It is highly unprecedented for our State Legislature to pass three large Omnibus Climate Bills in three consecutive sessions, but that's what has happened with the passage of S.2967, An Act Promoting a Clean Energy Grid, Advancing Equity and Protecting Ratepayers., in late 2024.

It follows two other large and important climate bills: 2022 An Act Driving Clean Energy and Off-Shore Wind 2021 The Next Generation Roadmap Bill

In Massachusetts, 70% of our greenhouse gases (GHG) are generated by buildings and transportation, so naturally the legislature in MA focused on decreasing GHG in those sectors especially.

This is done through electrification. Electrification of heating, appliances, cars, buses, trains, etc. and we need the electricity to accomplish that to be produced by renewable non-combustible energy. Sources like solar, wind and geo-thermal need to replace fossil fuel as the energy sources we use. Additionally, we need a modernized grid, one with the infrastructure and storage technologies that can support that electrification.

At the Federal level, the impactful <u>Inflation Reduction Act</u>, passed August 2022, having many provisions in it that center on climate change and the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions, as well as addressing many deferred infrastructure needs nationwide that will promote safety, security, equity and jobs.

The legislative committee advocates for legislation to accomplish these goals, as well as legislation that promotes natural solutions to climate change and carbon sequestration. We also monitor developments in implementation efforts aimed at meeting the goals of the recent climate legislation. Our future success, post January 2025, is now threatened by the many regressive changes in Federal policy and loss of Federal funding that is rapidly being felt across America.

Here are some links to summaries of the bills mentioned above: 2024-MA Bill-An Act Promoting a Clean Energy Grid, Advancing Equity and Protecting Ratepayers here

2022-MA Bill-An Act Driving Clean Energy and Off-Shore Wind here

2022-Federal Bill-The Inflation Reduction Act here

2021-MA Bill- Next-Generation Roadmap for MA Climate Policy here