



The COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
 BOARD OF UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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October 13, 2011

Kimberly White
 Regional Project Manager
 US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
 Boston, MA 02109-3912

Superfund Records Center

SITE: New Bedford

BREAK: 16.1

OTHER: 498985

RE: Final Letter Report - New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site - Ship's Anchor Documentation,
 New Bedford, MA

Dear Ms. White:

The staff of the Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources has completed its review of the technical report entitled, *Final Letter Report - New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site - Ship's Anchor Documentation, New Bedford, Massachusetts*, dated September 10, 2011, and your detailed transmittal letter, dated September 28, 2011.

The Board is satisfied with the overall research, design and methodology for the documentation and assessment of the unanticipated archaeological discovery of a ship's anchor made on August 20, 2010. It concurs with the letter report's recommendations that no further investigation is warranted with respect to this anchor.

Regarding the disposition of the anchor, the letter report clearly demonstrates this anchor can be considered by the Board to be an isolated find, subject to the Board regulations dealing with exceptions (312 CMR 2.15(1)). As is its practice, the Board would need to formally approve this determination by public vote of the Board.

In the event that an interested and qualified party comes forward before the deadline proposed by USEPA and is determined to be an appropriate repository for this anchor, the Board expects the interested party, with the support of USEPA, will fully comply with the above referenced regulation and formally apply to the Board for an Isolated Find Exemption. If no interested party comes forward before the deadline proposed by USEPA, the Board reserves its right as title holder to consider taking physical custody of the anchor and determining its final disposition.

The Board takes this opportunity to extend its compliments to the technical services providers, Fathom Research LLC and CR Environmental, for preparing a thorough and well-written marine archaeological technical (letter) report. Additionally, the Board takes this opportunity to recognize the efforts of Jacobs Engineering. Finally, the Board expresses its appreciation to USEPA and USACE for their assistance in trying to facilitate the appropriate curation and display of this unanticipated ship's anchor.



The Board appreciates the opportunity to comment on this report. Should you have any questions regarding this review, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at (617) 626-1141.

Sincerely,



Victor T. Mastone
Director

/vmt

Cc: B. Simon, MHC
M. Paiva, USACE (via email attachment)
R. Boeri, MCZM (via email attachment)
J. Coyne, DEP (via email attachment)
L. Adams, USEPA (via email attachment)
B. Washington, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) (via email attachment)
R. Peters, Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe (via email attachment)
J. Nersesian, New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park (via email attachment)
J. Russell, New Bedford Whaling Museum (via email attachment)
A. Louro, New Bedford Planning Department (via email attachment)
L. Bergson, WHALE (via email attachment)
P. Teixeira, Acushnet Historical Commission (via email attachment)
D. Despres, Fairhaven Historical Commission (via email attachment)