

## Board of Selectmen

100 Main Street  
Topsham, Maine 04086

## Town of Topsham

Town office (207) 725-5821  
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September 18, 2008

Mr. Ernest Hilton, Chair  
Maine Board of Environmental Protection  
#17 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017

Re: Reclassification of the Androscoggin River pursuant to 38  
MRSA, secs. 464 and 465

The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Topsham is pleased to advise you of its enthusiastic support of the reclassification of the Androscoggin River from the Durham Boat launch or Worumbo Dam to its mouth at Merrymeeting Bay from Class C to Class B as set forth in the petition of the Friends of Merrymeeting Bay. Reclassification will result in the maintenance of Class B standards which are presently being met in this section of the river as well as in other sections. Reclassification will also provide the river with increased protection against degradation in the future which will enable its condition to continue to improve.

As you know, upgrades to reclassification are appropriate where it is socially or ecologically desirable to attain higher standards and when the technological and financial capacity exists to achieve those higher standards within a reasonable time.

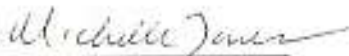
The Town of Topsham has experienced major and welcome development along the river, and we look forward to more. In light of the tremendous potential for social, recreational, environmental and economic benefit to be derived by the entire river valley, and in particular the Town of Topsham, from an improved river, and the fact that the data shows the river presently attains Class B status, demonstrating that it is clearly technologically and financially feasible to attain Class B status, the requested reclassification is appropriate.

Therefore, on behalf of the Town of Topsham, we, the Board of Selectmen, do hereby implore the Board of Environmental Protection to approve the reclassification of the Androscoggin River to Class B at your meeting now scheduled for September 18, 2008.

Your kind consideration of this request is sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely,

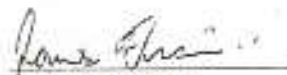
Topsham Board of Selectmen



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