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March 15, 2013

Samuel D. Rauch
Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway
Room 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910
ATTN: William Chappell

Dear Mr. Rauch:

I am submitting four individuals as nominees for the two vacant at-large seats on the New England Fishery Management Council (Council). Included are the completed application kits for the nominees.

My selections were made from a list of candidates who responded to the efforts of the Commonwealth's Division of Marine Fisheries (*MarineFisheries*) to solicit interest in the Council positions. Those efforts included announcement over the Division's email listserv, posting on the *MarineFisheries* website, and outreach by *MarineFisheries* staff to potentially qualified candidates. Efforts were made to consider qualified women and minority candidates. Those whom I am nominating are eligible by reason of occupational or other experience, scientific expertise, or training, thereby making them knowledgeable and experienced in ways related to the fishery resources of New England. My office has completed an initial background review of each nominee.

For the at-large seat currently occupied by Colin "Rip" Cunningham of Massachusetts, I nominate in order of preference:

- **Michael P. Sissenwine.** Dr. Sissenwine has provided scientific advice in support of fisheries management worldwide for nearly 40 years. Following retirement from an extensive career at the National Marine Fisheries Service, he is now an independent marine science consultant, member of the New England and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils' Scientific and Statistical Committees, Visiting Scholar of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and Adjunct Professor at the University of Massachusetts School for Marine Science and Technology. Dr. Sissenwine held numerous leadership positions within the federal fisheries agency, including Senior Scientist (overseeing the agency's scientific programs throughout the country), Director of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center (responsible for the administration of five national scientific laboratories), and most recently, Director of Scientific Programs and Chief Science Advisor (leading 25 national laboratories and 11 agency programs). He has authored over 100 scientific reports and publication on a wide range of topics within his discipline, co-edited three books, served on numerous regional, national, and international committees, and been recipient of various civil, private, and academic achievement awards. He holds a B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Massachusetts and a Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of Rhode Island.
- **Patrick J. Paquette.** Mr. Paquette is a lifelong angler and prominent recreational fisheries advocate and specialist. Following years of employment in the charter boat industry and engagement in assorted sportfishing-related activities, he launched in 2008 a private consulting business offering assistance in understanding and organizing the recreational fishing community. He has a recognizable voice among stakeholders from 10-plus years as an outdoor writer both freelance and as a columnist to a number of magazines, as a participant and organizer of sportfishing tournaments and seminars, and as a member of recreational fishing organizations, often in leadership positions. Mr. Paquette is a fixture at regional Council and Commission meetings, as well as state fisheries meetings and public hearings, and is often called upon by these and other organizations to sit on stakeholder advisory boards. He remains active in the sales

and marketing of fishing tackle, as an outdoor writer, and occasional crewing of charter trips. Mr. Paquette has endeavored to stay abreast of fisheries science and management tools through participation in several training workshops and seminars.

- **William H. Hatch, IV.** Mr. Hatch has been recreationally fishing in Massachusetts since childhood, and later cultivated his passion into a successful fishing business. He has nearly 20 years of experience in the commercial and for-hire fisheries for a mix of inshore and offshore species. Mr. Hatch has worked on charter and commercial fishing boats in Massachusetts, North Carolina, and Costa Rica since graduating from college. He currently owns and operates a multi-vessel commercial and sportfishing company based on Cape Cod. He is member to several local commercial fishing organizations, an industry advisor to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, and engages in the state fisheries management process. Mr. Hatch has a B.S. in Environmental Science from Union College.

For the at-large seat currently occupied by Francis Blount, Jr. of Maine, I nominate in order of preference:

- **Patrick J. Paquette.** See above.
- **Susan L. Rothschild.** Dr. Rothschild is a scientist with a background in fisheries stock assessment and population dynamics. She earned B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in Biology from the University of Houston. Early in her professional career, she worked as a research biologist for the National Marine Fisheries Service assessing the health of both Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic coast marine fishes, analyzing damages to fisheries from oil spills, and assessing effects on fishing fleets from area closures. During this time, she also was deployed overseas to improve the management and productivity of artisanal fisheries in developing countries. Later, as a contractor, Dr. Rothschild worked on water quality issues and oyster restoration in the Chesapeake Bay. From there she transitioned to a role at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, supporting regulatory impact analysis of environmental regulations on small governments. Since 1995, Dr. Rothschild has called New Bedford home, where she has

continued to consult on marine resource issues through a self-owned business, while also completing subsequent editions of her taxonomic guide book. She is highly engaged in her local community and remains active on the water as a private recreational fishing boat owner and sailor.

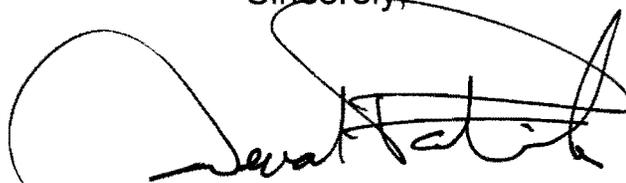
- **William H. Hatch, IV.** See above.

Through *Marine Fisheries*, I have consulted with the following representatives of the commercial and recreational fishing interests of the Commonwealth, including two members of the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission and three former members of the Council, regarding my nominees:

- Rip Cunningham (recreational background)
- Chuck Casella (recreational background)
- John Pappalardo (commercial and recreational background)
- Frank Mirarchi (commercial background)

Each of my nominees meets the requirements listed in Section 302(b)(2)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. All have convinced me of their commitment to improving fisheries management in New England and to assist the Council in rebuilding, maintaining, and managing marine resources so important to the economic vitality of the Massachusetts fishing industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Samuel Rauch", with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

cc: Secretary Richard Sullivan, EEA
Commissioner Mary Griffin, DFG
Director Paul Diodati, DMF
Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission