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202 Hathaway's Point Road  
[REDACTED] 05478  
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Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets  
c/o Ms. Laura DiPietro  
116 State Street  
Montpelier, Vermont 05620

Re: CLF Petition to Require Mandatory Pollution Control  
AAFM docket # 2014-06-04-ARM

Dear Ms. DiPietro,

My family has lived on and loved St. Albans Bay for five generations. I currently own a summer cottage on Hathaway's Point. My mother and her brother own the home next door.

As a child, I distinctly remember sitting out in the Bay in our old wooden boat and watching fish swim by well below the surface. At the dock, we could see the fish and literally place our worm filled fishing hooks right before them (not very sporting, I admit). There was never an issue with water quality; we enjoyed the Bay all summer long.

I similarly remember when the weeds started to grow and take over and the first algae bloom. Since that time—and it has been decades—there has been a collective realization that the water quality is deteriorating drastically but only sporadic, seemingly minimal and unfocused efforts to curb and ameliorate the situation. By way of example, I know that my grandparents, some 40 years ago, participated in a water quality "survey." During the summer months, they rowed their small boat out the same distance from the shore each day and lowered a disk into the water, measuring how far down it was submerged before they lost sight of it. I remember years and years of a "weed machine" that appeared to cut weeds out of the water close to the shore. When the government evidently abandoned that effort, those of us who lived along the shore contributed financially so that the work could continue. I don't think it helped much, but it was something. There were also the years of the "solarbees," which we were told would assist with water quality. In my unscientific estimation, these efforts have done absolutely nothing to stave off further deterioration of the Bay.

In fact, things are getting worse, much worse. I attribute this, in large part, to the fact that little has been done to address the actual problem of run-off. I drive by farms, very near the Bay, and see cows standing in streams. I see piles upon piles of manure that, I'm quite certain, make their way into the Bay. The St. Albans Town Park, which was once beautiful (and filled with picnickers), is now practically unusable. This summer, the stench emanating from that area of

the Bay would turn your stomach. I kayaked down to the park a few weeks ago and worried that the water quality was so poor that it might actually sicken my friends and me. As has come to be the norm, we simply can't swim in the Bay in August. This summer, we had to go all the way to Woods Island to find water clean enough for us to swim.

For me, ironically, I pay over \$5000.00 in annual property taxes because my summer cottage is on the Bay. Yet, because of the horrendous water quality, I cannot enjoy my home and its proximity to the lake for a significant part of the summer. More importantly, however, one of Vermont's greatest resources is literally dying before your eyes. It's past time to take action. I urge the granting of CLF's Petition. I fear that very soon it will simply be too late.

Most sincerely,



Handwritten signature of Judith C. Ensor in black ink, featuring a large, stylized initial 'J' and a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Judith C. Ensor