



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

May 3, 2021

The Honorable Kevin Avar
Chairman, Energy and Natural Resources Committee
State House, Senate Chamber
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 235, AN ACT addressing impacts to other water users from new sources of water for community water systems

Amendment 2021-1218s: Relative to the PFAS fund and programs

Dear Chairman Avar and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on proposed amendment 2021-1218s to HB 235. This amendment would repeal and re-enact RSA 485-H:3 to make municipalities eligible for the low interest loan program that is currently available to community water systems impacted by PFAS contamination. The amendment also makes other clarifications to RSA 485-F and 485-H.

NHDES has requested and supports this amendment because it provides vital assistance to municipalities that are struggling to address PFAS contamination in private drinking water wells in their communities, and will clarify the administration of the PFAS Remediation Loan Fund. The Fund was established by the legislature during the 2020 session in order to provide low interest financing to community water systems. This amendment will also make municipalities that do not currently operate water systems eligible to obtain financing in order to address PFAS contamination in their communities.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of proposed amendment 2021-1218s. Should you have questions, please feel free to contact either Mike Wimsatt, Waste Management Division Director, at michael.j.wimsatt@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-1997 or Amy Rousseau, PFAS Response Administrator at amy.e.rousseau@des.nh.gov or (603) 848-1372.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Scott
Commissioner

cc: Sponsors of HB 235: Representatives Pearson, Guthrie, Green, Welch, Hobson, Weyler, Salloway, and Senator Birdsell. Sponsor of Amendment 2021-1218s: Senators Watters and Morse