

To: Ernest Hilton, Chair
Maine Board of Environmental Protection

From: Board of Selectmen, Durham, Maine

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

Date: September 16, 2008

The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Durham 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 that 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 that 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.

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 Durham, 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 Durham, 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.

Board of Selectmen
for the Town of Durham

By: 

By: 

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