



## Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition

1620 High Street  
Traverse City, MI 49684



-----  
Telephone (231) 775-4321

September 20, 2023

Representative Julie M. Rogers  
State Representative | 41st House District  
Michigan House of Representatives  
P.O. Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

re: HB 4832

Dear Representative Rogers:

The Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition (Coalition) is a coalition of five statewide conservation groups with an interest in the protection and enhancement of aquatic resources: Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC), Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited, Great Lakes Council of Fly Fishers International, Anglers of the Au Sable, and Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishermen's Association. The Coalition gives voice to 50,000+ Michigan citizen conservationists through its advocacy work. Its mission is to ensure that conservation, environmental and recreational concerns are adequately addressed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in all matters pertaining to hydropower projects.

The Coalition appreciates your sponsorship of HB 4832, a bill that would grant authority to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) to issue emergency orders to compel cleanup of inland lakes and streams by responsible parties. As you are well aware, your sponsored legislation has its genesis in the failure of STS Hydro (Eagle Creek Renewable Energy) to continue with the clean-up of the Kalamazoo River sedimentation that was a result of its operation of the Morrow hydropower project. While EGLE attempted to reach a settlement with STS Hydro, it lacked the statutory power to require activities such as dredging to remove sediment without the company's active agreement to participate. Your sponsored bill would grant authority to EGLE to issue written emergency orders to compel STS Hydro to remediate the environmental degradation it is responsible for instead of EGLE seeking redress through litigation as it now is having to do.

The Coalition fully supports HB 4832. From a statewide perspective, HB 4832 would provide an additional level of protection for all our inland lakes and streams to avoid any future environmental damage going unaddressed while litigation plays out. Thank you very much for your sponsorship of HB 4832 and please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Stuber, Executive Director  
Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition