From: ANR - WSMD Lakes
To: Jensen, Kimberly

Subject: FW: Act 57 ANC Study Committee
Date: Thursday, November 16, 2023 2:33:59 PM

Thank you,

Kelcie Bean (she/her)

You may now submit permit applications, compliance reports and fee payments through our online form to expedite its receipt and review: <u>ANR Online Intake Form</u>



Kelcie Bean (she/her), Environmental Technician

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources | Department of Environmental Conservation Watershed Management Division | Business & Operation Support Services (BOSS)

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http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed

The Agency of Natural Resources supports telework, and I work primarily remotely. I am available to connect by phone and email.

Public Records Statement: Written communications to and from state officials regarding state business are considered public records and may be subject to public scrutiny.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 11:01 AM

To: ANR - WSMD Lakes <ANR.WSMDLakes@vermont.gov>

Cc:

Subject: Re: Act 57 ANC Study Committee

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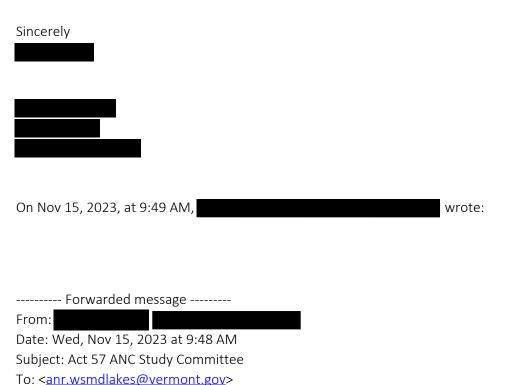
Dear ProcellaCOR Committee,

my family has had a cottage on Bebee Pond for my entire life.

I do not enjoy weeds, particularily Eurasion Milfoil, and I understand that this Milfoil is invasive and has a negative impact on the lake environment and other species, however, I do not support the use of chemicals in lakes. ProcellaCOR is a fairly recently developed herbicide, and though there are no documented negative impacts or side effects now, we don't know the long term effects of this

chemical on indigenous plants, trees, aquatic creatures, fish that people may be eating and water that animals and people ingest/the watershed ecosystem. As my mother Barbara mentioned, the chemical only has a short term seasonal effect, so to keep the milfoil under control we will need to use this chemical repeatedly, infinitum.

I also have misgivings about the development of this chemical. I do not support animal testing, whether direct or indirect, and many chemical labs create harmful/toxic residues and have negative environmental impacts. Upon researching ProcellaCOR I found that this chemical is tested on fish, and possibly other creatures. I would like to advocate to keep this herbicide out of Bebee Pond & other lakes and to continue the pursuit of more natural treatments for the milfoil invasion.



To the Committee Studying ProcellaCOR:

My name is and I have summered on Beebe Lake in Rutland County for 55 years. I was among the residents who hand-pulled lake-wide when the Eurasian milfoil first appeared. Was that the late 70's or early 80's? I'm not sure. Later, we added installing bottom barriers in deeper water. When Eurasian milfoil was still spreading, we used a raft (called ANTI M) to do suction harvesting. Volunteers from the lake worked the raft while hired divers tried to uproot it and suction it onto the raft. Of course, it then needed to be delivered to shore and hauled away to a safe place. That was hard work! Finally, we were all aging and we hired divers to do the entire process. I'm not sure of the timeline but it certainly lasted into the early 2000's, perhaps 25 years. As we could no longer handle this work ourselves, it became a financial burden for the lake community!

About 15 years ago perhaps we gave up on pulling - but the milfoil took advantage of that respite! The Eurasian milfoil multiplied. We finally and reluctantly resorted to a permit to use Sonar,

according to state guidelines. It was a bit unnerving when every plant in the lake disappeared! Of course, when that program ended and the lake was empty of weed, the milfoil came back with a vengeance - especially the Eurasian milfoil.

Now we have a permit for ProcellaCOR. It does not seem to harm the fish or native aquatic species. However, this year we took a rest and the weed has multiplied again! It is an unending battle!

I am now convinced that this is a never-ending process! I am old and will not need to help finance this much longer. But if I were a young person and had to consider financing this control for the rest of my time at the lake, I'm not certain I would vote to continue this ProcellaCOR. My daughters also disapprove of the fact that this herbicide is tested on aquatic animals (and of course it must be to ensure it is safe).

In closing, I would say that ProcellaCOR is not damaging to lakes or aquatic animals and fish and should be allowed in lakes where residents want to invest money not in eradicating but just controlling Eurasian milfoil. If I had known years ago that this was only a control and would need to be applied forever, I probably would not have voted to use it!

Sincerely,