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OCEAN MANAGEMENT PLAN DEVELOPMENT
LISTENING SESSION

Tuesday, September 23, 2008
Gloucester Town Hall
9 Dale Avenue
Gloucester, MA

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2 MR. DEERIN BABB-BROTT: Good evening,
3 folks. And thank you for coming out tonight to a
4 great city and a beautiful town hall. My name is
5 Deerin Babb-Brott and I am the Assistant Secretary
6 for Oceans, Executive Office of Energy and
7 Environmental Affairs and on behalf of my boss
8 Secretary Ian Bowles, I would like to welcome you
9 tonight.

10 Before we begin with this evening's
11 program, I would like to turn the podium over to
12 Mayor Carolyn Kirk who is also a commissioner on the
13 Oceans Advisory Commission established by Oceans back
14 in 2008.

15 MAYOR KIRK: Thank you. Welcome to the
16 City of Gloucester. My name is Carolyn Kirk and I am
17 the Mayor of this city and it is a privilege to
18 welcome you here tonight and also for myself to serve
19 on the Oceans Advisory Commission. And the Ocean's
20 plan for legislation is the first ever of its kind in
21 the nation. So we have the opportunity to be a model
22 of how our coastal waters are planned and governed in
23 terms of the coastal waters of Massachusetts.

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1 And what I find absolutely fascinating
2 about this process in the implementation of the plan
3 is it is front-ended by the listening sessions.
4 These sessions are taking place all over the

5 Commonwealth so that the resultant plan will be the
6 result of the input from the citizens across the
7 Commonwealth which we are following a similar process
8 at the local level.

9 So I really applaud the Governor and the
10 Secretary and Deerin for putting this process
11 together really allowing everyone to have a say in
12 that. So, as a panelist I will be listening but
13 because I have the microphone, I am going to make an
14 editorial comment that I would like added to the
15 record.

16 And that is the City of Gloucester's
17 position is that fishery regulation needs to remain
18 in the purview of the Division of Marine Fisheries.
19 And that if there is any kind of regulations around
20 the fisheries really should not become a part of the
21 Ocean's Plan. There are plenty of regulations that
22 govern the fisheries. And the legislation does speak
23 to that. I just want to state that as a Citizen of

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1 Gloucester, as the Mayor of Gloucester, as someone
2 who's working with the industry and navigating the
3 layers and layers of bureaucracy which we have to
4 work with the industry, and really keep the focus on
5 an Ocean's plan, the scope that, Deerin, you will
6 define and articulate.

7 Other than that I welcome you all and
8 look forward to your testimony. Thank you.

9 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you, Mayor. It
10 is now my pleasure to introduce Senator Bruce Tarr
11 who needs no introduction to you. Senator Tarr is
12 also a member of the Ocean's Advisory Commission
13 established by the Ocean's Act. Senator Tarr.

14 SENATOR TARR: Thank you very much.
15 Good evening. And as a commission member and one of
16 the authors of the Act that gives rise to the
17 occasion that we enjoy tonight, I am particularly
18 pleased to be here with all of you and to see a
19 robust turnout from the City of Gloucester and the
20 surrounding communities to engage in what is a
21 critical function for the future of the Commonwealth
22 of Massachusetts.

23 And that is to plan the future. To

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1 plan the future responsibly of one of our greatest
2 natural resources and one that give rise to the very
3 existence of the port that we live in.

4 It is important to me that we remain
5 focused on the mission of this Act. And the
6 essential use of this Act is to find that balance
7 between the uses of the ocean that we have
8 traditionally had such as the commercial fishing
9 industry and the proper balance of the potential
10 nuclear systems.

11 But to do so in a way that respects

12 those traditional uses and means of access that we
13 have always enjoyed as citizens of the Commonwealth
14 of Massachusetts.

15 There is no doubt that what gave rise
16 to this Bill in large part is that the fact that the
17 ocean is now a target for all kinds of new uses that
18 we hadn't conceived of in the past and it has been
19 opposed of in the past. And it seems to us in the
20 legislature that we ought not to react to each of
21 those things on an individual basis in a reactive
22 mode, but rather that we ought to have a plan. A
23 plan that says clearly what the intended uses of the

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1 Ocean should be.

