STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION





TO: Ron Mongeon, Eastern Maine Regional Office Director

FROM: Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner

DATE: July 31st, 2024

RE: Delegation of Authority to Serve as Presiding Officer in Public Hearing: Establishing a

water level regime and, if applicable, minimum flow requirements for the North Pond Dam.

Milanie

– DEP #L-30629-36-A-N, in the Towns of Smithfield, Mercer, and Rome.

By this memorandum, and pursuant to the *Maine Administrative Procedures Act*, 5 M.R.S. § 9062, *Department of Environmental Protection Organization and Powers*, 38 M.R.S. § 341-A(3)(C) and the Department's *Rules Governing the Conduct of Licensing Hearings*, 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 3, § 4(A)(1)(b), I hereby delegate authority to Ron Mongeon to serve as presiding officer with respect to a public hearing to consider the establishment of a water level regime and, if applicable, minimum flow requirements for North Pond Dam, North Pond, in the Towns of Smithfield, Mercer, and Rome, pursuant to 38 M.R.S. § 840. The purpose of this delegation is to authorize you to conduct and preside over an evidentiary hearing to develop a factual record for decision-making in this matter. This delegation is limited in its scope to the authority necessary to administer governing procedural statutes and regulations in the development of the administrative record and does not include the ultimate decision-making authority on the merits of the record, which I expressly retain as Commissioner. The terms of this delegation are not intended to and shall not be interpreted as limiting communication between and among me as Commissioner, Ron Mongeon in their capacity as presiding officer, and any other agency staff person, before, during, or after the hearing, regarding any substantive or procedural issue raised by the petition.