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City of Dover, New Hampshire

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

May 6, 2020

Mr. Michael Cobb
U.S. EPA, Water Division
Municipal Permits Section
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (06-1)
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Re: City of Dover, New Hampshire's Comments on Great Bay Total Nitrogen General Permit, NPDES Permit No. NHG58A000, 2020 Draft General Permit, published in 85 F.R. 708 (January 7, 2020)

Dear Mr. Cobb:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Great Bay Total Nitrogen General Permit, NPDES Permit No. NHG58A000, 2020 Draft General Permit, 85 F.R. 708 (January 7, 2020) ("Draft Permit"). I am writing on behalf of the City of Dover, New Hampshire ("Dover"), to provide Dover's comments on the Draft Permit.

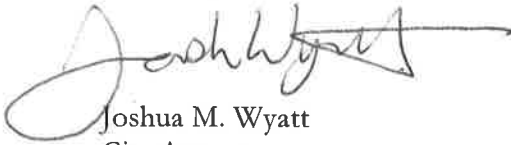
Dover's comments consist of (1) this letter, (2) the 130 pages of accompanying narrative comments, incorporated herein by reference, (3) Dover's attached economic impact statement from Community Services Director John Storer, accompanying this letter and incorporated by reference; (4) the accompanying documents and exhibits relating to Dover's narrative comments, which documents are also incorporated herein by reference; and (5) the verbal comments expressed by Dover representatives at the February 19, 2020 hearing.

Dover looks forward to collaborating with the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") on this matter. While Dover's comments are extensive, they are meant to be constructive. As a general observation, Dover's hope is that any necessary permitting framework be driven by the best available science, all to the benefit of Great Bay and its surrounding communities. As part of those efforts, Dover is submitting comments from several renowned experts in this field. Dover is also submitting a verified, calibrated, hydrodynamic model specific to Great Bay. Dover has worked for several years, with input and positive reactions from state and federal regulators, to refine that hydrodynamic model.

Please also note that Dover's comments request an independent peer review of the Draft Permit. The Draft Permit satisfies the EPA's criteria for conducting such a review. As mentioned above, the best science available should inform any necessary permitting requirements in order to avoid substantial, unnecessary expenditures and harm to local economies without corresponding improvements in eel grass or water quality.

Thank you for your consideration of Dover's comments on this important proposed regulatory decision. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at 603-516-6521 or by email at j.wyatt@dover.nh.gov.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joshua M. Wyatt", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joshua M. Wyatt
City Attorney

cc: City of Dover Mayor and City Council
J. Michael Joyal, Jr., City Manager
John Storer, Director of Community Services