2 And we being the stewards of that
3 resource as citizens of the Commonwealth should be
4 the makers of that plan. That is what is happening
5 here tonight. So I want to extend my gratitude to
6 Deerin and my fellow commissioners and to
7 commissioners who aren't here tonight but will be at
8 other Hearings as we go around the Commonwealth and
9 as we devise the plan that we all as good stewards of
10 the ocean should develop.

11 I would offer a comment and that is that
12 in the plan and in the Act itself that historically
13 we have done as much as I think reasonably could be
14 done to insure that the commercial fishing industry
15 remains protected, not only in the port of

16 Gloucester, but throughout the Commonwealth of
17 Massachusetts. And to insure that fisheries
18 management is undertaken by those who have the
19 expertise in fisheries management. In this
20 Commonwealth, we have a tremendous division of marine
21 fisheries. We all have the opportunity over the
22 years to work with them. Sometimes we don't always
23 agree with those managers at the state level. But I

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1 think it is fair to say that we have a respect for
2 them because they have a level of expertise and
3 responsibility and understanding that allows us to
4 have a responsible conversation about fisheries
5 management and that should never be changed.

6 At the same time we need to understand
7 that others will look to the ocean for new uses such
8 as things like renewable energy and alternative
9 energy. Those are not things we can consider or
10 reject out of the box, but things that we should
11 understand and place in context.

12 Tonight we begin the process of
13 developing the infrastructure for how we will manage
14 the greatest resource of the Commonwealth on a
15 natural resource basis and we will do it by using the
16 greatest resource in the Commonwealth, the people who
17 are its citizens. So thank you all for being here.
18 I look forward to working with you.

19 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you, Senator
20 Tarr. And in a perfect world, we will go right to
21 comments as usual the Senator said three things that
22 I was really going to say and I will explain the
23 pieces we put into place.

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1 Also joining us this evening is Jack
2 Clark who is on the Oceans Advisory Commission. Jack
3 holds the environmental seat as the governor's
4 appointee in that capacity. So as folks have
5 mentioned, tonight is a second of what will be a
6 series of 18 meetings that EEA is holding statewide
7 as the first step in developing an Ocean plan.

8 Our goal is to develop an Ocean plan
9 with broad based public participation and in just a
10 moment I will describe the process by which we hope
11 to solicit your thoughts and comments that will help
12 EEA, the Ocean Advisory Counsel to find how the Ocean
13 plan will achieve that objective as set forth in the
14 Act.

15 The agenda for this evening is very
16 simple and for us it is geared towards listening. I
17 will provide a ten or fifteen minute overview and
18 presentation and then we are going to sit back and
19 take comments from folks who want to speak to us this
20 evening. Some of the administrative details, there
21 is a sign in sheet at the door and a number of
22 handouts. Please help yourself to those. Take your
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23 time to sign in and indicate if you would like to

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1 speak this evening. It is important if it is okay
2 with you that you give us your contact information so
3 that we can continue to reach back out to you and
4 keep you informed about planning materials and events
5 that are happening associated with the planned
6 process.

7 The handout will include an overview of
8 the Ocean's Act and the public participation process,
9 a number of web links for information, a map of the
10 planning area, form for submitting comments this
11 evening if you wish to do so in a written form, and
12 also a copy of the brief presentation that I will
13 give.

14 You will notice that there is video
15 equipment here tonight. The folks ask for us to
16 speak loudly and clearly into microphones. We are
17 video taping each one of the public listening
18 sessions and those will be available on line for
19 folks to take a look at their convenience. The
20 website should be up later this week and beginning of
21 next week. All 18 meetings will be up there. And in
22 all of your spare time and your evening interest, we
23 want to make it as easy as possible for people to

1 participate if they are not able to get out to the
2 meetings.

3 That website will also have an
4 electronic link for submitting comments to the EEA
5 planning process. That website will also maintain a
6 docket for all comments that are received so that
7 folks are able to keep an eye on and participate in
8 view of the comments that are submitted by the
9 public.

10 when we do move to the public comments,
11 we will be working off a sign-in sheet. I will work
12 through them in order. To allow everyone time to
13 speak this evening, we will try to keep comments if
14 we could to three or four minutes. If there are a
15 lot of speakers, we will have some latitude there.

