

To: Ledyard Planning & Zoning Commissioners

I wholeheartedly endorse the Gales Ferry Intermodal application before you.

My career includes 50 years in the marine industry in Connecticut, and for 35 years I served as a member of the Connecticut Marine Trades Association Board of Directors.

I know the maritime economy – its needs and its benefits.

The Gales Ferry Intermodal project will contribute greatly to the needs of our region's maritime economy by providing additional pier and land-based support facilities. It will contribute significant benefits to workers in the marine trades by providing more opportunities on the Thames River waterfront.

From my perspective, it is a crime that this site has been largely inactive for so long. As land use commissioners in Ledyard, you know better than anyone else in the region the value of this site.

Gales Ferry Intermodal will be able to remove excavated material by barge because of the deep-water waterfront. GFI also has the option of removing material by rail.

This is a valuable piece of industrial property and Jay Cashman is simply seeking to use this valuable industrial land to its highest and best use.

I urge you to approve the Gales Ferry Intermodal application.

Sincerely,

John Johnson

Thames River Properties

239 Bank St., New London, CT