

After the passage of the *One Big Beautiful Bill* Act, the Conservation Law Foundation found that "by 2035, New England will lose 7,340 megawatts of wind, solar, and battery storage capacity, enough to serve roughly three to four million homes."<sup>37</sup> Energy Innovation forecasted "annual losses of \$1.1 billion in GDP by 2030 and \$780 million by 2035 in Massachusetts. Summed through the budget window, energy provisions in the final bill would cost Massachusetts \$8.3 billion in GDP."<sup>38</sup>

To understand the full implications of President Trump's tax and energy policies in Massachusetts, our staff had conversations with Massachusetts stakeholders, revealing the damage the Trump Administration's attacks on the clean energy sector will impose on the Commonwealth unless reversed.

# FINDING #1

## President Trump's reckless attacks on renewable energy, energy efficiency, and other related programs, will raise energy costs across the country, including in Massachusetts.

Massachusetts has one of the highest residential electricity rates in the country, in part due to its dependence on expensive imported natural gas that is susceptible to price volatility.<sup>39</sup> Because electricity bills in the state spike when the price of oil and gas is high, Massachusetts has attempted to reduce this reliance by investing in renewable energy, with substantial success. In 2023, renewable sources provided 34% of the state's energy generation, and the price of installing solar has fallen by over 42% in the last ten years.<sup>40</sup> But now, that progress is in jeopardy.

In addition to raising the cost of energy, President Trump has proposed slashing funding for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP),<sup>41</sup> which helps millions of struggling households pay their heating and cooling bills—including in Massachusetts.<sup>42</sup>

Massachusetts stakeholders identified key ways that prices are rising—or will rise—due to the Trump Administration's actions.

### A. Derailing progress on clean energy will lead to higher energy prices for consumers, including in Massachusetts, "handcuffing people to rising energy costs and limiting their ability to make their bills affordable."<sup>43</sup>

- Offshore wind electricity generation helps lower energy prices, limiting the state's reliance on imported fuel. One leading offshore wind researcher shared: "[What we have in Massachusetts is an industry that is a 'native to Massachusetts' local resource that we can tap, to be tapped and used—this is, for New England, a lost resource opportunity. As the industry developed, we knew the prices would fall once the supply chain was developed as a US supply chain. But now, prices will continue to stay high. This is a very bad loss of resource opportunity.](#)"<sup>44</sup>

### B. The Trump Administration has rolled back clean and efficient energy regulations and tax credits, leading to higher out-of-pocket costs for consumers.

- The Trump Administration has rolled back multiple tax credits that incentivized energy-efficient home improvements.<sup>45</sup> As one energy efficiency advocate explained, "[Lots of our state climate goals were based on leveraging federal dollars to stretch state ones further. For the large number of manufacturers in the state, if they can no longer access these credits, their projects are going to dwindle and have a trickle-down effect on the economy. Everyone will be hurting from losing these credits, but we especially will be due to how much of the state's economy has invested in clean energy.](#)"<sup>46</sup>

- Another organization shared that **“Trump’s slashing of tax credits will make it more expensive for Massachusetts residents to switch to clean energy and to implement energy efficiency practices.”**<sup>47</sup>
- A labor leader discussed how the loss of tax credits like the residential clean energy credit, which incentivized energy efficiency home improvements, will impact both consumer choice and, as a result, workers who install solar panels, predicting **“solar market installation is going to drop off after the credit expires. The market is going to drop, and people won’t have as much access to cheaper energy from solar.”**<sup>48</sup>
- Trump’s rollbacks included emission standards that limit car pollution and tax credits for purchasing electric vehicles.<sup>49</sup> One industry expert remarked that **“the rollback of vehicle emission regulations and federal electric vehicle affordability programs will increase the demand for oil, which means Massachusetts households will spend an average of \$280 more on gasoline annually by 2030.”**<sup>50</sup>
- Key tax credits, as modified and expanded in the *Inflation Reduction Act*, have already delivered significant savings to taxpayers nationwide. In 2023, 99,520 returns filed in Massachusetts alone claimed a residential clean energy credit, an energy-efficient home improvement credit, or both.<sup>51</sup> This returned \$231,681,000 to Massachusetts taxpayers.<sup>52</sup>

