

February 14, 2017

Senator Jeanne Shaheen  
1589 Elm Street, Suite 3  
Manchester, NH 03101

Dear Senator Shaheen,

In 2013, the New Hampshire Division of Ports and Harbors (DPH) and the Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) arranged for the dredging of Hampton/Seabrook Harbor. The dredge was completed in March of 2013. In 2015, DPH observed that the conditions in the harbor were deteriorating due to severe shoaling. DPH Director Geno Marconi made contact with representatives of the ACOE to report the conditions in the harbor which prompted the ACOE to conduct a dredge survey. The survey conducted in October of 2015 confirmed that significant shoaling was occurring in the harbor. Representatives of ACOE advise that they do not have the funds available to support a maintenance dredge in the area and cannot predict when funding will be available.

New Hampshire's Hampton/Seabrook Harbor is in desperate need of maintenance dredging. While the need is most urgent on the Seabrook side, the entire harbor is seriously impaired. If we are unable to dredge the harbor in the very near future there it is in real danger of becoming unusable. This will result in the loss of hundreds of jobs to the area including the ancillary businesses.

Hampton/Seabrook Harbor is an essential economic engine to the New Hampshire seacoast region. In 2015, Senator Shaheen's office studied the financial impact of proposed recreational fishing regulations and concluded that it would represent a loss upwards of \$91M annually. It is important to consider also the commercial fishing industry's losses

Because we are in competition with all of the other small ports in the country it is our hope that you can help the Army Corps of Engineers secure the funding necessary for this project.

Seabrook/Hampton harbor currently supports:

- 10 Large party-fishing boats (greater than 60')
- 10 smaller party-fishing boats (less than 60')
- +/- 30 lobster fishing boats
- +/- 40 other commercial fishing boats
- Yankee Fishermen's Cooperative with revenues in excess of \$3M
- 1 commercial para-sail boat
- A federally funded pier with at least 3 emergency response/patrol boats



# PEASE

INTERNATIONAL

PORTS AND HARBORS

555 Market Street, Suite 1 Portsmouth, NH 03801

- Tug and barge support for Seabrook Nuclear Power Station including fuel rod delivery and spent rod removal
- +/- 1500 recreational boats launched on the Hampton side (we are unable to account for the Seabrook side, for which there is no launch fee)
- Hampton River Marina, which has 144 boat slips and is estimated to be the largest single contributor to the Hampton economy
- An untold number of transient boaters who lay over or refuel

During the 2012/2013 dredge window 168,000 Cubic Yards of clean sand was removed from the project at a cost of \$3.2M. It is imperative that this process is begun as soon as possible as it will take time for environmental testing and project engineering.

Sincerely,

Tracy R. Shattuck  
 Chief Harbor Master  
 NH Port Authority

Town of Hampton

Les Eastman, Manager  
 Eastman's Docks, LLC

Town of Seabrook

Red Marvin  
 Yankee Fishermen's Cooperative

Oscar Boreth, General Manager  
 Hampton River Marina

Cc: Senator Margaret Hasson  
 Representative Ann Kuster  
 Representative Carol Shea-Porter