



SANDRA R. GALEF
Assemblywoman 95th District

THE ASSEMBLY
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ALBANY

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September 6, 2016

RDML Linda Fagan, District Commander
First Coast Guard District
408 Atlantic Ave.
Boston, MA 02110

Dear RDML Fagan,

In the face of mounting concern among my constituents about the proposed anchorages in the Hudson, I called an informal meeting in my office of people representing the pilots, tugboat operators, the Riverkeeper, the Sierra Club, and officials of local communities on the Hudson River. It proved a most informative meeting in which many misunderstandings were aired. The pilots and tugboats owners seemed to be astonished at the level of concern about these proposals. The public representatives learned much about the river traffic and how it is managed. This is not to say that there is not still a great deal more that needs to be aired. Your plan to have informational hearings be part of the public hearing process is very good.

Some of the particular issues that need further clarification at this point are:

- The accommodation of cables in the river, both those already there and those that are anticipated.
- The length of time barges can stay on the anchorages. While the need for anchorages due to adverse weather conditions is self explanatory and non-controversial, the idea that barges might use the anchorages to smooth out the ups and downs of supply and demand raises many questions about the possible increase in traffic. Just how much traffic is there on the river and how much is anticipated?
- The regulation of this particularly flammable cargo that cannot be recovered in case of an accident. Is there any oversight of how much traffic the river can bear? What constitutes dangerous crowding? What measures are in place in case of an accident? What agent of government addresses these issues?



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- Possible conflict with Coastal Management regulations in place in the river towns.
- How might new regulations impinge upon recreational use of the Hudson. What safety measures might be needed and then put in place. Who would enforce them?

I hope this early feedback about how the proposed anchorage sites are being viewed by my constituents is helpful to you in your planning for public hearings. If I can be of further help to you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sandra R. Galef
N.Y.S. Assemblywoman, 95th District