### **C. Trump’s proposed slashing of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will make it harder for the most vulnerable households in Massachusetts to pay their energy bills.**

- Last winter, Massachusetts’ LIHEAP program “partially or fully covered the heating costs for 159,000 homes in the state. Of those households, more than half of the recipients were senior citizens, and 10% had a child under the age of 5.”<sup>53</sup> With no LIHEAP funding, one non-profit leader shared, **“you’ll have people die, people won’t turn on their furnace. They’ll be afraid of the bill.”**<sup>54</sup>
- 22% of Massachusetts homeowners heat their homes with oil and cannot refill their tanks if there is non-payment.<sup>55</sup> A non-profit leader who helps administer LIHEAP in the state said, **“cutting off fuel assistance could prove fatal.”**<sup>56</sup>
- Experts warn that prices could rise for those not even on LIHEAP, triggering a **“disconnection spiral’ - where rising energy bills lead to more disconnections, which in turn drives rates even higher for everyone.”**<sup>57</sup>

# FINDING #2:

## **Project cancellations, job losses, and decreased opportunities resulting from the Trump Administration's attacks on the clean energy sector will negatively impact economic and job growth in Massachusetts and beyond.**

Massachusetts is ranked second in the country for clean energy jobs (as a percentage of total employment in 2024) and has the seventh-largest clean energy workforce in the country, with over 115,000 clean energy workers.<sup>58</sup> Alarmingly, since President Trump took office, Massachusetts now ranks second for the most clean energy jobs lost or delayed over the past year.<sup>59</sup> The clean energy sector is a growing part of the labor force in Massachusetts, but as labor leaders pointed out to staff, in the wake of President Trump's actions, **"there are not enough jobs to go around."**<sup>60</sup>

Workers in the Commonwealth who are currently employed in the clean energy sector shared, **"we are facing project cancellations, companies restructuring, and downsizing."**<sup>61</sup> Massachusetts communities in areas where clean energy industry advancements are concentrated—like New Bedford, Vineyard Haven, and Salem—were counting on these projects to buoy their towns during the off months of tourism or fishing.<sup>62</sup> A trade associate representative relayed the sentiment that **"communities that rely on seasonal employment based on these massive projects will be hit hardest."**<sup>63</sup>

Staff talked to labor advocates, professors, and community advocates about the current and potential job losses the state faces.

### **A. Key clean energy projects in Massachusetts have been cancelled because of market uncertainty.**

- For example, an underwater offshore wind cable factory was set to open at the site of an old coal factory in Somerset. However, the company, Prysmian Group, decided to cancel the project due to changing market demands.<sup>64</sup> One community leader noted how **"the plant was going to bring good jobs to the community. The developers cited 'the market shift in US wind' for their cancellation."**<sup>65</sup> Other leaders speculated it was **"President Trump's hostility towards the offshore wind industry that killed the project."**<sup>66</sup>
- Speaking about the plant cancellation, one labor voice shared, **"good paying, high skilled manufacturing jobs were lost – about 150 jobs."**<sup>67</sup> According to this stakeholder, the construction of the plant was estimated to be a **"\$750 million project"** employing skilled local workers under a Project Labor Agreement.<sup>68</sup>
- A solar developer based in Lowell, New Leaf Energy, publicly shared in mid-July its decision to lay off 41 workers, explaining that **"the decision to downsize was made because of the federal government's decision to end the investment tax credit (ITC) for solar and wind energy."**<sup>69</sup>

**B. Workers searching for jobs in clean energy are having more trouble finding work; the sector is focused on “trying to save projects instead of new ones.”<sup>70</sup>**

- One labor advocate shared that “**a local union has over 800 electricians who are out of work right now. There are not enough projects to put them on. The narrative that there are not enough workers is wrong. There are not enough projects.**”<sup>71</sup>
- Another labor advocate discussed the reality of no longer being able to take on apprentices, reporting, “**Unions cannot take on new apprentices because they are projecting that there are not going to be enough projects. Every time a project gets cancelled, it hurts the union’s ability and the training center’s ability to bring on new people in this field.**”<sup>72</sup>
- The loss of apprenticeships translates to lost investment—as one union voice explained, “**unions and other organizations have invested millions of dollars in training an offshore wind workforce that now has fewer or no jobs to employ that training. It also stunts efforts to establish Massachusetts as a hub for offshore wind.**”<sup>73</sup>

