

# Town of Windham

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June 11, 2013

Hon. Paul R. LePage, Governor  
Office of the Governor  
1 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0001

Re: Letter of Concurrence  
Placement of the Former Keddy Mill on the Superfund National Priority List

Dear Governor LePage:

For many years we and our predecessor councilors, and our staff, have been working with the community and a succession of property owners and developers to redevelop a derelict, abandoned mill in South Windham. In the 1990s, working with the Town of Gorham and residents in the Little Falls village, our neighbors across the Presumpscot River, we developed a plan for revitalizing this once bustling industrial village. A key part of realizing the plan's vision was the redevelopment of the abandoned mill that occupies a central and prominent place in the village. However, investigatory work by property owners and developers, and assessment work coordinated by the Town of Windham through a federal Brownfields assessment grant, we have determined that contamination found on the property is beyond our means and ability to completely investigate and clean up, and presents a barrier both to the property's redevelopment and the village's revitalization.

Since about 2003 there have been successive rounds of sampling, testing, and field investigation by engineers working for the property's owners and prospective developers, and by the Town with the assistance of staff at the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Those efforts have revealed the widespread presence of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) on the site, in the soil, and leaching or running off the site and into the Presumpscot River. Those findings have put a halt to any effort at redevelopment, and have refocused our efforts on getting the property cleaned up.

In recent months we have been working with staff from DEP and EPA to understand where we are in the process of addressing the abandoned mill site and where it fits in terms of programs

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designed to investigate and clean up contamination like that found in South Windham. We have collectively determined that the contamination and the need for further assessment and remediation goes beyond the scope of the town's EPA Brownfields grant program and the state's hazardous uncontrolled sites program, and have been working on developing a package for putting the property on the National Priority List for Superfund. We understand that a necessary part of that package will be a letter of concurrence from you in support of the listing, and we send you this letter to demonstrate our support and commitment to seeing this site cleaned up and of your decision to concur with the listing.

Respectfully Yours,

The Windham Town Council

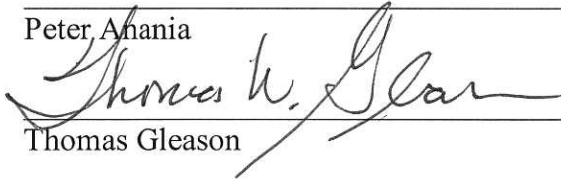


Matthew Noel, Chairman



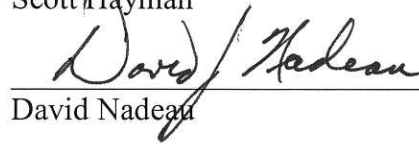
Kevin Call, Vice Chairman

Peter Anania



Thomas Gleason

Scott Hayman



David Nadeau

Dennis Welch

cc: U.S. Senator Susan Collins  
U.S. Senator Angus King  
U.S. Representative Chellie Pingree, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Senator Gary Plummer, Maine Senate District 12  
Representative Jane Pringle, Maine House District 111  
Representative Thomas Tyler, Maine House District 110