



Brunswick Sewer District

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MAY 03, 2021

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

LD 676: AN ACT TO RECLASSIFY PART OF THE ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER TO CLASS B

GOOD MORNING SENATE CHAIR BRENNER AND REPRESENTATIVE CHAIR TUCKER, AND MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

MY NAME IS LEONARD BLANCHETTE, GENERAL MANAGER FOR THE BRUNSWICK SEWER DISTRICT. ON BEHALF OF THE DISTRICT AND ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES, I OFFER THIS TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF LD 676, AN ACT TO RECLASSIFY PART OF THE ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER TO CLASS B.

WE ARE ONE OF THREE POTW_s (PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS) THAT WOULD BE DIRECTLY IMPACTED BY THE RECLASSIFICATION OF THE LOWER ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER. BY IMPACTED, I MEAN THAT OUR MDEP ISSUED WASTEWATER DISCHARGE PERMIT WOULD BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE MORE STRINGENT LIMITS TO ASSURE THAT OUR EFFLUENT DISCHARGES TO THE ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER MEET THE CLASS B WATER QUALITY STANDARD. AND WE ARE CONFIDENT WE CAN MEET THE MORE STRINGENT DISCHARGE LIMITS REQUIRED OF A CLASS B DESIGNATION.

WE UNDERSTAND MDEP'S INTERPRETATION OF THE WATER QUALITY CRITERIA AND THEIR CONCLUSION THAT THE LOWER ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER CANNOT AT THIS TIME CONSISTENTLY MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF A CLASS B DESIGNATION.

IT HAS BEEN A GOAL OF THIS DISTRICT AND ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO SUPPORT ALL EFFORTS THAT WILL LEAD TO THE RECLASSIFICATION OF THE LOWER ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER TO CLASS B. AS SUCH, WE FULLY SUPPORT THIS BILL AND RECOMMEND AN OUGHT TO PASS FOR LD 676.

THANK YOU.