

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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September 6, 2016

Mr. Craig Lapiejko
Waterways Management Branch at Coast Guard First District,
408 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, MA 02110

RE: Docket USCG-2016-0132

Dear Mr. Lapiejko,

On behalf of Ulster County Legislature and the Energy and Environmental Committee, we urge the US Coast Guard to hold public informational meetings and public hearings before proceeding with any plans for additional Hudson River anchorages as outlined in Docket USCG-2016-0132.

We would like to offer the Legislative Chambers at 244 Fair Street in Kingston, NY for such a public meeting and would be happy to assist your staff to locate other appropriate venues in the region.

With no public hearings and little information to go on the Ulster County Legislature's Energy and Environment Committee was pleased to have Ed Kelly, from the Maritime Association of the Port of NY/NJ and John Lipscomb, Captain of the Riverkeeper at their August 8, 2016 meeting to discuss the issue at an open and public forum. While this gave our committee a much better understanding of the issues at hand, the Legislature and the public still have serious concerns about the potential impacts these anchorages may have on our quality of life, environment and local economy that only the USCG officials can address.

The maritime industry and the United States Coast Guard (USCG) both have a long and proud history of safely navigating tons of freight in the Hudson River but the proposed anchorages outlined in Docket USCG-2016-0132 raised questions that need to be answered before any plans are formalized or approved.

Sincerely,

Kenneth J. Ronk, Chairman
Ulster County Legislature


Richard Parete, Chairman
Energy & Environment Committee



Tracey Bartels, Legislator
District 16



Mary Wawro, Legislator
District 1




Jonathan Heppner, Legislator
District 23



Ronald G. Lapp, Jr., Legislator
District 21



Jennifer Schwartz Berky, Legislator
District 7



Manna Jo Greene, Legislator
District 19

cc: United States Coast Guard (via: <https://www.regulations.gov/comment?D=USCG-2016-0132-0001>)