

TOWN OF LEE Office of Select Board 32 Main Street

Lee, Massachusetts 01238

Tel. 413-409-5975 Fax. 413-243-5523

Website: lee.ma.us

April 19, 2023

Select Board Town of Great Barrington 334 Main Street Great Barrington, MA 01230

Dear Select Board Members:

The Rest of River (RoR) Committee voted 4-1 in public session on March 27, 2023 to provide Seeger Weiss with \$15,000 as an "intervenor" in the First Circuit Court of Appeals case of The Housatonic River Initiative (HRI) vs. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and General Electric (GE). This vote has caused our Board much concern over the legitimacy of the RoR Committee as well as its members relationship and responsibility to the respective Select Boards that they serve under.

Ideally, members of the RoR Committee would seek advice and approval of the full Select Board before agreeing to provide legal representation that potentially favors EPA and GE in constructing PCB landfill in the Town of Lee. We fear, however, that this consultation did not happen and are hopeful that your Board would not have supported these efforts to undermine a case that could potentially save the Town of Lee from receiving a toxic landfill. While we were not asking or expecting the Committee to provide legal support to HRI, we feel that supporting GE was contradictory to RoR's mission to "advocate common Housatonic River cleanup goals for the Rest of River to the EPA".

In light of these events, we respectfully ask that the Lee Select Board have the opportunity to speak to your Board regarding the RoR situation at an open public meeting this spring. We look forward to hearing from you regarding this important matter.

Sincerely,

Sean Regnier
Select Board Chair

Bob Jones
Select Board Member

Gordon D. Bailey Select Board Member

Forder D Bailey



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Select Board Town of Lenox 6 Walker Street Lenox, MA 01240

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Select Board Town of Sheffield 21 Depot Square Sheffield, MA 01257

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Select Board Town of Stockbridge 50 Main Street Stockbridge, MA 01262

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