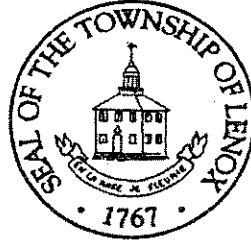


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February 10, 2009

Ian A. Bowles, Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Attn: Elizabeth Sorenson, ACEC Program
Department of Conservation and Recreation
251 Causeway Street, Suite 700
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Upper Housatonic River ACEC and EPA

Dear Secretary Bowles,

We wish to supplement our comments to you about the proposed Upper Housatonic River ACEC in light of the February 5 letter you have received from the US Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Site Remediation and Restoration. As we noted in our last letter to you, one of the reasons the Town of Lenox strongly supports the establishment of this new ACEC is that it should "raise the bar" for the upcoming PCB clean-up efforts. EPA's letter makes a series of requests that, if granted, negates this very goal. We urge you to not grant EPA's requests. All activity within the new ACEC should be required to meet the standards established by this special designation.

While we appreciate the efforts to date of the EPA to ensure that the Rest of River clean-up be done in such a manner as to "avoid, minimize, or mitigate negative impacts on environmentally sensitive areas" we believe, contrary to EPA's assertion, that the ACEC requirements constitute applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs) that, if necessary, should be utilized by the commonwealth to obtain a clean-up plan that best meets the requirements of an ACEC and the needs of the community.

We look forward to your leadership in designating the Upper Housatonic River ACEC as nominated and upholding the high standards for all proposed activity within its borders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Pavlosky".

Stephen Pavlosky
Chairman, Board of Selectmen

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roscoe Sandlin".

Roscoe Sandlin
Clerk, Board of Selectmen