

From: [REDACTED]
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Subject: Aquatic Nuisance Control Study Committee
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Dear Members,

It is unclear to me to what degree the public will have access to and input in the work of the study committee. I hope consideration will be given to the following:

1. Who gets to apply for a permit? Is there any verification by the ANR/ DEC that the applicants are accurately presenting themselves? Example: While the Lake Bomoseen Association board of directors may claim to represent property owners and lake users, the LBA's current membership is only 130 (down from a one time high of 450-500 members) At best they represent 10% of lake property owners and a small fraction of lake users. The LB Preservation Trust is four self appointed individuals. (They do not have members.) Their function appears to be to provide anonymity to large donors while choosing which projects they wish to fund. Neither group makes meeting minutes available to dues paying members or the public.
2. Is there a compelling NEED to treat the specific body of water with an herbicide? Is this something a group WANTS to try or is there overwhelming data supporting the NEED for chemical treatment to either protect public health or prevent urgent, imminent ecological harm?
3. Does the permitting process give equal consideration to keeping a lake herbicide free; providing opportunities for further research and avoiding unforeseen consequences to non target species?

Thank you for your consideration.

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