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(Mashpee)

Clerk of the Assembly

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CAPE COD REGIONAL GOVERNMENT ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES

BARNSTABLE COUNTY COMPLEX

OLD JAIL BUILDING

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BARNSTABLE, MA 02630

August 14, 2024

The Honorable Maura Healey
Massachusetts State House
24 Beacon St., Office of the Governor, Room 280
Boston, MA 02133

The Cape Cod Regional Government Assembly of Delegates, the regional legislature of Barnstable County representing its 15 towns, restates its opposition to constructing a Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range (MPMGR) at Joint Base Cape Cod. We ask you to prevent the Massachusetts Military Division from issuing the construction contract. We further request that you cancel the bid opening scheduled for this week.

Pursuit of this contract is utterly inconsistent with the position your administration articulated at the last Environmental Management Commission (EMC) meeting – that the project would not advance until the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Sole Source Aquifer Project Review is complete. The MPMGR Project at Joint Base Cape Cod recently failed to secure additional funds in the 2025 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and obtain supplemental funds through the Congressional appropriations process. The original 2020 NDAA authorization of funds for this project expires on September 30, 2024 and this last minute effort to contract for this project puts our water supply at risk. It is bad public policy and we expect better.

The Massachusetts National Guard has repeatedly ignored local concerns. Your direct intervention is necessary to protect our water and the Assembly calls on you to act decisively now to prevent irreparable, but avoidable, harm to our irreplaceable Upper Cape water supply.

Sincerely,

Patrick Princi, Speaker
Barnstable County Assembly Delegates

Cc: Lt. Governor, Kim Driscoll, Commissioner Bonnie Heiple, Commissioner Brian Arrigo, Commissioner Tom Oshea