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January 21, 2010

Ms. Gisele Lacasse Benoit
President
Memphremagog Conservation Inc.
C.P.70
PO Box 70
Magog (Quebec)
J1X3W7
Canada

Dear Ms. Benoit,

Thank you for contacting me about the Eagle Point Property in Derby Line, Vermont. I understand that this unique and valuable property has become available to the public. I appreciate knowing of your interest in it.

The Eagle Point Property has significant ecological value, including shoreline along Lake Memphramagog and wetlands. This generous bequest creates the potential for new public access to the lake and to these natural resources.

Currently, the Vermont Congressional delegation is working with federal and state agencies on this issue. An agreement is being worked on which would bring the land into the U.S. Fish and Wildlife System while granting the State of Vermont control over the management of the land. Currently, the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) manages land adjacent to the Eagle Point Property.

The Congressional delegation has insisted that public input be a key part of the agreement process and of implementing any property transfer. ANR and its federal partners have held meetings with local officials, property owners, state representatives and the general public to solicit input and disseminate information.

I am hopeful that an agreement will be formed before the September deadline that will provide for public access and management of the Eagle Point Property and that the agreement will have been formed with extensive public input and inter-agency cooperation. I will be pleased to support such an agreement.

It is helpful to know of your interest in this property. I hope you will keep in touch.

Sincerely,



PETER WELCH
Member of Congress

PW/pc