September 16, 2022

Patrick Woodcock, Commissioner
Department of Energy Resources
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 1020
Boston MA  02114

Dear Commissioner Woodcock,

I am writing on behalf of the Town of West Tisbury to formally withdraw our town from the list of ten who will participate in the pilot project focused on 100% electrification of new construction and major renovations. We would very much like to participate in the pilot project but cannot meet the required affordable housing criteria.

The Town of West Tisbury passed this legislation overwhelmingly because we believe that we must reduce carbon emissions from our building stock in order to meet our climate goals, as well as to meet the State and Federal goals of 50% reduction in emissions by 2030. Stopping the use of fossil fuels in new buildings and major renovations is a first, essential step in achieving these goals.

In stepping aside, we hope to make way for a major metropolitan region large, diverse municipality to be part of the pilot, providing an opportunity for a greater impact from this program.

Thank you for your department’s leadership and hard work on matters of climate policy. We urge you to fill our spot promptly and to begin the pilot project. Please advise us immediately if this letter does not suffice to effect our withdrawal from the demonstration project. We hope DOER agrees that no additional action on West Tisbury’s part is necessary and that our spot can be made available promptly to a municipality that satisfies the criteria set forth in the recent climate legislation.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Mitchell
Chair
West Tisbury Select Board