



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MARGARET WOOD HASSAN  
Governor

March 11, 2014

Eileen Sobeck  
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries  
NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service  
1315 East-West Highway Room 14636  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

Enclosed are New Hampshire's nominees for the upcoming vacancies on the New England Fishery Management Council. For the at-large seat currently held by Mr. Peter Kendall, I request the following applicants be considered in the following order of preference:

Mr. Peter Kendall  
Mr. Neal M. Pike, Jr.  
Mr. Josh Wiersma

Mr. Kendall has been involved in the commercial fishing industry since 1985, both as a commercial fisherman and as an employee and eventually manager of the Portsmouth Fishermen's Cooperative. His vessels fished for groundfish, scallops, herring and northern shrimp. He is currently working as the manager of the Yankee Fisherman's Coop in Seabrook. Mr. Kendall is completing his first term in an at-large seat on the New England Fishery Management Council, where he has served on a variety of Committees, including as Chair of the Skate Oversight Committee. He was elected to serve on the Executive Committee of the Council and is currently a member of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Northern Shrimp Advisory Committee.

Mr. Pike works on a 42-foot commercial vessel out of Seabrook as a first mate and compliance officer. The vessel primarily participates in the groundfish, shrimp, dogfish and tuna fisheries using a variety of fishing gears. In the past, he's worked at the Yankee Fishermen's Cooperative as its operations manager and is therefore intimately familiar with both the harvest and dealer aspects of the fishery. He is a member of the New Hampshire Bar Association and also holds a Law Degree from the University of New Hampshire School of Law.

Mr. Wiersma is currently the Sector Manager for Northeast Fisheries Sectors XI and XII. He is also the co-founder, President and Executive Director for New Hampshire Community Seafood, an entity established as a marketing, sales and education organization for fishing industry members. These jobs have made him intimately familiar with the commercial fishing community in New Hampshire and elsewhere in New England. His educational background includes degrees in resource economics and environmental policy, which provided him the opportunity to work as a fisheries economist for the Massachusetts Fisherman's Partnership and on several working groups at the NOAA/NMFS Regional Office that are charged with developing policies and strategies to aid fishermen.

The State of New Hampshire has actively sought qualified applicants from all sectors for the Council seats. Our nominee list includes members with a wide variety of experience within the fishing industry. Nominees were interviewed by the public, including representatives of recreational, commercial and conservation coastal resource interests in the state, during a candidates' night hosted by our Marine Fisheries Division. The public input was very helpful in determining the order of preference for each of our highly qualified nominees.

The individuals selected for consideration recognize the extensive time obligation the Council seats require and have demonstrated their willingness to make the necessary commitment.

I would like to thank William Chappell of your staff for the well-organized and detailed nominee package. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding New Hampshire's nominees to the New England Fishery Management Council.

With every good wish,



Margaret Wood Hassan  
Governor

Enclosures