



The State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner

January 19, 2016

The Honorable Senator David Boutin, Chair
Senate Ways and Means Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 103
Concord, NH 03301

RE: SB440 relative to repealing the repeal of certain fees.

Dear Chairman Boutin:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SB 1517, which would repeal a provision of Chapter Law that would otherwise sunset the requirement that application fees be submitted with applications for Shoreland Impact Permits under RSA 483-B, the Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act (the Act), from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). NHDES supports this bill.

This legislation would repeal a provision within Chapter 5 of the Laws of 2008, that currently sunsets the application fee requirement associated with obtaining a Shoreland Impact Permit as of July 1, 2016. It is important to note that under that Chapter Law only the fee will sunset; all other aspects of the Act will remain in place, including the permit requirement and NHDES' obligation to investigate complaints and enforce compliance with the Act's provisions. The current rate of application fee collection has been sufficient for NHDES to implement the program without the need to draw on other funds. This legislation will simply continue the existing funding mechanism and have no additional impact on the regulated community.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Rene Pelletier at 271-2951 or Rene.Pelletier@des.nh.gov or me at 271-3449 or Thomas.burack@des.nh.gov.

Sincerely,

Thomas S. Burack
Commissioner

cc: Sponsors of SB 440: Sens. Bradley, Woodburn, Fuller Clark, Boutin, Feltes; Reps. Christensen, Spang, Abrami, Almy, Gottling, Parker, Mullen, Hess, Henle, Schmidt.