



Andrew Gottlieb
Executive Director

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The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
309 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warren:

The Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC) writes with great concern about efforts by the Massachusetts National Guard to secure an extension in funding to construct the ill-conceived multipurpose machine gun range (MPMGR) proposed for the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve at Joint Base Cape Cod. It has come to APCC's attention that the Guard is seeking a one-year extension for funding the MPMGR in the Senate Armed Services Committee's 2025 National Defense Authorization Act. The \$9.7 million in funding for the project is currently set to expire September 30, 2024, and the Guard's proposal would extend that to September 30, 2025.

It is APCC's understanding that the Senate Armed Services Committee is currently drafting the Senate's version of the National Defense Authorization Act and plans to conduct a hearing on the bill in the very near future. We respectfully ask your assistance, as a senior majority member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, to continue to demonstrate your strong commitment to the protection of the Upper Cape's drinking water supply by helping to ensure that the MPMGR funding extension is not included in the bill.

As you know, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency provisionally determined in 2023 that "the proposed MPMGR has the potential to contaminate the aquifer so as to create a significant public health hazard" and that "based on [EPA Region 1's] own research and current information provided by the MAARNG, that it is uncertain that any combination of operations, maintenance, and monitoring practices can adequately reduce the potential to contaminate the aquifer so as to create a significant public health hazard."¹

¹ Sole Source Aquifer Project Review of the Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range Proposed by the Massachusetts Army National Guard to be Constructed at Joint Base Cape Cod, United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 1, April 2023



In consideration of the EPA's provisional determination about the unacceptable risks to the region's water supply, as well as the other environmental concerns expressed by the citizens of Cape Cod, it defies logic to continue to keep the funding window open for a project that is grossly inappropriate for its proposed location on the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve.

Last month, Representative Keating, in recognizing the threat to the Cape's drinking water posed by the MPMGR and responding to calls from hundreds of concerned Cape Cod citizens, was successful in removing the MPMGR funding extension from the House's 2025 National Defense Authorization Act. We now seek your help on this urgent matter in making sure that the MPMGR funding extension does not move forward in the Senate's 2025 National Defense Authorization Act.

Thank you for your continued support of Cape Cod's environment and public health, and thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,



Andrew Gottlieb
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Edward Markey, U.S. Senator
 The Honorable William Keating, U.S. Representative
 The Honorable Maura Healey, Governor of Massachusetts
 The Honorable Kim Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts
 Commissioner Bonnie Heiple, Environmental Management Commission
 Commissioner Tom O'Shea, Environmental Management Commission
 Commissioner Brian Arrigo, Environmental Management Commission