

**Allagash Brewing Company \* Andersonville Brewing Co. \* Arbor Brewing Company  
Avery Brewing Company \* Bang Brewing \* Bar Hygge/Brewery Techne  
Baxter Brewing Co. \* Brewery Vivant \* DryHop Brewers \* Earth Bread + Brewery  
Engrained Brewing Company \* Flossmoor Station Restaurant & Brewery  
Flying Mouse Brewery \* Founders Brewing Company \* Fremont Brewing  
Great Lakes Brewing Company \* Half Acre Beer Company \* Half Moon Bay Brewing Co.  
Harmony Brewing Company \* Hops & Grain Brewing \* Hopworks Urban Brewery  
Horse & Dragon Brewing Company \* Intersect Brewing \* La Birreria  
Lagunitas Brewing Company \* Lakefront Brewery \* Lost Rhino Brewing Company  
Maine Beer Company \* McClellan's Brewing Company \* New Belgium Brewing Company  
Oak Park Brewing Co. \* Odell Brewing Company \* Old Bust Head Brewing Company  
Pateros Creek Brewing \* Revolution Brewing \* Right Brain Brewery  
Rising Tide Brewing Company \* Saint Benjamin Brewing Co. \* Short's Brewing Company  
Sleepy Dog Brewery \* Smartmouth Brewing Company \* Smuttynose Brewing Co.  
Snowbank Brewing \* Starr Hill Brewery \* SweetWater Brewing Company  
Temperance Beer Co. \* Two Brothers Brewing Company \* Wild Onion Brewery**

June 27, 2017

Ms. Donna Downing  
Office of Water  
Environmental Protection Agency  
*Via email to CWAwaters@epa.gov*

Mr. Gib Owen  
Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works  
Department of the Army  
*Via email to gib.a.owen.civ@mail.mil*

Dear Ms. Downing and Mr. Owen:

We oppose any changes to the Clean Water Rule that would weaken the protections it established for critically important waterways like small streams and wetlands. Our craft breweries depend on those waterways to provide the clean water that we use to brew our beer.

Beer is mostly water, so the quality of our source water affects our finished product. Even small chemical disruptions in our water supply can alter the taste of a brew or influence factors like shelf life and foam pattern. We need reliable sources of clean water to consistently produce the great beer that is key to our success. Thanks in part to this important natural resource, the craft

brewing industry contributes about \$55.7 billion to the U.S. economy each year, along with 424,000 jobs.<sup>1</sup>

Brewers have been proud to support the Clean Water Rule since it was first proposed. Because the rule helped protect the sources of drinking water for 117 million Americans from pollution and destruction, it provided certainty that we would continue to have access to the clean water on which our livelihoods depend. Importantly, the rule was based on sound science. The record supporting the rule showed unequivocally that the waters it protected had biological, chemical, and physical connections to larger downstream waterways.

In a February 28 executive order, President Trump directed your agencies to review the Clean Water Rule and rescind or revise it, without providing any rational justification for doing so. Your agencies have now formally proposed to repeal the rule, with the stated intent of later adopting a replacement. We strongly oppose any rollbacks from ensuring guaranteed protections for all waters that the science shows to be important to downstream water quality.

We understand that the president directed your agencies to develop the new rule under a different legal test. That test has no scientific basis and would eliminate guaranteed safeguards for countless wetlands, as well as innumerable streams that don't flow year-round. We oppose that approach because it would fail to preserve water quality and was rejected by a majority of the Supreme Court.

We are depending on you to maintain or strengthen the safeguards established under the Clean Water Rule. Protecting clean water is central to our long-term business success. Thank you for considering our views on this important matter.

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<sup>1</sup> Brewers Association statistics from 2014. <https://www.brewersassociation.org/statistics/economic-impact-data/>.

Sincerely,



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Brewmaster  
Portland, ME



Eileen Garrity  
Creative &  
Communications  
Chicago, IL



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Co-Owner  
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Peggy Zwerver  
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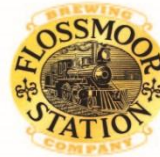
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Ryan Czaja  
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