

July 24, 2012

Ms. Elaine Stanley, EPA New England
5 Post Office Sq, Ste 100
Mail Code OSRR07-4
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Dear Ms. Stanley:

Please accept this letter of support in favor of the request by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for construction of a Confined Disposal Facility ("CDF") as part of the State Enhanced Remedy ("SER"). The SER is already incorporated into the 1998 Record of Decision for the Upper and Lower Harbor at the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site (1998 ROD).

There is clear evidence in the "Draft Determination" document that the US Environmental Protection has conducted a careful analysis of this proposal, and has reached a thoughtful and accurate conclusion that the proposed South Terminal project is both protective of human health and the environment and meets the substantive requirements of applicable, relevant and appropriate federal and state environmental standards. The evidence is also clear that the proposed South Terminal Project does not conflict with and is not inconsistent with the New Bedford Harbor Superfund remediation.

The time has come for America to divest itself from energy generated from fossil-fuels and to invest in sustainable sources of renewable energy development, such as ocean-based wind, wave and tidal renewable energy. Our neighbors in the European Community came to this realization over a decade ago and have made huge investments in ocean-based renewable energy generation. We have many lessons to learn from Europe. Learning from their experience will enable this country to avoid repeating some of their mistakes.

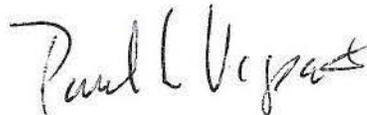
This nation has a major untapped supply of sustainable and renewable wind, wave and tidal energy just 30-40 miles offshore from the location of the proposed South Terminal project. Modern industrial port facilities are an essential ingredient and absolute prerequisite for accessing those offshore energy resources. This project is a first step in creating those critically needed infrastructure facilities.

The proposed public investment in the port infrastructure in New Bedford is a sound investment in technology-based economic development. It will reposition this entire region as a major deployment site within the ocean renewable energy marketplace. This project will create employment opportunities for "white-collar" and "blue-collar" workers in a wide range of professional, technical, managerial, manufacturing and support occupations.

In conclusion, I support and endorse the conclusions reached by the EPA in its "Draft Determination" of consistency with the New Bedford Superfund remediation plan and that the proposed will have no adverse impact.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments. Should you have need for any additional information, I can be reached either by email at pvigeant@umassd.edu or via telephone at 508-999-9143.

Sincerely,



Paul Vigeant
Assistant Chancellor for
Economic Development