**C. Fewer and fewer students are getting exposure to this line of work, “stunting a pipeline of future workers in the sector.”<sup>74</sup>**

- While discussing their research difficulties with frozen federal funding, one professor noted how “**less than half of graduate students are teaching clean energy classes to first-year students this year. Teaching these first-year classes is how undergraduates get exposure to this field. We are losing undergraduate interest.**”<sup>75</sup>
- Another researcher commented on the workforce in the industry, sharing that “**trained workforce in this space is well supplied by encouraging undergraduate education. Reducing those opportunities to learn for those folks will turn them away from joining the sector.**”<sup>76</sup>
- One university admissions officer revealed, “**We are losing graduate student training and PhD pathways. We are not going to admit a student if we don’t have the funding to send them through the whole training system.**”<sup>77</sup>
- One university official shared how their university “**returns the most graduates to Massachusetts. As enrollment dwindles in this sector, we are truncating a pipeline of students back into the state economy.**”<sup>78</sup>
- One academic informed staff that they “**are not actively recruiting young people [to do research in this field] because we don’t know what the job prospects will be.**”<sup>79</sup>
- Massachusetts research institutions reported that “**support for students has ended, support for tuition and stipends for master’s programs by developers has been cancelled. Just enormous job loss, money, and time lost.**”<sup>80</sup>

## D. The cuts to clean energy projects and support will have long-term impacts on economic and job growth.

- One university professor described the psychological toll that the Administration's attacks have had on communities: **"What people don't talk about as much is how demoralizing these actions have been. It is changing how people want to spend time in their careers. People are shifting their interests from these areas because of the uncertainty. What is [this field] going to look like long-term if there is no path to success?"**<sup>81</sup>
- The uncertainty is likely to have ripple effects for generations. As one stakeholder said, **"This is going to be one where, if the lights go out indefinitely, this is going to hurt the economy and the training of future scholars in this field. There will be impacts to be felt for at least a generation."**<sup>82</sup>
- Another stakeholder discussed a recent conversation they had with colleagues who work at the New Bedford Port, noting how **"this is building cynicism in people due to the lack of this [clean] investment not being manifested."**<sup>83</sup>
- One institution administers a clean energy professional certificate program that provides safety and technical training to students across the country. Typically, they have 40 to 50 students per graduating class, but this fall, there were only 15 registrants. Program administrators echoed this concern and noted its effect on the broader workforce, stating, **"our alumni are being impacted too. There is a robust set of 150-170 alumni, and we are hearing from them how they are getting laid off."**<sup>84</sup>

## E. Businesses that revolve around serving the clean energy workforce and the sector will also suffer financial losses and lose jobs if this sector is diminished.

- One general manager of a local hotel discussed the impact of attacks on a wind project under development, sharing: **"We're a little nervous with the current situation, so we're hoping to see it continue to grow in the right direction."**<sup>85</sup>
- Some fishermen have been supplementing their income by working with offshore wind companies to conduct safety checks for offshore wind vessels, with two developers paying about **"\$8 million to local fishermen and vessel owners"** over the past few years.<sup>86</sup>
- One New Bedford captain shared how the work these deckhands and fishermen do for developers allows them to continue earning a middle-class income. Another captain shared that even though many of his coworkers voted for Trump in the election, the income from these projects was an essential lifeline, sharing, **"it's money that they need to support their families, wherever it comes from."**<sup>87</sup>
- A local Salem activist shared with reporters, after the offshore wind terminal slated to be built in the Port of Salem was cancelled, that **"this isn't just a wind project, it was an investment in our residents. And so, it's a huge gut punch."**<sup>88</sup>

# FINDING #3:

**By sowing executive and investor doubt about the future of the clean energy sector, the Trump Administration will stunt long-term clean energy sector growth and innovation on the local and national scale.**