16 If folks have questions about
17 administrative aspects of the process, details of
18 timing or schedule of public process, feel free to
19 ask those as part of it. Substantive kind of
20 questions, we are not likely to perhaps have the
21 answers because we are just starting the process. My
22 response is maybe we are going to learn that as we go
23 here. If you have questions, feel free to ask.

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2 there are folks not signed in but wish to do so, we
3 will give you an opportunity to do that.

4 Lastly, the presentation handout offers
5 some suggestions for the kind of substantive comments
6 that will help us in the planning process, but they
7 are just suggestions. All of your comments will be
8 carefully reviewed and will be helpful to us as we go
9 forward. So thank you. And now let's talk a little
10 bit about the Ocean Plan.

11 We thought we would begin with just
12 answering questions. What is the Ocean Plan? And
13 that is at its basic level. An Ocean Plan is a plan
14 to guide, use, and protection and development of our
15 ocean waters. And that would address areas where
16 uses or development are incompatible with each other.
17 Areas where uses or development are incompatible with
18 natural resources.

19 And as Senator indicated, an ocean plan
20 is designed to provide overall balance and use,
21 protection, and development. Importantly the ocean
22 plan once completed will be the foundation for state
23 permitting actions. Although state permits approval

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1 for activities in the waters off the Commonwealth
2 will be required to be consistent in maximum
3 practicable with the plan.

4 The plan itself is based on

5 environmental, economic, and social information.
6 Maps and data. And we use those and this is the
7 academic definition or an academic definition of
8 ocean planning to rationally organize uses of ocean
9 space or the interactions between uses. To balance
10 plans for development to be protected in the
11 environment and to achieve social and economic
12 objectives in an opened and planned way.

13 why do we need an ocean plan. well, for
14 starters, we need it because the Oceans Act of 2008
15 says we need to develop an oceans plan. More
16 importantly the Oceans Act recognizes that the ocean
17 is a public resource and belongs to all of us and we
18 need to protect and preserve it. And we have to
19 historically foster new sustainable uses. We have to
20 achieve the balance Senator Tarr referenced.

21 So a few words on the Oceans Act
22 itself. In June the legislature passed and Governor
23 Patrick signed the Oceans Act of 2008. The Secretary

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1 of Energy and Environmental Affairs working with the
2 assistance of an Ocean Advisory commission and a
3 Science Advisory Counsel to develop comprehensive
4 ocean management plan. And if you had to boil down
5 in one sentence what the Ocean Act says we needed to
6 do is, the act directs that the ocean plan sets forth
7 the Commonwealth's goals, citing priorities and
8 standards for proper stewardship of its ocean waters

9 held in trust for the benefit of the public.

10 The Oceans Act also directs that the
11 plan coordinate uses that include international,
12 federal, state, and local jurisdictions.

13 For example, folks are talking about
14 how in ten years I expect we will see deep water
15 cables, way off shores outside of the jurisdiction of
16 the plan, deep federal waters. Those will be cables
17 that come in through state waters and attach to the
18 state to furnish the power.

19 Those are kinds of uses that have
20 local, state, and federal jurisdiction associated if
21 we need to be thinking forward to the potential
22 impacts of those facilities in the state waters.

23 It directs that we foster sustainable

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1 uses that capitalize on economic opportunity without
2 significant detriment to the ecology or the natural
3 beauty of the ocean.

4 And it directs that we identify
5 appropriate locations and performance standards for
6 activities, uses, and facilities allowed under the
7 Ocean Sanctuaries Act. For example the Act directs
8 that we identify areas and performance standards
9 associated with renewable energy associated with the
10 state waters.

11 The important thing, the plan does not

12 address harbor planning, harbor uses, or near shore
13 uses, nor does it address uses or activities in
14 federal waters. The jurisdiction of the plan is from
15 about a third of a mile off shore out to the three
16 mile state limit.

17 And then to reiterate again as both the
18 mayor and the senator had stated, the Oceans Act is
19 specific is that it directs that commercial and
20 recreational fishing shall be allowable uses subject
21 to the exclusive jurisdiction of the fisheries. And
22 it states that the Division of Marine Fisheries will
23 have sole responsibility for fisheries management

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1 plans for fisheries regulations.

