

Lindsey Schreier

From: Burdick, Thomas C <tom@empirefa.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 6:56 PM
To: Lindsey Schreier
Subject: [External] 25-P045 - Vermont Use of Public Waters Rules

[External]

Please distribute to the entire LCAR Committee.

My name is Tom Burdick from Lake Bomoseen

1) Oppose 3,000-Foot Straight Run

No scientific or environmental research establishes 3,000 ft as necessary. This number comes from *typical ride length* and geometry — not hydrodynamics.

2) Oppose 500 ft From “Any Object” in wakezone

Wake studies discuss shoreline wake attenuation, not 360° object exclusion bubbles. Vermont already operates under a 200-ft safety framework. This proposal creates a moving exclusion zone that makes use nearly impossible.

3) Oppose 100-Acre Minimum – 50 is what was reports in 2022 petition

Lake acreage is math, not environmental response. Wake energy does not change based on lake surface size. This is a policy tool that removes lakes by definition.

5) Oppose NON “Normal Use” of Vermont Waters definition of a wakeboat

Towed watersports with inboard boats clearly predate 1993. Technology evolving does **not** make the activity a “new use.” Wake surfing is an evolution of long-standing boating recreation.

6) Oppose Section 3.7 – Lake Management Project / Research Provision ⚠

This section creates a pathway where an approved lake could be restricted under a “management” or “research” designation **without a clearly defined reinstatement timeline.**

That introduces uncertainty and effectively allows a lake to be removed from use without a guaranteed, transparent, science-based return process.

Regulatory tools should include **clear criteria, defined study parameters, and a set reinstatement schedule**, otherwise this functions as an indefinite access suspension mechanism rather than a research process.

Tom Burdick, CFP®, ChFC®, CLU
Financial Advisor
President
Empire Financial Advisors, Inc.
3 Lear Jet Lane Ste. 201N
Latham, NY 12110
518 608-1117
518 608-1111 fax

www.empirefa.com



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