

## Testimony in favor of SB837 and HB910

I am Bob Browning, Chairman of the Deep Creek Lake Policy and Review Board. This Board was established by law to assist in the management of Deep Creek Lake. For years, we have tried to get Brookfield Power to lower lake levels in the winter, with no results. Before Brookfield took over, there were historical draw downs that helped control Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV), allowing shoreline work and help with sediment issues. But, since that time, it has stopped, and we are seeing explosive growth in SAV, as well as other problems.

SB837 would help give Lake Management a tool to address this problem. Brookfield could do this on their own, with no need for changes in permitting, but they refuse. We are told they worry about the ability of the lake level to reach its spring level, but they offer no evidence that this could actually happen. In the past, much larger draw downs have occurred, and the lake has always been refilled. In any case, this is a limited study to see what, if any issues, may occur.

Bob Browning

Chairman, DCLPRB