

EX# 170 Received
11/21/24

Date: 10/24/2024

Dear Commissioners:

I write on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of commerce of eastern Connecticut to support the Gales Ferry Intermodal development. But first, allow me to thank you for your public service. As a former First Selectman for many years in Waterford I can assure you that I recognize how difficult your responsibilities are. Balancing the town's long term overall economic needs with individual community interests is difficult at best, but incredibly important.

During my tenure in Waterford, I always sought to appoint smart, thoughtful community members who had the ability to follow the towns well established and tested Planning and Zoning regulations. Doing so resulted in saving the town hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees and endless time and energy avoiding court battles.

This project is necessary for a number of important reasons: The project is ideally suited for supporting the growth of the regions maritime industry. When developed, it will provide a key and necessary component in the regions supply chain for our relatively new offshore wind energy (OSW) energy industry as well as our growing submarine industry. It is located in an industrial zoned on the waterfront with a deep-water channel which is ideally suited to serve as a operations and maintenance facility for crew and equipment and material transfers, with most of the material shipped out by barge. I have been a resident of the region for a long time.

I remember when the plant was operated by Dow Chemical. What has impressed me as I read up on Cashman Dredging and their plan for the site, is their willingness to listen to the surrounding neighbors. The company has listened, and as a result, they have made major adjustments to their original plans to accommodate expressed concerns. For example, as mentioned above, the site is zoned for industrial use and from all that I have read and heard, Cashman Dredging has taking significant steps to be a good corporate neighbor. They have provided operational details which the commission can take into consideration as part of your deliberations.

The company is committed to working with the state and the town to mitigate any perceived adverse effects such as noise, dust, work hours and a host of other concerns that have been expressed by the neighbors. As mentioned, projects such as the one proposed are critical to the development of our new offshore wind industry and to the production of clean energy. Additionally, this development will provide significant tax relief for Ledyard which, I am sure, everyone is aware is second highest taxed town in our region.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS WHO CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO PROGRAMS IN SUPPORT OF THE SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

Sun	Dominion Energy	M&T Bank	The Simon Konover Company	Backus Hospital/Hartford
ge	Mystic Aquarium	Gateway Terminal	The Day Publishing Company	Healthcare
	General Dynamics Electric Boat	Liberty Bank	Genesys Diagnostics Inc	Citizens
Resort Casino	Dime Bank	Groton Utilities	Quinn & Hary	Lawrence + Memorial
ipal Electric Energy	Charter Oak Federal Credit Union	Chelsea Groton Bank	Antonino Auto Group	Hospital/Yale New Haven
ve	Cross Sound Ferry	Mystic Seaport Museum	Centreville Bank	Health
	Cashman Dredging	Comcast Business		Breezeline

1. Key Points:

- Supports regional maritime industry growth.
- Essential for the supply chain in the offshore wind (OSW) and submarine industries.
- Located in an industrial zone with a deep-water channel, making it ideal for operations and maintenance.
- Cashman Dredging has made adjustments to their plans based on community feedback.
- They have committed to being a good corporate neighbor by addressing operational concerns such as noise and dust.
- The development is crucial for the offshore wind industry and clean energy production.
- It will provide significant tax relief for Ledyard, addressing high local tax burdens.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation for the opportunity to speak. I hope you will ~~make the necessary changes to your regulations to allow~~ this important project to go forward.

MS. approve this proposal & allow

Thank you.



Tony Sheridan
President & CEO

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