July 19, 2007

Governor Bob Riley State Capitol 600 Dexter Avenue Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Governor Riley:

As Chairman of the Steering Committee of the recently formed Lake Martin Home Owners and Boat Owners (HOBOs) Association, Inc., I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to our organization, and to invite you, as a home owner on the Lake, to join the HOBOs. We appreciate the initiative you are taking on behalf of all Alabama lakes regarding the current drought and we look forward to working with our state officials regarding issues concerning Lake Martin.

Please find attached a copy of a letter dated July 18, 2007, the Lake Martin HOBOs have faxed to our US Senators and the lake district Congressman in Washington, DC, concerning the severity of Lake Martin's water level. We felt compelled to write these letters on behalf of the state and the local communities as the current lake water levels are having a significant detrimental impact on the area economy, and many of the lake's environmental aspects. Additionally, it is our understanding if this downward trend were to continue at its current pace, the projections are the lake level could be 17–20 feet below the normal summer level, by fall, which could be catastrophic to the local economy and more so to Lake Martin from an environmental standpoint. The attached letter was sent to:

- Senator Richard Shelby
- Senator Jeff Sessions

- Congressman Spencer Bachus
- Congressman Mike Rogers
- Congressman Terry Everett

Many of the drought issues we are confronted with today could have possibly been averted if the winter lake level were raised five feet above the current established level. The HOBOs support raising the winter levels to 485 feet, from its current plan level of 480 feet. As today, the current rules curve does not take into consideration the historical change in weather patterns, improvements in long-term meteorologist forecasting and the addition of another flood control dam near Wedowee, Alabama. We will be in contact with you soon, regarding your support of HOBOs efforts to have the 40+ year old water level rules curve updated to current standards.

Please visit our website at <u>www.lakemartin.org</u> for additional information regarding our organization and its mission. Feel free to contact me at 256-825-0919

Sincerely,

Jesse Cunningham Chairman, Steering Committee Lake Martin HOBOs