



THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

*Serving Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown*

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November 22, 2016

Commander Linda Fagan  
U.S. Coast Guard First District  
408 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Re: Letter against Proposed Rule for Anchorage Grounds on the Hudson  
Docket ID: USCG-2016-0132

Dear Commander Fagan:

The Historical Society, Inc., Serving Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown, opposes the proposal to establish 43 berths at 10 new anchorage sites in the Hudson River. In this we join the Hastings Historical Society, Riverkeeper, and other Hudson Valley community institutions.

The new barge traffic on the Hudson results from the recent growth of domestic oil production owing, in turn, to the expansion of hydraulic fracturing in places like North Dakota. North Dakota, not being a traditional source of petroleum in large quantities, lacks the customary network of pipelines to carry the product to East Coast refineries and thus relies on shipment by rail and barge. These means have been subject to accidents ranging in type from large-scale leakages to explosions and fires of the sort that destroyed the town of Lac-Mégantic, Quebec. The very first vessel carrying oil from the Port of Albany, in 2012, ran aground within the first six miles. This poses an obvious threat to the safety of those living along the route. Beyond that, the entire project will be obsolete as soon as the Energy Transfer Crude Oil Company concedes that it can build the Dakota Access Pipeline without going through Native American burial sites and drinking-water sources.

Apart from the threat to safety, the likelihood of pollution, and the temporary nature of the project, it simply goes against the course of history. The Hudson River is tremendously important both to the history and to the future of Tarrytown, Sleepy Hollow, and the other villages and cities that line its banks. As a historical society, we understand that the Hudson's history included a prolonged period of industrial development along its shores. Its more recent history, however, has been marked by hope and progress in a new direction. Communities are

rediscovering the Hudson. The task of cleaning up the river has taken great strides. Industrial facilities, often long abandoned, have been removed or slated for imminent removal. New housing has been built, and new parks and trails laid out. These new tasks are not yet completed, but their direction is well established. The Historical Society respectfully opposes this dangerous, unnecessary, and anachronistic anchorage project.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Scott C. Monje". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Scott C. Monje  
President