



To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Letter of Support for 604b grant proposal entitled:

Shared Responsible Management Entity (S-RME) for Wastewater Systems on Martha's Vineyard

We have heard the needs of our Board of Health regarding management of the Town's septic systems, including nitrogen-reducing technologies in our town's watersheds.

They have identified these shared deficits:

- Outdated O&M records for existing wastewater systems
- Inconsistent homeowner education and outreach
- No island-wide sampling, analysis, or reporting system
- Unclear cumulative nitrogen reduction toward TMDL goals
- No guidance for homeowners on financial burdens of BANRT

As a result, there is no island-wide framework to ensure consistent installation, maintenance, testing, or financing of Best Available Nitrogen Reducing Technology (BANRT) systems. As the regulatory environment increasingly will require adoption of nitrogen-reducing (NR) technology across the island, the needs will only grow. We want our Town to be better prepared to comply with anticipated DEP requirements concerning management and testing of the various nitrogen-reducing technologies being certified by DEP.

The proposed grant application from the Martha's Vineyard Commission speaks directly to the needs experienced by our collective island Boards of Health who are responsible for oversight and management of on-site wastewater technologies.

We support the effort to establish an accountable island entity that supports the improvement in selection, siting, testing and reporting of present and future DEP approved on-site nitrogen-reducing systems.

The West Tisbury Select Board endorses the purposes of this grant and offers assistance where appropriate in its implementation.

We hope the grantors agree and assist the island with the capacity to implement a Responsible Management Entity island wide.

Sincerely,

J. Skipper Manter
Select Board Chair