

PATAKI GOVERNOR

JOHN P. CAHILL COMMISSIONER

STATE of NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION ALBANY, NEW YORK,
12233-1010

JULY 27 1999

Mr. Rolf Tiedemann 358 Electric Avenue Rochester, New York 14613

Dear Mr. Tiedemann:

During 1995, a partnership including the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Lake George Association, and the Coalition of Lakes Against Milfoil was organized to evaluate and select sites where the efficacy of the herbicide Sonar could be demonstrated for controlling Milfoil in lakes of northeastern New York. Lake George and Eagle Lake were selected as sites for the Milfoil control projects.

Three separate tasks comprise the Eagle Lake Sonar Demonstration Project: 1) the preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), 2) the application of the herbicide Sonar, and 3) environmental monitoring and report writing. Through an external peer review of proposals, Furgo East, Inc. was selected for the EIS and monitoring tasks related to the Eagle Lake project. Another consultant, Allied Biological Inc. was selected for the Sonar application in Eagle Lake.

Currently, the Sonar Demonstration projects are in the planning and design phase and the grant funds already provided are being used to support consultant contracts for this activity. Originally, the treatments with Sonar were scheduled to occur during the spring of 1997. However, this schedule was postponed due to time constraints associated with execution of consultant contracts and environmental review and permits and a lack of sufficient funding to pay for the Sonar treatment (herbicide and herbicide application) and environmental monitoring. The consultant is finalizing the Eagle Lake Supplemental EIS. Once this document has been completed, the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process will be initiated. **The Department will act as lead agency for this project,** if local government agrees to be co-applicant. At the present time, there is a funding shortfall of about \$90,000.

The Department does not have an existing source of funds for this kind of project and therefore, cannot offer any funding to complete the project. However, I urge you to continue to seek funds from other sources. We will continue to work with our partners in this effort to secure the needed funds as well. Dr. Sutherland, the Department's project manager, will keep you informed of our progress.

Sincerely,

John P. Cahill