



INCORPORATED 1757

# Town of Hopkinton

HOPKINTON, RHODE ISLAND 02833

July 28, 2021

Lisa Pellegrini, Director  
Department of Development Services  
Town of Westerly  
45 Broad Street  
Westerly, RI 02891

Re: Proposed Potter Hill Dam Removal

Dear Ms. Pellegrini,

The purpose of my letter is to request a meeting with the Town of Westerly and its partners regarding the proposed Potter Hill Dam removal. The Hopkinton Town Council has appointed a committee to investigate the concerns of residents and would like this committee to be part of any meeting that may be agreed upon to discuss their findings.

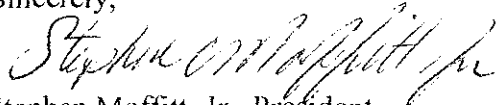
This matter was brought to the Town's attention this past March 2021 when the Town Council was informed that a meeting was being held in Westerly. No notification was provided to Hopkinton Officials. During the site visit, assurances were made that Hopkinton would be involved; unfortunately, this has not happened. Hopkinton has had no seat at the table. The Town Council has appointed a committee to investigate the concerns of residents

Hopkinton residents are very concerned about the effects and consequences of dam removal and would like to ensure it will be done with great care and sensitivity not only to fish and wildlife but to residents whose wells will be impacted and whose properties will be devalued. Serious consideration should be given to a dam removal plan and design like the one used in the Bradford dam removal and the Kenyon dam removal that will have no impact on residents' well water; maintain water levels at or near current status; that will improve fish passage; that will remove the risk of dam failure; and, that will have no loss of wildlife habitat.

Hopkinton would like assurances from Westerly that funding has been planned for and will be available to Hopkinton families whose well may need to be replaced because it has failed. The Town of Westerly has Town water. The Town of Hopkinton does not have this infrastructure; we have individual wells.

I appreciate your consideration and attention to this matter of importance to the Town of Hopkinton, RI. Should you wish to contact me, correspondence may be sent to my attention to the Hopkinton Town Clerk's Office, 1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 02833 and I may be reached by phone at (401) 741-1276. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Stephen Moffitt, Jr., President  
Hopkinton Town Council

Cc: Honorable Westerly Town Council  
Town Manager Mark Rooney  
RIDEM  
NOAA  
Scott Comings/TNC  
WPWA  
Southern RI Conservation District  
Representative Brian P. Kennedy  
Representative Justin Price  
Senator Elaine Morgan  
Representative Blake Filippi  
Representative Samuel Azzinaro  
Hopkinton Potter Hill Dam Information Committee