2 So the Oceans Plan is not a fisheries
3 management plan and it will not lead to regulations
4 associated with management of fisheries.

5 Schedule of the product. The Act
6 states that by June 30, 2009, next summer, we have a
7 draft plan submitted for formal public hearings and
8 for legislative view. And then by December 31, at
9 the end of 2009, that we have a formally promulgated
10 Ocean Plan and any associated speculations.

11 We envision that plan in two products.
12 First, a plan that identifies areas suitable for
13 different kinds of development or protection and
14 describes how those areas will be regulated. And,
15 secondly, because we have such a short period of time

16 now to develop a plan, we want to make sure that we
17 have a formal road map for continuing to develop and
18 revolution of that plan.

19 we have an understanding of the
20 questions that we need to address scientifically out
21 there, what information we need in order to address
22 those questions. We need a way to monitor how the
23 plan is working out there. And we need the ability

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1 to make modifications to the plan on at least a five
2 year basis as the Act requires.

3 So, the way we are going to do that is
4 we have potentially a four step process laid out.
5 The first step which we are engaged in now is we are
6 going to go through to the end of January. That is
7 go out and receive, gather information, to collect
8 all the raw materials that we need to assemble to put
9 together into the plan.

10 The first is to review public comment,
11 receive public comment. It is to collect and analyze
12 existing and environmental, economic, and social data
13 to establish a scientific baseline for our
14 management. We will be working in order to do that,
15 begun working with agencies, with workers of
16 interested parties, with stakeholder groups, and with
17 the public.

18 This is the interactive process. We

19 will be coming back to each of these groups in
20 different forms over the course of planned
21 development. At the end of that step, we will review
22 and analyze all of that data, start to understand
23 where the potential conflicts are and the issues we

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1 need to address and we will be able to begin
2 developing the plan.

3 Step two is then developing that plan.
4 And that runs February through April of next year.
5 We begin overlay of different data sets. We evaluate
6 the tradeoffs. Where are the conflicts. What are
7 the conflicts. Are there ways to resolve them.
8 Should they not be resolved. Are there areas that
9 could tell us should be maintained for exclusive uses
10 or exclusively for natural resource protection.

11 We will conduct hands on evaluation of
12 those kind of working drafts with state and local
13 groups, so folks who are invested in use or
14 protection or care about ocean issues will have an
15 opportunity to think through with us the impact of
16 different kinds of decisions we could make.

17 The third step then which runs from May
18 to June is to take a working draft back out to the
19 public sessions and to do the same kind of evaluation
20 with this kind of a format and put the plan out
21 there. And we say we talked to you in late September
22 and continue through October, we have been working.

23 Here's what we have come up with so far. And that's

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1 a May through June process.

2 And starting in July, we go through the
3 formal public hearings and that carries through until
4 the plan is promulgated in December. We want to be
5 able to come back before we do the public Hearings
6 because the public Hearings are very formal and
7 scripted and we can't have any interaction as with
8 these public meetings where we sit and listen to what
9 people say. We want to be able to have the
10 opportunity to work with the raw materials with folks
11 directly before we get to that step.

12 So in December 31 we have a plan
13 promulgated importantly that directs us to
14 incorporate the completed plan in the state Coastal
15 Zone Management Plan. What that will allow the state
16 to do is to use the plan as the basis for review
17 through federal consistency under the Coastal Zone
18 Management Plan of federal approvals and activities
19 in state waters and in federal waters.

20 The project is proposed three miles
21 outside the federal waters. We can use the plan, the
22 basis for review of the federal consistency
23 provisions. It gives us another area of working

1 constructively and in protecting the state as we move
2 forward.

3 Lastly, I would like to rap up by
4 talking just briefly about your comments and
5 participation. We have laid out a few questions just
6 as primers for you. You are certainly welcome to go
7 forth on anything you care about. But things that
8 are of particular importance to us include what is
9 important to you based on how you use and experience
10 the ocean. How should those values and your interest
11 be reflected in the ocean plan that has to lead to
12 balance. What are your thoughts about the process.
13 Are there ways we could make this more efficient for
14 you to participate in things you would like to see.

15 Lastly, I will again point out we have
16 a WEB page up on EEA. Look through the handouts.
17 Please take the time to avail yourself the
18 opportunity to read the materials, send us your
19 thoughts and comments, and we look forward to hearing
20 from you and working with you as we continue through
21 the process. Thank you.

