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DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

March 10, 2014

Eileen Sobeck
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910
ATTN: William Chappell

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

I am submitting seven individuals as nominees for the four 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 (*Marine Fisheries*) to solicit interest in the Council positions. Those efforts included announcement over the Division's email listserv, posting on the *Marine Fisheries* website, and outreach by *Marine Fisheries* 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 Laura Ramsden of Massachusetts, I nominate in order of preference:

- **Eric L. Hansen.** Mr. Hansen has over 30 years of experience in the commercial scallop fishery. He has been the co-owner/owner of a scallop vessel and business operating out of

New Bedford since 1988, serving as vessel captain until 2004. Mr. Hansen's family has been involved in the harvesting of fish and scallops from New England waters for most of the last century, and he is committed to continuing this heritage. He is deeply rooted in many important fishing constituency groups, and has emerged as a leader in his home community. He is actively engaged in the Council management process as a member of the Council's Scallop and Monkfish Advisory Panels. Mr. Hansen also serves on multiple other constituent panels, including the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Institute's Advisory Council, U.S. Representative Bill Keating's Federal Fishing Advisory Board, New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell's Ocean and Fisheries Council, and the Commonwealth's Fisheries Working Group on Offshore Renewable Energy. He is also member to the Fishery Survival Fund, which represents the majority of scallop permits on the east coast. Mr. Hansen will bring an intimate and first hand understanding of the complex implications fishing regulations bring to the industry. He seeks to promote a rational policy for New England's fisheries that balances the economic and cultural importance of fishing with preservation of the environment and our marine resources.

- **Francis J. Mirarchi.** Mr. Mirarchi has first-hand knowledge of the fishery resources of New England from decades' worth of direct experience, including 47 years as vessel owner and captain, primarily in the groundfish trawl fishery. Moreover, he has been extensively involved in fishery management and policy since 1976, when he co-founded the Massachusetts Inshore Draggermen's Association. Since that time he has continued to be a highly-regarded representative for his industry, being an active member, often in leadership positions, of numerous industry associations. Several current leadership roles include: Director of the South Shore Fishing Community Preservation Fund, Director of the Massachusetts Fishermen's Partnership, Director and Clerk of Northeast Fishery Sector X,

and Director of the Northeast Sector Service Network. Mr. Mirarchi has also brought his informed and diplomatic voice to the state and federal fisheries management processes, serving on the Commonwealth's Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission in the 1980s-90s and the New England Fishery Management Council in the 1990s, thereafter continuing his involvement in an advisory capacity. The Commonwealth frequently calls upon him to participate on ad hoc advisory panels. He has been a strong collaborator with *Marine Fisheries* and the School for Marine Science and Technology at UMass-Dartmouth on various cooperative research studies. It is through an increase in such collaborations that Mr. Mirarchi believes the data demands for science-based decision making can be met in order to return New England's fishing communities to prosperity.

- **Elizabeth M. P. Etrie.** Ms. Etrie is the Program Director for the Northeast Sector Service Network, a not-for-profit organization that assists collaborating northeast multispecies fishery sectors in achieving economies of scale for various regulatory requirements, such as annual operations plans and quota monitoring. Prior to this, she provided technical assistance to groundfish fishermen developing sectors for implementation in fishing year 2010. Through this work, she has developed a robust understanding of the intricacies of the sector management system, and built strong relationships with fishermen, NOAA Fisheries' Greater Atlantic Regional Office, sector leaders, industry representatives, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders. Possessing a master's degree in marine affairs from the University of Rhode Island and a law degree from Roger Williams University, Ms. Etrie has sought to develop effective and creative management solutions that are based on sound science, compliant with legal requirements, and beneficial to the fishery. Preserving the unique diversity of the Northeast fisheries managed by the Council through a transparent, iterative, equitable, and

collaborative process that builds public confidence in the process is of the utmost importance to her.

For the at-large seat currently occupied by Thomas Dempsey of Massachusetts, I nominate in order of preference:

- **Thomas D. Dempsey.** Mr. Dempsey has been the Policy Director for the Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance and the Assistant Director of the Cape Cod Fisheries Trust since 2008. Through his dual roles with the Alliance, he has had extensive experience in many aspects of the regulatory process in a wide range of commercial fisheries as well as experience in the development of innovative programs addressing the changing needs of the diverse fishing communities the Alliance serves. He has held a seat on the Council since 2010, serving as chair or vice-chair of several Council committees, and member of multiple additional committees. Mr. Dempsey was elected to the Council's Executive Committee this past year in recognition of his leadership skills and sound contributions to Council debate. His opinions on fisheries policies are also informed by temporary employment as a commercial crew member on local fishing vessels targeting various New England species. His academic background includes a bachelor's degree in Environmental Biology from Dartmouth College, and a master's degree in Wildlife Biology from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Mr. Dempsey is interested in finding creative, collaborative, and forward-looking solutions to management problems that balance the needs of the New England fishing businesses with the continued restoration of the resource and ecosystem on which these businesses depend.
- **Francis J. Mirarchi.** See above.
- **Elizabeth M. P. Etrie.** See above.

For the at-large seat currently occupied by Peter Kendall of New Hampshire, I nominate in order of preference:

- **Francis J. Mirarchi.** See above.
- **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 and state fisheries management meetings and public hearings, and is often called upon by regulatory agencies 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. Through finding common ground on controversial issues, Mr. Paquette desires to bring the fisheries management process through this time of transition to a modern and adaptive system that serves the needs of both our fishermen and the fish.
- **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 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 Union College with an environmental science degree. He currently owns and

operates a multi-vessel commercial and sportfishing company based on Cape Cod. He is member to several local fishing organizations, an industry advisor to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council for the summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass fisheries, and engages in the state fisheries management process. He supports steady, sustainable, and ecosystem-based conservation and management of living marine resources to produce the greatest long-term benefits.

For the at-large seat currently occupied by Mary Beth Nickell-Tooley of Maine, I nominate in order of preference:

- **Elizabeth M. P. Etrie.** See above.
- **Raymond W. Kane.** Mr. Kane has been the Outreach Coordinator for the Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance since 2010, where he advocates for commercial fishermen through the development of policy positions, collection of letters and petitions, and representation at federal, regional, and state regulatory meetings. With a combined 30 years of experience in the commercial fisheries for lobster, groundfish, and bluefin tuna, he is a trusted liaison for his area's commercial fishing community. Mr. Kane serves on the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission, the Governor-appointed citizen advisory board responsible for approving regulatory changes and public proposals regarding the management of the Commonwealth's commercial, recreational, and for-hire marine fisheries. He maintains membership on several fishing industry organizations, and continues to provide occasional vessel captaining services. Mr. Kane supports a fisheries management process that emphasizes improved data collection, science-based decisions, and strengthened collaboration between harvesters and regulators.
- **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 seven members of the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission and three former members of the Council, regarding my nominees:

- Bill Adler (commercial background)
- Mark Amorello (commercial and recreational background)
- Chuck Casella (recreational background)
- Joseph Huckemeyer (recreational background)
- Edward Nasser (commercial background)
- Jackie Odell (commercial background)
- John Pappalardo (commercial and recreational background)
- Laura Ramsden (commercial background)
- Randy Sigler (recreational 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 the marine resources so important to the economic vitality of the Massachusetts fishing industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eileen Sobeck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail.

cc: Secretary Richard Sullivan, EEA
Commissioner Mary Griffin, DFG
Director Paul Diodati, DMF