



## Town of Brunswick, Maine

INCORPORATED 1739

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

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September 17, 2008

Mr. Ernest Hilton, Chairman  
Maine Board of Environmental Protection  
State House Station 17  
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: Reclassification of the Androscoggin River pursuant to 38 MRSA,  
Sections 454 and 465

Dear Mr. Hilton:

At their meeting on September 15, 2008, the Brunswick Town Council voted unanimously in 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 (FOMB).

Reclassification will result in the maintenance of Class B standards, which FOMB data clearly show are presently being met in this section of the river. Reclassification will provide the river with increased protection against degradation in the future, which will enable its condition to continue to improve.

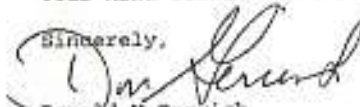
As you know, classification upgrades are appropriate where it is socially or ecologically desirable to attain higher standards and when the technological and financial capacity exists to achieve those higher standards within a reasonable time. Because the river already meets Class B standards (i.e., it is clearly technologically and financially feasible to meet them), and because there is also clear social and ecological benefit from a cleaner river, the requested classification is appropriate.

The experience of other communities around the nation has shown time and again the tremendous potential for social, recreational, environmental and economic benefit from river restorations.

Therefore, on behalf of the Brunswick Town Council, we implore the Board of Environmental Protection to approve the reclassification of the Androscoggin River below Lewiston/Auburn to Class B, at your meeting now scheduled for September 18, 2008.

Your kind consideration of this request is sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely,



Donald H. Gerrish  
Town Manager

DHG/pf  
cc: Brunswick Town Council