



THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

Thomas J. Abinanti  
Assemblyman 92<sup>nd</sup> District

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December 6, 2016

Mr. Craig Lapiejko  
Waterways Management Branch  
Coast Guard First District  
408 Atlantic Avenue

Re: Rule 2016-1370

Dear Mr. Lapiejko,

I write to oppose the proposal of The Maritime Association of the Port of New York/New Jersey Tug and Barge Committee to establish numerous Hudson River mooring sites for barges and freighters, stretching from Yonkers to Kingston.

I represent the Westchester/Hudson River shoreline from the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson to the Village of Sleepy Hollow. The proposal would locate several mooring sites off-shore from the Villages of Hastings and Dobbs Ferry.

The proposal will have serious, long term adverse impacts on both the Hudson River and the Hudson River communities.

**Environment.** Establishing a floating parking lot will adversely impact the river bottom and marine life as well as increase the risk of oil spills. It will disrupt the scenic views for which the river communities are known.

**Health and Safety.** The continual movement and mooring of numerous large vessels along the coastline poses additional navigation hazards to watercraft traditionally navigating the Hudson River and impedes access to the shoreline for commercial and pleasure craft. The presence of numerous additional large vessels heightens the risk of breakaways and collisions. Parking barges adjacent to Indian Point heightens the risk to that facility.

**Economics.** The presence and movement of numerous additional large vessels adjacent to the shoreline will damage the economic viability of the Rivertowns' waterfronts. It will destroy the scenic views which significantly contribute to the Rivertowns' property values. It negates the significant financial resources invested by New York State and the river communities to reclaim the Hudson waterway and abutting lands. It will stymie future development. It could halt ongoing efforts to clean up brownfields left along the shoreline by significantly diminishing the value of the waterfront properties.

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I request that the Coast Guard: (1) at a minimum, conduct a full environmental impact study; and (2) ultimately, deny the application because of its serious negative impacts.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas J. Abinanti". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line that serves as a separator between the signature and the printed name.

Thomas J. Abinanti