



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

July 11, 2019

Julia S. Moore, P.E., Secretary
Agency of Natural Resources
1 National Life Drive
Davis 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3901

Dear Secretary Moore:

Thank you for letting us know that Governor Scott has signed Act 76 providing an important additional revenue source to support implementation of the 2016 Lake Champlain Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). As discussed in the TMDL Accountability Framework, a long-term revenue source is critical to Vermont's successful implementation of the TMDL and attainment of water quality standards in Lake Champlain.

EPA is very pleased with the State's passage of Act 76. In combination with the other dedicated clean water funding sources enacted by the Vermont Legislature since 2015, Act 76 is expected to produce long-term funding levels in the ballpark of the needs identified by the 2017 Vermont State Treasurer's report and Vermont's Act 73 report. While we recognize that it is challenging to accurately predict funding needs until restoration strategies and costs are more fully developed throughout the watershed, EPA is satisfied that the Act addresses this challenge by including a mechanism for the Clean Water Board to annually review TMDL implementation progress and costs and recommend adjustments to funding needs and sources over time if warranted.

Congratulations on this major accomplishment! As always, we look forward to our continued work with you and your staff to implement the TMDL and restore Lake Champlain.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah A. Szaro".

Deborah A. Szaro
Acting Regional Administrator