



*Maine State Legislature
Augusta, Maine 04333*

June 18, 2015

Chairman James W. Parker
Maine Board of Environmental Protection
#17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017

Commissioner Patricia Aho
Department of Environmental Protection
#17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Commissioner Patrick Keliher
Department of Marine Resources
#21 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0021

Re: DEP # L-26487-08-A-N/L-4E-B-N, Application for Water Quality Certification and Coastal Zone Management concurrence ruling

Dear Commissioners and Chairman:

We the undersigned duly elected Maine State Legislators request that the Department of Environmental Protection, through the Board or the Commissioner or both, require the Army Corps of Engineers and the Maine Department of Transportation to undertake a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement before taking further action on the above referenced application.

There exists controversy and deep concern about the impact the proposal would have on the region's lobster industry. Both the dredge area and the proposed disposal site, according to University of Maine scientists, are geologically unstable and thus have the potential to cause sediment plumes, re-dispersal of sediment (some of which is contaminated) and other unanticipated but deleterious impacts on crustaceans.

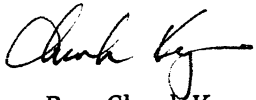
The one million cubic yards of sediment would smother valuable lobster habitat, rendering that area uninhabitable by numerous marine species, including lobsters, and therefore unproductive, for years.

The economic justification for the project in the Environmental Assessment is flawed and outdated.

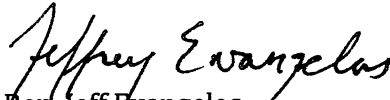
An alternative to the proposed dredging exists that is far less environmentally damaging and could realize most of the proposed project's purposes.

It is unfortunate that these deficiencies were not addressed sooner. However, the State of Maine cannot in good conscience allow this proposal to move forward without better information and justification.

Sincerely:



Rep. Chuck Kruger



Rep. Jeff Evangelos



Rep. Mick Devin



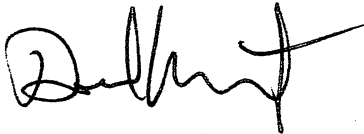
Rep. Joan Welsh



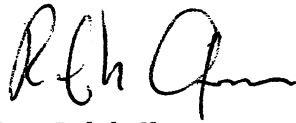
Rep. Walter Kumiega



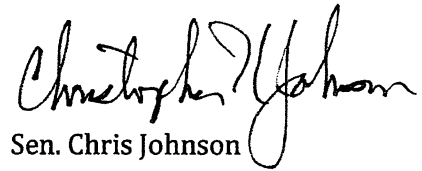
Rep. Adam Goode



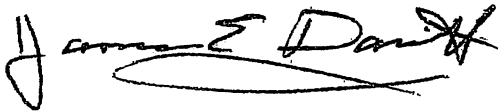
Sen. Dave Miramant



Rep. Ralph Chapman



Sen. Chris Johnson



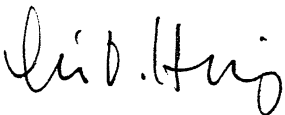
Rep. Jim Davitt



Rep. Pinny Beebe-Center



Rep. Christine Burstein



Rep. Erin Herbig