22 And so working from the top of the list
23 down. Arthur Sawyer from the Massachusetts

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2 microphone, it is the way we have the video setup.

3 MR. SAWYER: Thank you, sir. My name
4 is Arthur Sawyer, the Vice President of the
5 Massachusetts Lobstermen Association. And lobster
6 industry is probably the most important fishery that
7 takes place in the State of Massachusetts. It is
8 probably in the vicinity of 16 million pounds of
9 lobster. So that weighs out to about 50 million
10 dollars plus that adds to the coastal communities
11 which everybody knows the social and economic impacts
12 of fisheries and then you multiply that to about four
13 to five times, so we are talking about 250 million
14 dollars worth of lobster industry participation in
15 the State of Massachusetts.

16 And the Massachusetts Lobsterman
17 Association will be very willing to work with this
18 Commission to protect the future of the lobster
19 industry in Massachusetts as far as habitat uses.
20 And we have had some issues with pipelines and copper
21 mining projects up in Boston Harbor and hopefully the
22 Commission will address these issues. Thank you.

23 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you very much.

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1 with a name like Babb-Brott I am very sensitive to
2 mangling people's names. The hand writing is not
3 perfect. I apologize in advance if I desecrate your
4 name. The next on the list is Suzanne.

5 SUZANNE: Good evening. I represent my
6 husband and myself and friends. We design boats in
7 Gloucester. He has been in business since 1952. And
8 we have taken it upon ourselves since 2002 to examine
9 the economic of the fishing industry from our
10 perspective in designing vessels for fresh water and
11 salt water use and commercial. And what we have
12 found in examining this, was that fleet is built for
13 one dollar a gallon.

14 The fleets as we see it in Gloucester, as
15 we see it in all the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is
16 really burdened with the economy based on an age when
17 fuel was cheap. Why are we speaking of fuel tonight.
18 Since none of us have learned to walk on the water, I
19 think the advice with which we do tend to the ocean
20 with the research level and the survey level or on a
21 commercial fishing level.

22 Lobstering, dragging, long lining,
23 gilling. That matters, how we go about it. What we

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1 have done in Gloucester over the last six years, we
2 pulled together a coalition of very divergent
3 interests. We have had forty owner-operator
4 fishermen, from lobster men to the hard steel
5 dragners on the one hand. On the other hand we have
6 also got a two page letter from the Conservation Law
7 Foundation. Peter spent a significant time in our
8 office and to make sure that we were talking on a

9 level that he was real to. That took a long time to
10 write this.

11 I have a national magazine that I bring
12 with me today for your perusal as a modest compendium
13 publication since 2004. why do we speak up again. I
14 think it matters to see how we tend to the ocean.
15 whether we do it in a sustainable manner. And
16 fishing that is based on vessels and technology,
17 specifically economics that are simply pre fuel
18 spike, pre national energy policy and things that
19 matters to all of us. Those would not be a good
20 device to tend to the ocean in a sustaining fashion.

21 we are not here to ask for work. we
22 expect 14 hundred hours per boat. Just so we don't
23 misunderstand what we are talking about. what we are

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1 trying to represent is an interest on a local level,
2 all together a broad variety of interests, we don't
3 necessarily hold hands, to find state and federal
4 funding and from some federal representatives, to
5 pull together some research funding to see in
6 Gloucester what could possibly be the greenest
7 fishing vessels, what they look like, what are they
8 worth, how are the fisherman doing.

9 So what we are proposing for you to
10 consider is whether we cannot initiate an incubator
11 project in Gloucester to demonstrate a project like

12 this to see how as a signal to Massachusetts and to
13 the New England fleet, how we could possibly develop
14 one of the greenest fleets of the commercial fishing
15 that could be.

16 when raw fishermen with 20 to 30 years
17 of experience quietly the word sale, they don't do so
18 for the romance of it. They don't break off into sea
19 shanties. They do believe in saving a gallon or two
20 or five or ten an hour as a way of surviving while
21 the resources are in extinction within the process.
22 Thank you for your patience.

23 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you. Larry

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1 Larry Skemetic.

