

PETITION FOR WARRANT ARTICLE REGARDING UNDERGROUND TANKS

The Lyme Zoning Ordinance prohibits “underground fuel tanks” within 200 feet of water bodies. This is clearly warranted for oil, gasoline, or other heavy petroleum products. But its language is over-broad – it also prohibits buried propane or natural gas tanks, which cannot pollute the water because any leaks would dissipate into the air, not into the water. Furthermore, there are no national codes or state regulations regarding those tanks: in fact, NH RSA 146-A:2, III specifically excepts those tanks from its oil-tank regulations.

This amendment would change the Lyme Zoning Ordinance to permit underground propane or natural gas tanks anywhere. It changes the wording from “No underground fuel storage tanks are permitted.” to the wording below.

Article ###: To change section 4.65-C-2 of the Lyme Zoning Ordinance to say “No underground oil storage tanks (as defined in NH RSA 146-A:2, III) are permitted. Propane and natural gas tanks are excluded from this provision.”

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