

54 Waldron Ave.  
Glen Rock, N. J. 07452  
Sept 27, 2016

Dear Commander  
U. S. Coast Guard sector, NY  
212 Coast Guard Drive  
Staten Island, NY 10305

Dear Coast Guard,

I have read about a proposal for mooring many fuel barges on the Hudson River. I am writing to indicate that I am strongly opposed to this proposed plan.

On a personal note I feel a strong connection to the Coast Guard. My cousin, William Parks graduated from the Coast Guard Academy and served his entire life on active duty with the CG. He died due to a cancer that may have been caused by chemicals used to treat oil spills. A few years ago the Coast Guard built a new ship for treating oil spills and the ship was named the **William Parks** in honor of his important contributions in treating oil spills. He was also a most gifted sailboat racer. He and his sailing team at the academy won the National Racing Championship about 1960.

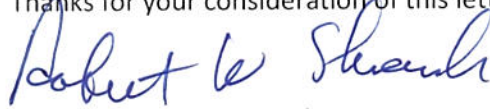
I am a very active member of the Nyack Boat Club, based in Nyack . NY. For the past 22 years I have raced my 22.5 foot Ensign Sailboat on the Tappan Zee. I have done this virtually every Sunday afternoon from May 1 thru the end of October. I love the river and its beauty. I would hate to see the scenic river marred by the anchoring of fuel barges.

In addition I consider the anchoring of barges to be a major safety issue. During the past few years, there have been many large barges anchored on the Tappan Zee for purposes of building the new bridge. I believe that several people have been killed by hitting barges at night. In addition, at least one barge broke loose during a storm. While these barges may be properly lighted according to the law, we all know that it is hard to see the lights on these barges. They are a huge black objects and are difficult to see at night from many angles. The presence of these barges also limits where we can have our sailing races on the Tappan Zee.

There is also the potential to have large oil spills if some large vessel hits one of these parked barges. That is the last thing needed for improving the condition of the Hudson river. The river is on the mend. Lets keep that trend going.

And finally there is the issue of beauty. For those of us who sail on the Hudson, we find it to be a beautiful river. On the Tappan Zee we have Hook Mountain, the Rockefeller estate and beautiful homes and estates on the river. I would hate to be looking at several oil barges instead of the current landscape.

Thanks for your consideration of this letter.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert W. Shoemaker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Robert W. Shoemaker, Ph D.

Emeritus Professor, Stern School of Business

At New York University

Robert W. Shoemaker  
5 Waldron Ave  
Glen Rock, NJ 07452

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