



November 30, 2016

Waterways Management Branch  
Coast Guard First District  
408 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Docket #USCG-2016-0132

United States Coast Guard:

Walkway Over the Hudson ("Walkway") is a nonprofit organization that supports capital improvements and innovative programs to attract visitors that contribute to the economic vitality of the Hudson Valley. The Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park spans from Poughkeepsie, NY, across the Hudson River to the Town of Lloyd, NY, and welcomes over 500,000 visitors annually.

This letter serves to comment on the proposed ten (10) anchorages of commercial vessels on Hudson River sites from Yonkers to Kingston.

It is the unanimous opinion of our Board of Directors that the anchorages will be a detriment to the Hudson River and present the potential for disastrous oil spills and negative impact to the delicate ecosystem. For many years, organizations such as Walkway have focused on preserving the natural beauty of the Hudson River for the historic waterfront communities that have relied on the Hudson River for recreation and to support the tourism industry in the Hudson Valley. These communities have made significant investments in their waterfronts to make them desirable places to live, work, and recreate. The proposed anchorage grounds are adjacent to many population centers including State and National Parks, City of Poughkeepsie, and several smaller communities. The proposed anchorages would place multiple commercial vessels at these waterfronts, creating light and noise pollution, impacting the use of hundreds of acres of river, and detracting from the River's natural beauty as seen from these places.

We are confident that the Coast Guard, after careful study of the proposal's impact on security and safety, water supplies, traffic, noise, light, tourism, recreation, and the ecosystem will conclude that the application should be declined.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Waldstein-Hart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elizabeth Waldstein-Hart, Executive Director  
Walkway Over the Hudson