

November 3, 2011

I write today to share my perspective on the EPA's recent draft permit regarding impact of the operation of Merrimack Station is having on health of the Merrimack River. My perspective is one of not only a PSNH employee who has worked at Merrimack Station, but also as an avid fisherman.

Much of the focus of the EPA's recent draft permit is on the plants impact of the fish population, so I think its important people like myself who fish the river regularly share my experience.

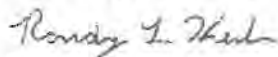
The Merrimack River has undergone some dramatic changes over the last several decades – all of which are for the better. During my time fishing on river I have caught plenty of fish. Of course, all my fishing is catch and release so the fish go right back into the population.

In addition to being a very active fishing spot, the Merrimack River is also a home to many other types of wildlife. I have observed ducks, blue heron, bald eagles, minks, beavers, weasels, and other form of wildlife all actively enjoying the healthy waters and ecosystem of the Merrimack River.

It's no secret that the Merrimack River is great spot for fishing and wildlife either. The river is normally fished by several bass boats and used by others looking to enjoy the outdoors. I was grateful to PSNH for installing a community boat launch near Merrimack Station, allowing many others to enjoy the river and all it has to offer.

In closing, as someone who spends a lot of time near the river and also on it, its my observation that the river is healthier and cleaner than it has ever been. I believe my experiences as a fisherman and my observations of so many others enjoying the river are a testament to that.

Sincerely,



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