



Donna Donovan &lt;ddonovan@natickma.org&gt;

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**Re: Petition to Amend Water Management Act Regulations - Registered Water Sources**

1 message

**Jonathan Freedman** <jfreedman@natickma.org>

Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 12:21 PM

To: Jeremy Marsette &lt;jmarsette@natickma.org&gt;

Cc: Martha White &lt;mwhite@natickma.org&gt;, "Bill Chenard," &lt;chenard@natickma.org&gt;, Anthony Comeau &lt;acomeau@natickma.org&gt;, Casey Ciapciak &lt;cciapciak@natickma.org&gt;, Patricia O'Neil &lt;poneil@natickma.org&gt;, Donna Donovan &lt;ddonovan@natickma.org&gt;

Hi Jeremy --

Thanks for passing this along and keeping us informed of this petition. The letter was very well-written, and I appreciate your team acting proactively to respond to the petition -- in addition, of course, to your excellent stewardship of our water supply.

Trish, Donna -- could you add this to our correspondence file on Novus?

Thanks,

Jon

On Thu, Sep 14, 2017 at 1:52 PM, Jeremy Marsette <jmarsette@natickma.org> wrote:

Jonathan/Martha,

On Tuesday September 12, Anthony Comeau Water/Sewer Division Supervisor, Casey Ciapciak Compliance Coordinator, and myself attended a public hearing held by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to hear testimony related to a petition submitted by the Massachusetts Rivers Alliance to amend the Water Management Act Regulations.

The hearing was well attended and many municipal water suppliers, a few watershed associations, the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, the Massachusetts Municipal Association, and the Massachusetts Water Works Association attended the hearing. Many attendees provided testimony at the hearing or provided written testimony. Testimony provided by the Natick Department of Public Works is attached (copied to Senator Spilka and Representative Linsky).

All municipal water suppliers present, the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, the Massachusetts Municipal Association, and the Massachusetts Water Works Association opposed the petition and urged MassDEP to reject it outright.

The petition requests that MassDEP impose many of the same regulations on Registered Drinking Water Well Supplies as it currently does currently for Permitted Drinking Water Well Supplies. Specifically, limits on seasonal water use (mandatory seasonal use restrictions), applying the 65 gallon per person per day limits on use (imposing some sort of penalties for greater use), limiting unaccounted for water to less than 10% (again penalties if over), increased restrictions on areas within cold water fisheries, among others.

A very large portion of the Town of Natick's water supply is from Registered sources. If MassDEP implements the regulations as petitioned by the Alliance, it would greatly limit Natick's flexibility in managing its water supply needs. The Town of Natick has been and continues to be a responsible environmental steward of the water resources of our community. As noted in the attached correspondence, Natick consistently pumps well below the volumes allowed by its Well Registrations (in fact the annual use from registered sources has slowly declined over the last ten years).

The below web link provides additional information regarding the petition and hearing:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/watersheds/petition-amend-wma-regulations.html>

MassDEP has ten days from the date of the hearing to make a determination on the petition.

Thank you,  
Jeremy

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Jeremy Marsette, PE  
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Jonathan Freedman  
Chair, Natick Board of Selectmen  
Chair, Financial Planning Commttee  
Chair, Audit Advisory Committee  
Vice Chair, KMS Building Committee

Please note that the Massachusetts Secretary of State considers e-mail to be a public record, and therefore subject to the Massachusetts Public Records Law (M.G.L. c. 66 § 10).