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The administrative staff decision-making cuts out the public. The Executive Director is given far too much authority over many crucial decisions and these are made behind closed doors, without the public and without a vote by the DRBC Commissioners. Additionally, the extension of permits without an expiration date are given favored status. And a low bar has been set for the extension of Existing Projects that haven't been built.

Furthermore, allowing the sponsors of a project to claim that litigation by opposing parties can be used to explain why they haven't built or spent sufficient funds on a project that they want extended is not something that should be acceptable.

Lastly, the Public Requires Freedom to Information and DRBC is removing all references to the federal Freedom of Information Act from its rules and is setting up an alternative DRBC-centric system that leaves many aspects unaddressed or in the hands of the Executive Director. The public needs to take part in DRBC decisions but without access to information, we can't do that effectively. Information is power and we have a right to it!

Thank you.