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**Elizabeth Peck**  
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**Susan Slack**  
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Energy & Planning

Staff:

**Tracie Sales**  
Watershed Planner,  
NHDES

**Vacant**  
Rivers and Lakes  
Coordinator, NHDES

N.H. Rivers Management and Protection Program

# N.H. Rivers Management Advisory Committee

April 5, 2016

The Honorable Jeanie Forrester, Chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
State House, Room 103  
Concord, NH 03301

**RE: HB 1428-FN-A-LOCAL** *Establishing the clean water state revolving fund non-program fund account in the department of environmental services for the purpose of funding eligible and completed wastewater projects under the state aid grant program.*

Dear Chair Forrester and Members of the Committee:

The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) appreciates the opportunity to express its support for House Bill 1428 as amended by the House, establishing the clean water state revolving fund non-program fund account in the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) for the purpose of funding eligible and completed wastewater projects under the state aid grant program. This bill would fund payments for years one and two of eight eligible wastewater infrastructure projects approved prior to December 31, 2008 but not included on the NHDES "delayed and deferred" list of projects waiting for state aid grants.

The state aid grant program for water pollution control is a critical resource for communities who need to update their water treatment infrastructure but may not be able to afford these important projects. Eliminating the flow of polluted water into New Hampshire's rivers and lakes is essential not only for the health of those waterbodies and the fish and wildlife that rely on them, but also for the health of residents who utilize them for drinking water and recreation. New Hampshire's clean rivers and lakes are key components to attracting tourists and maintaining a healthy state economy.

The RMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with NHDES to administer RSA 483. The Governor and Council appointed Committee is comprised of members from business, agriculture, hydroelectric, municipal government, water supply, conservation, recreation, fish and game, and historical interests. Among its other responsibilities, the RMAC is charged with reviewing legislation relevant to the Program and with advising the NHDES Commissioner on the merits of such legislation.

In conclusion, the RMAC supports HB 1428 as amended by the house, supporting payments to communities for wastewater infrastructure projects. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at [kkimball@outdoors.org](mailto:kkimball@outdoors.org) or (603) 466-8149.

Sincerely,



Kenneth D. Kimball, Ph.D., Chair

cc: Rep. Thomas Bucu  
Sen. Martha Fuller Clark  
RMAC Members  
LAC Chairs

Thomas Burack, Commissioner, NHDES  
Eugene Forbes, Director, Water Division, NHDES  
Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Mgmt. Bur., NHDES  
Tracie Sales, Watershed Planner, NHDES

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