

To whom it may concern,

We feel that the new proposed DES review rules are deficient in many areas:

They do not allow enough time for Conservation Commissions to comment on projects and make informed decisions.

They take the conservation commission out of some commenting processes altogether, which is detrimental to keeping development from contaminating wetlands and groundwater.

The new rules do not allow DES enough time to process and investigate information, unless they were to receive a staffing increase, which they are not to receive.

The online submission process would make it difficult for small towns who do not have the funds for such advanced computer systems.

We believe that rules should be reviewed and updated but we do not feel that these are the proper changes. All parties (both conservation and development) should have been more involved and better represented in the process of reviewing the rules for changes. We strongly recommend that you start again and that the proposed changes be scrapped.