



To: City Council  
From: Alison M. Leary  
Re: Support for H.3137/SD.2603

A hearing has been scheduled at the State House **this Monday, June 5, 1 pm** on the bill that MOF and the Methane Gas Activists discussed at an April meeting with Rep. Jennifer Armini, the sponsor of [H.3137/SD.2603](#), *An act relative to intervenors and utility work*, known as the “Empowering Municipal Voices” bill.

**This bill will be a Game Changer for Municipalities!** It was specifically created to address the years! This bill deserves our full attention. Please support the effort in the following ways:

- Please testify either remotely or in person at the hearing, or submit written testimony to the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (TUE). Remarks are limited to three minutes. To testify remotely or in person, you must [fill out this form](#) before 11 am on Monday, June 5. Written testimony must be submitted by 5 pm on Tuesday, June 6.
- Please attend the hearing, either in person or remotely.
- Please submit written testimony, even if you testify orally at the hearing. This is an opportunity to share more details than you could fit into the 3 minutes of testimony. Please copy Reps Balser, Khan and Lawn and Sen. Creem (who is the sponsor of the Senate version of the bill) so they know of your support for the bill. Written testimony must be submitted by 5 pm on Tuesday, June 6.

**The bill’s primary purpose is to allow municipalities greater authority to ask gas companies for more information about the gas system.** Many of you know that I have been very frustrated with our lack of authority to engage with Ngrid in the Public Facilities Committee.

This is our chance to be able to work more collaboratively and effectively with Ngrid. The bill would also allow municipalities to intervene at the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) and to collect damages for damage to trees and other property from gas leaks or construction activity. DPU has done a miserable job managing the utilities and have put our communities at risk. (Remember this is the same agency that has oversight of the MBTA and you how well that's going).

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