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NH Dept. of Safety

Eric Feldbaum
NH Dept. of Resources
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Garret Graaskamp
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Mark Hemmerlein
NH Dept. of Trans.

**David Rousseau/
Bob Wolff**
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Staff:

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N.H. Lakes Management and Protection Program

N.H. Lakes Management Advisory Committee

March 27, 2018

The Honorable Chris Christensen
Chair, House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 305
Concord, NH 03301

RE: **SB 309** *An act relative to standards for perfluorochemicals in drinking water, ambient groundwater, and surface water.*

Dear Chair Christensen and Members of the Committee:

The Lakes Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) appreciates the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 309, which seeks to set or update drinking water, groundwater, and surface water standards for four poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The LMAC opposes the deadlines imposed by this bill.

As a committee charged with overseeing the management of lakes for their recreational, scenic, water quality and wildlife habitat characteristics, the LMAC is primarily concerned with the portions of this bill that propose to set a state standard for PFAS in surface water and revise the standard for groundwater. The LMAC agrees that it is important to regulate PFAS in the state's surface waters and groundwater given the contamination that has been discovered in several locations throughout New Hampshire in the last two years. The committee also supports the legislation's aim of utilizing peer-reviewed science and government studies to set standards for PFAS that will protect the health of humans, fish, and wildlife. Given the magnitude and importance of this work, however, the LMAC suggests that both funding and additional time will be required to research the health risks, for both people and wildlife, associated with drinking and contacting water with various levels of PFAS in a rigorous and effective manner while also allowing time for public and stakeholder input into the process.

The LMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to administer RSA 483-A, the Lakes Management and Protection Program. The Governor and Council appointed Committee is comprised of 19 members representing academia, business, conservation organizations, lake associations, tourism, fish and game commission, marine trades, realtors, municipal government as well as several state agencies. Among its other

responsibilities, the LMAC reviews legislation relevant to the Program and the state's lakes and ponds, and advises the NHDES Commissioner on the merits of such legislation.

In conclusion, the LMAC opposes the timelines imposed by Senate Bill 309 due to the limited amount of information available on the impacts of PFAS and the short deadlines proposed in the bill in which to collect, synthesize, and report this information to New Hampshire's residents.

Should you have further questions about this testimony, please feel free to contact me at (603) 634-2299 or david.packard@graniteshorepower.com.

Sincerely,



David Packard
Chair

cc: Sen. Daniel Innis
Sen. Kevin Avar
Sen. Regina Birdsell
Sen. Jeb Bradley
Sen. Sharon Carson
Sen. Dan Feltes
Sen. William Gannon
Sen. Martha Fuller Clark
Sen. Ruth Ward
Rep. Philip Bean
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Rep. Henry Marsh
Rep. Mindi Messmer
Rep. Kate Murray
LMAC Representatives
Governor Chris Sununu
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES
Eugene Forbes, Director, Water Division, NHDES
Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Mgmt. Bur., NHDES
Tracie Sales, Rivers and Lakes Programs Manager, NHDES