

Synopsis of Testimony: Tim Buzzell
January 29, 2014
Senate Natural Resources Committee
Re: S. 227

**Synopsis of Testimony re Maintaining Lake Levels at Lake Seymour
Tim Buzzell**

1. Major problems at Seymour Lake have been unaddressed, even with a Supreme Court decision, an existing statute (30 VSA, Chapter 9, section 402), and a state-issued 401 Certification that give clear direction to ANR regarding maintaining maximum and minimum water levels. ANR's policies have caused very real pollution problems and property damage.
2. The Seymour Lake Association is a well-respected group that's worked productively for years with subsets of ANR, including their Lakes and Ponds Division, providing good stewardship for Seymour Lake. Over 100 volunteers each year provide many thousands of hours of lake monitoring and environmental work to constantly maintain and improve our water quality.
3. We respectfully request relief from this Committee by passing S.227 to direct ANR to allow the dam at the south end of Seymour Lake be used (only in the fall and strictly within the boundaries already set forth by our Supreme Court and existing statute) to reduce flooding, and minimize both environmental and property damage.