The clean energy sector is a key source of economic growth and activity in Massachusetts, with the industry contributing nearly \$16 billion to the Gross State Product (GSP) in 2023.<sup>89</sup> But, a slew of wrenches thrown into the clean energy gears by the Trump Administration — including new construction guidance to qualify for expiring tax credits,<sup>90</sup> stop work orders,<sup>91</sup> and permitting delays<sup>92</sup> — have all led to project financing concerns, with companies wondering, **"Is this worth it? Do I need this?"**<sup>93</sup>

In conversations with industry and trade association stakeholders, stakeholders emphasized that, because of the Trump Administration's changes to clean energy policy and funding in recent months, investor trust in the government is extremely fraught. They do not know what attacks might be coming next.

## A. Companies are trying to figure out how to keep projects online while being forced to make cuts across the board.

- One professor emphasized they **"wish the Trump voters knew that the decisions of the administration are undermining the things they are striving for. How this sets fire to money that has been invested, things are wasted."**<sup>94</sup>
- One trade association representative divulged how the industry is approaching the issue, sharing that **"you will see ripple effects as we go. Companies will have to think through what is coming, but then you have the EO's after the [Big Beautiful Bill], then you also have the implementation of the law that is coming, and then the permitting issues on top of that. Companies are doing the racking and stacking analysis right now to see if these projects are still viable."**<sup>95</sup>
- Another industry advocate discussed the nuances of project financing, noting how **"banks are not charitable organizations; if they are not able to get paid, they are not going to put up lending upfront. [It] makes project financing all that much harder when there is uncertainty about the government's share."**<sup>96</sup>
- Companies are in **"day-to-day, week-to-week mode. Lots of developers are trying to focus on their pipelines and how they keep moving."**<sup>97</sup> Many companies are thinking, **"Do I still need to have this? Which, of course, impacts the number of workers at the assembly line and in factories."**<sup>98</sup>
- Industry and trade association representatives that spoke with our staff emphasized that **"the clean energy sector is central to the President's objectives...You are hurting the process of putting more electricity on the grid."**<sup>99</sup> As a result, there will be a **"huge impact on investment confidence across all energy asset classes in the US. We need a lot of money now for something that may pan out ten or more years from now, so we are kind of in a bind."**<sup>100</sup>

# FINDING #4:

## Trump's funding freezes are threatening clean energy research excellence, including at Massachusetts institutions, while ceding vital ground, information, and talent to global competitors.

The Commonwealth is home to dozens of world-renowned universities and research institutions that are on the cutting edge of new clean technologies. Research funding in the state has been referred to as "economic infrastructure" by the Governor,<sup>101</sup> and Massachusetts has "11.3% of all research and development jobs"<sup>102</sup> in the country. Universities across the state have climate innovation hubs and specialized departments on clean energy technology. Many students create startups, helping to propel Massachusetts as the #1 state for climate-tech startups in 2023.<sup>103</sup> Alarmingly, as of July 2025, the Administration has targeted over \$580 million in federal funding across all of Massachusetts's universities and colleges,<sup>104</sup> with more grant cancellations on the way. Stakeholders described the uphill battle of **"trying to maintain the leadership the state has in this space."**<sup>105</sup>

Staff spoke to researchers, professors, and admissions officers across multiple universities in the state, as well as to community and clean energy advocates that work with universities, to learn about the issues they are currently facing because of clean energy funding uncertainty.

### A. Massachusetts universities and research institutions are struggling to win contracts and are having to cut staff.

- An admissions officer shared how there has been a **"crunching of the ability to support students and faculty, a significant reduction in PhD and master's students. More researchers are turning away from this type of scholarship for fear of long-term viability."**<sup>106</sup>
- Multiple academics emphasized the risk their universities are taking, **"hoping that the funding will be there when they continue projects amidst funding freezes."**<sup>107</sup>
- One research center administrator shared how their colleagues are **"closing up shop. We have a skeleton crew of 3 people and have had to lay off many more."**<sup>108</sup>
- Another research institution illustrated how competitive funding has gotten at the higher education level, communicating that their institute is **"in an opportunity-starved environment. There are fewer funding opportunities on the federal level and on the state level. We have experienced firsthand fiercer competition for projects. There used to only be 1-3 other bidders, but now we are competing with 17 other bidders for the same small pot of money. There has been a trickle down to the state and local levels, and it is affecting the entire social ecosystem."**<sup>109</sup>
- Across the board, research institutions and universities told staff that **"we are all scrambling to secure work and keep our people working. We are treading water. The ground is not stable, and difficult decisions are going to be made."**<sup>110</sup>

