



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs*  
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Bethany A. Card  
SECRETARY

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June 15, 2022

Erin Kirschner, Administrator Essex Board of Health

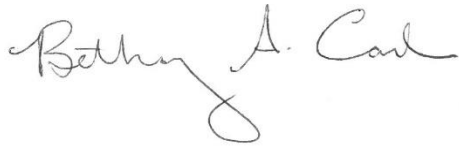
To Whom it May Concern,

M.G.L. Chapter 252, Section 2A(b)(2) allows a municipality to apply to opt out of mosquito control spraying conducted by the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board (“SRMCB”). For the SRMCB to recognize a municipal opt-out, the municipality must have an alternative mosquito management plan application approved by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (“EEA”). Accordingly, EEA reviewed your municipality’s application, including your regional risk level determination, alternative mosquito management plan, certified vote, and checklist.

Municipal regional risk level determination served as EEA's evaluation criteria for the 2022 municipal opt-out applications. Regional risk levels were determined using historical risk level indicators, including the presence of local and regional suitable mosquito habitat and local and regional incidences of positive EEE test results of mosquito samples, animals, and humans. Your municipality was determined to be at **High Regional Risk**. M.G.L. Chapter 252, Section 2A(b)(2) allows EEA to consider a plan’s impact on regional mosquito control. This means that EEA considers how the approval will impact not only the municipality that has applied to opt out, but also those other municipalities located in that region. As a result, any municipality that is classified as high regional risk must demonstrate it can perform significant mosquito management and control measures that will address risk levels otherwise requiring state action, including the ability to perform work equivalent to that undertaken by the SRMCB in the event of a public health hazard related to arbovirus. This includes proof of ability to perform comprehensive active interventions, such as adulticide applications and include detailed information on how such activity will be conducted in compliance with applicable state and federal law. EEA has reviewed your application and has determined that proof of ability to perform significant mosquito management and control measures is not sufficient. As a result, your application to opt out of SRMCB spraying is **Not Approved**.

Public health outcomes are driven in part by local mosquito control actions. We encourage you to review the attached mosquito control resources to support in implementing best practices throughout the rest of the season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bethany A. Card". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Bethany A. Card  
Secretary

Attachment: Mosquito Control Resources

CC: State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board