



Via email: [craig.d.lapiejko@uscg.mil](mailto:craig.d.lapiejko@uscg.mil)

October 7, 2016

Craig Lapiejko

Waterways Management Branch Coast Guard First District

Re: Coast Guard soliciting comments on proposal to establish more anchorage grounds for commercial vessel in the Hudson River Docket #: USCG-2016-0132

Dear Mr. Lapiejko,

I am writing to formally register my strong opposition to the proposal to establish more anchorage grounds for commercial vessel in the Hudson River. This proposal, if enacted, poses a serious threat to our community's waterfront revitalization efforts, environment, and quality of life.

Many communities along the Hudson have already invested millions of dollars in waterfront revitalization efforts. The impacted view sheds along with the noise and light pollution will diminish our community's tourism industry and affect the economic vitality of the region. The review of this proposal must take into consideration and be consistent with Local Waterfront Revitalization Plans.

I am extremely concerned about the environmental impacts of this proposal, especially the increased risks of a crude oil spill. In the event of an oil spill, only a tiny fraction of the oil can be recovered which could cause serious, long-lasting damage to the Hudson River. Adding more oil barges dramatically increases the odds of having a spill and further denigrates our natural resource.

I would also urge that the Coast Guard to require a full environmental review for this project so that we can fully understand the environmental impacts of this proposal. For example, barge anchors and chains will surely scar and damage the river bottom causing additional environmental damage to the federally endangered Sturgeon which live in the river.

This proposal represents an expansion of our reliance on dirty energy. I am committed to improving our river and finding ways to generate more clean and carbon neutral energy.

Lastly, the addition of more barges will certainly increase the risk of the many individuals who use our river for recreation. Many local residents enjoy the river for recreation including sailing, canoeing and

other boating, fishing, jet skiing and more. With the increase of barges it is sure to present an increase of accidents and injuries.

I see very little benefits for the increase in anchorages but many potential costs and detriments from the anchorages. As such I strongly urge the Coast Guard to abandon this project. If elected to represent the 40<sup>th</sup> District as their State Senator, I will do everything in my power to fight this proposal. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alison".

Alison Boak

Candidate for New York State Senate

40<sup>th</sup> District