## B. Faculty at Massachusetts research institutions are worried about job security and report seriously considering leaving the country to continue their work.

- Professors share how “**losing our partnerships with federal agencies has already been a real blow. We still don’t know the status of these potential losses. All we can think about is job insecurity. We don’t know day by day whether we are going to have a job.**”<sup>111</sup>
- Researchers have been left wondering, “**What does this mean for research and energy justice? With everything that is happening to offshore wind, all of our junior professors are feeling really scared. Companies are pulling out, and there is so much uncertainty.**”<sup>112</sup>
- Another research institution illustrated how labs are dependent on a constant stream of funding, sharing that this has been “**a real disruptive issue on how labs operate. We rely on federal timelines for these things. We rely on the cycle for the research to continue. The unknown of what is going to happen next, along with the psychological toll of job security, has real consequences for individual labs, and it is very hard to come back from that. People are going to leave and go somewhere else.**”<sup>113</sup>
- University officials across multiple schools continuously emphasized the “**uncertainty of the whole thing. The sheer amount of uncertainty has paralyzed a lot of things. Even things that are not immediately threatened. We don’t know what is ahead. People are sitting on their hands and are uncomfortable spending money. Everything is frozen in the face of uncertainty.**”<sup>114</sup>
- The head of a top science department divulged that their colleagues have been discussing how “**some European professors teaching in the United States have been approached by their home countries with offers to move back to continue their research there, and many are considering it.**”<sup>115</sup>

## C. As a result of the Trump’s attacks on clean energy, Massachusetts researchers are worried the U.S. will lose its ‘cutting-edge’ status.

- One independent non-profit research institution shared its worry of “**consolidation across the industry**”<sup>116</sup> and how they are going to “**lose ground to other partners across the world on the global stage.**”<sup>117</sup>
- Another prominent research institution mentioned the issue of data availability among their colleagues, hinting that “**European governments are stockpiling data because they don’t trust the US to keep it.**”<sup>118</sup>
- The unifying message shared across all universities that staff talked with is that “**we’ve ceded so much intellectual expertise and infrastructure to non-US companies.**”<sup>119</sup>

## D. The Trump Administration's attacks are inhibiting Massachusetts communities' ability to understand environmental challenges and plan for the future.

- One researcher described the impact of funding cancellations for a beloved community justice project that served local residents, sharing, **"We used to have students go into a local environmental justice community to conduct an air quality and energy home usage study. That federal funding has been cancelled, and even though the university has tried to make up for the loss, it will no longer be able to run at the previous scale."**<sup>120</sup>
- The Trump Administration's attacks are working their way into the fabric of everyday conversations among communities about the future. A local clean energy advocate shared some of the questions they have been hearing from their neighbors: **"We don't know the long-term impacts on society. We were moving in a direction that was very promising, helping with infrastructure and jobs, but now what? It's as if all that work is slowing down, if not coming to an end. What is the vision for the other world on the other side? What are the priorities? What is the vision the Trump Administration is aiming for?"**<sup>121</sup>

# CONCLUSION

The clean energy sector is vital to Massachusetts' present and future, paving the path towards higher-paying jobs, lower energy prices, and economic growth. People from all over the world come to Massachusetts to study the clean energy field at top-tier institutions and conduct research on cutting-edge technology that will help lower energy prices, reduce pollution, and keep the lights on. The Trump Administration's attacks on the clean energy sector put Massachusetts' and the rest of the country's progress in jeopardy, harming consumers, workers, researchers, and entire communities. Americans nationwide deserve reliable and affordable clean energy.

## Endnotes

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