

**Milton Train Station Foundation, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 456**  
**Milton, NY 12547**

**Milton Landing Park Citizens Committee**  
**P.O. Box 305**  
**Milton, NY 12547**

U.S. Coast Guard First District  
Waterways Management Branch

Re: NY Docket Number USCG-2016-0132

To whom it may concern,

The Board of Directors of the Milton Train Station Foundation, Inc. and the members of the Milton Landing Park Citizens Committee are writing to voice our strong opposition to the proposed increase in the number of anchorage areas in the Hudson River for commercial barges. The Town of Marlborough would be particularly affected because two of the proposed sites would be located here-one in the Hamlet of Milton and one in the Hamlet of Marlboro. In fact the mooring sites would be proximate to the historic train station and park, creating a visual blight and adding industrial noise to the peaceful quiet we enjoy today.

Founded in the 1700s, Marlborough has a long history as a farming community with agriculture and tourism as the key drivers of its economy. In 1998 the Milton-on-Hudson train station and surrounding land was donated to the town. Since then, thousands of volunteer work hours and many donations of funds and materials have enabled the restoration of the station, which was entered onto the National Register of Historic Places in 2007. The station now serves as a community center. Adjacent to the station is the Milton Landing Park. Through grants from New York State and private foundations, the town was able to acquire the property when it became available and the park was created in 2009. It is the first public access to the river in the history of the town. Again the majority of the work done at the park has been accomplished by donated volunteer time and supplies. In 2014 the park received official designation as a site of the Hudson River Greenway Water Trail, a National Water Trail.

We believe that access to the Hudson River is critical to the economic, cultural and recreational activities of our town. The commitment of our community to restoring and developing river access has been clearly demonstrated by all the volunteer efforts in the past and ongoing. Having large barges docked for prolonged periods of time would have a negative impact on the enjoyment of the river by countless people. In addition we are concerned about the very real risk of oil being spilled into the river. Billions of dollars have already been spent on cleaning up the river from past industrial pollution. Daily we have oil being transported on the river and traveling through our river towns by rail. We strongly oppose adding any additional risk from barges that would be parked for a prolonged period of time, all for the benefit of private industry.

We urge you to listen to the citizens of the Hudson Valley and not approve the increase in barge anchorage sites. We respectfully request that a public meeting be held in Town of Marlborough regarding the proposed rule.

Sincerely,

Milton Train Station Foundation, Inc.  
Board of Directors

Milton Landing Park Citizens Committee