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Chair

**Michele L. Tremblay**  
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**Alan Larter**

**Fredrick J. McNeill**

**Roger Noonan**

**Allan G. Palmer**

**James W. Ryan**

**Larry T. Spencer**

**Ruth Ward**

**Donald L. Ware**

Non-Voting Members:

**Mark Hemmerlein**

**Patrick Hummel**

**John Magee**

**Gail McWilliam Jellie**

**Elizabeth Peck**

**Susan Slack**

LMAC Voting Members:

**David W. Packard**  
Chair

**Shane R. Bradt**

**Linda L. Brownson**

**Frederick C. Clews**

**Robert W. Compton**

**John H. Cooley**

**Kimberly A. Hallquist**

**James S. Morash**

**Richard D. Smith**

**Mary D. Truell**

**Martha Twombly**

**Vacant - BIA**

**Vacant - Marine Trades**

Non-Voting Members:

**Susan Slack**  
Vice Chair

**Capt. Tim Dunleavy**

**Eric Feldbaum**

**Garret Graaskamp**

**Mark Hemmerlein**

**David Rousseau/  
Bob Wolff**

Staff:

**Jacquie Colburn  
Tracie Sales**

## NH Rivers & Lakes Management and Protection Programs NH Rivers & Lakes Management Advisory Committees

April 24, 2015

The Honourable Jeanie Forrester, Chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
State House Room 105  
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB2 relating to the Office of Energy and Planning

Dear Senator Forrester and members of the committee,

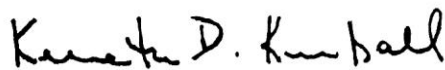
At their joint meeting on April 13, 2015, the representatives of the Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) and the Lakes Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) voted to oppose the removal of the Office of Energy and Planning's (OEP) representative from their respective Committees. We view the removal of the OEP representative as contrary to the intent of OEP's mission, and the change would require amendments to both RSA 483, the Rivers Management and Protection Program, and RSA 483-A, the Lakes Management and Protection Program.

The RMAC and LMAC representatives understand and are sympathetic to OEP's challenges in meeting its mission due to budget and staff cuts, and its desire to find ways to reduce workload. However, OEP's participation on these two Committees is valuable not only to the RMAC and LMAC, but also to OEP. The two Committees meet jointly and work holistically on a variety of issues and policies that are integral with OEP's mission and purpose. In addition to the Rivers and Lakes programs, these policies and issues include the Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act and review of state property lease and disposal proposals. Through interactions at both these fora, the OEP representative gains unique insight from each of the statewide interest groups represented on these Committees and provides valuable feedback. The OEP representative supplies continuity, advice, and balance to these Committees that are essential and help ensure the best possible outcomes.

The RMAC and LMAC are legislatively created bodies charged to work with NHDES on the administration of RSA 483 and 483-A, the Rivers Management and Protection Act and the Lakes Management and Protection Act. The Governor and Council appointed Committees are comprised of members representing academia, agriculture, water suppliers, business, conservation, lake and river organizations, historical interests, hydropower, tourism, fish and game commission, marine trades, realtors, municipal government and several state agencies. Among their other responsibilities, the RMAC and LMAC review legislation relevant to the state's most vital resources, its rivers, lakes, ponds and watersheds, and advise the NHDES Commissioner on the merits of such legislation.

In conclusion, the RMAC and LMAC recommend unanimously that the OEP's participation continue and its value be recognized as an efficient means of achieving its statutory mission.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Kimball, Chair  
Rivers Management Advisory Committee



David Packard, Chair  
Lakes Management Advisory Committee

CC: Meredith Hatfield, Executive Director, Office of Energy and Planning  
Representatives, Lakes Management Advisory Committee  
Representatives, Rivers Management Advisory Committee  
Jacquie Colburn, Rivers and Lakes Coordinator, NH Department of Environmental Services  
Shanna B. Saunders, President, NH Planners Association

29 Hazen Drive; PO Box 95; Concord, NH 03302-0095; Tel: 271-2959; Fax 271-7894

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/rivers/rmac/index.htm>

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/lakes/lmac/index.htm>