

My name is Ginger Ryan and I live at 35 Crescent Street. I'm speaking with you today in support of Resolution #18. City Councillor Dennis Carlone proposed this resolution that calls for the City Council to not renew its contract with Transcanada and to contract with a different supplier that can provide electricity from 100% renewable sources to municipal buildings.

My husband and I have raised our two children, now 22 and 25 in Cambridge. . My worries about what sort of future we have bequeathed them and all of the world's children by not seriously confronting the impact of climate change is what keeps me up at night and why I am a member of Mothers Out Front.

The Keystone XL Pipeline is a project of Transcanada, the current supplier of our municipal electricity. Transcanada has been extracting and transporting Tar Sands, perhaps the dirtiest, most carbon rich fossil fuel on the planet. Jim Hansen, formerly climate scientist for NASA has said exploiting the Alberta Tar Sands will be "game over" for the planet. The way of life of the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation who have been stewards of the Boreal Forest that contain the tar sands has been threatened with extraordinary

high rates of cancer, ^{poisoned} waters and wildlife. We are asking Cambridge to take a moral stand by not renewing its contract with Transcanada. We can waste no more time in building fossil fuel infrastructure – the Keystone XL pipeline or the Kinder Morgan and Spectra pipelines here in Massachusetts. If we are to avoid catastrophic climate change, we must keep 80% of the known fossil fuel reserves in the ground. The time to “switch” to renewable sources of energy was yesterday. Both houses of Congress have voted for the Keystone pipeline—we’re hoping President Obama will reject the pipeline once and for all. Since Governor Baker took office and appointed affiliates of energy corporations to his Energy Board, NSTAR and National Grid have pulled out of Cape Wind. We clearly cannot depend on National leadership to make decisions about energy with people in mind. We must instead depend on Local leaders such as you to make bold decisions that put our children’s future before the profits of oil and gas companies.

As our leaders, you have the chance to take a significant step towards making a sustainable future for all of our city’s children by voting to support Resolution #18. When your children, your

grandchildren or the young people of this city ask you what you did to prevent climate catastrophe, you will be able to answer--when you had the chance to make a difference --you took it. You will have other chances which I trust you will also take, but your approval of Resolution #18 will inspire other cities and towns to take action as well.

Thank you for all that you do for all of us fortunate enough to live in Cambridge.