



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

April 10, 2018

The Honorable Kevin Avard
Chair, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
State House, Room 103
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 1810, An Act establishing a commission to study the effectiveness of the current statutes related to management of non-tidal public water ways and the construction or placement of structures within them.

Dear Chair Avard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 1810, establishing a commission to study the effectiveness of the current statutes related to management of non-tidal public water ways and the construction or placement of structures within them. It has been at least 30 years since the last effort was undertaken to review the ways in which New Hampshire's non-tidal public waters are utilized, their importance to various aspects of the economy, and the criteria and processes under which individuals and businesses are authorized to install structures within them. During this time the State's population and economy have undergone significant changes which have affected the pressures placed on non-tidal public waters. As the agency tasked with reviewing requests to construct or place structures within public waters and balancing the needs of various stakeholder groups having a vested interest in the use of those waters, NHDES strongly supports this legislation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on HB 1810. If you have further questions or need additional information, please contact Rene Pelletier (Rene.Pelletier@des.nh.gov 271-2951) or Darlene Forst (Darlene.forst@des.nh.gov 271-4067).

Sincerely,

Robert R. Scott
Commissioner

cc: Representatives Mullen, McConkey, and Chandler, and Senator Bradley