2 LARRY: You are one of the first people
3 to ever pronounced the name correctly. Thank you
4 very much.

5 I have just gotten back into commercial
6 lobstering full time. I started about 39 years ago
7 and that is a very short span when we are talking
8 about ocean resources. For two speakers before,
9 Mr. Sawyer and the previous speaker combined the
10 elements that should be there, having a renewable
11 resource pleases us all even though there is
12 differences within the fleet. The economic
13 development mentioned of multipliers, I think has
14 been downplayed.

15 I think it is fair to say there is an

16 underground economy in every town, every state, and
17 along the coast, the underground economics, things
18 don't get written down quite the way they are written
19 down. But the economic model that we have all been
20 living under seems to be flawed recently nationally.

21 So I think the local models that have
22 been the going for centuries, there is an underground
23 economy that should be taken into consideration. It

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1 is not just an economy about money, it is services
2 and necessitate there is a group resource that is
3 renewable. Whether that is ships to come into the
4 harbor, the wrong harbor, and then steal all their
5 goods, well, that is using the resource to a certain
6 degree. We can use it in a good way or bad way.

7 A renewable resources helps us all.
8 The two previous speakers one the Lobsterman
9 Association and having the green fleet, there are a
10 lot of differences in that industry. And had there
11 been a green fleet, I would love to use a bottom
12 painter that doesn't kill things, but it doesn't kill
13 things to be usable. I understand that.

14 Two boys locally started using
15 biofuels. There is a short story in the local paper
16 that is very good one. That is significant. They
17 are, one of them doing it quite a bit more, having
18 some seed money for that kind of operation would be

19 very useful. The recycling of trash, gear, is very
20 useful. Even though there is spoken of earlier the
21 fisheries will speak to the fisheries regulations,
22 there are implied or defacto effects on the fishing
23 fleet and people trying to get by.

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1 I would rather see a hundred fishermen,
2 fisher persons, have a very decent living rather than
3 one or two boats have a spectacular living. And
4 that's the way aquaculture has gone. I would rather
5 not see it happen here to the remnants of what is
6 left.

7 Even though there are a lot of small
8 boats, consider the economic development and the
9 social interaction along the coast, the law is not
10 written down but it is there. And people do come out
11 and we dig just a little bit, we see the multipliers,
12 the goods and services that are traded that is part
13 of social structure and economic structure that will
14 be affected by this plan. Thank you.

15 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you very much.
16 Angela.

17 ANGELA: Good evening, everyone. My
18 name is Angela Sanfilipo. I have been a fisherman's
19 wife, I have been for the last 31 years, I then I am
20 in this position, I am the second director for the
21 Massachusetts Fisherman Partnership. I would like to
22 take this opportunity to thank Senator Tarr,

23 representatives, and all of you that have worked and

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1 finally we have an Ocean Management Bill for the
2 State of Massachusetts. It was a long process. We
3 were all involved, and we got the best with all the
4 dedication and time we all spent together to make
5 sure we protect this precious resource for our
6 Commonwealth.

7 with this said I would like to address
8 to you the concerns that we have as this new plan
9 gets to be developed. We have had a lot of
10 experience in 31 years, we have done things to be
11 good that have turned out to be bad for the
12 commercial fishing industry. Right now as an example
13 Stellwagen Sanctuary. All the honest intention put
14 in to protect the commercial, recreational fishing,
15 fifteen years later we are struggling and we are
16 fighting to insure that commercial fishing,
17 recreational fishing was provided.

18 So one of our concerns and some of the
19 things we would like this group to do is before we
20 went out to do an assessment of the commercial
21 fishing industry, an assessment of the fishing
22 grounds, the ones that are used and the ones that are
23 inside, because a few years ago all of our boats were

1 able to fish within three miles. And it was some
2 years ago that the size of vessel became limited to
3 the boats that could work within the three miles.

4 Talking about the ground fish vessels.
5 So it would be that today, the ground that have been
6 used and nobody remembers anymore that these people
7 used to fish there. We need to have all this stuff
8 documented. We need to document why the three mile
9 limit in Massachusetts has been so valuable to the
10 Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

11 Not only we should look to the data
12 that exists and the marine fishing service and
13 Massachusetts has this information, but we need to
14 really engage the people who have made a living from
15 that ocean. They are the ones with all the
16 information. Also in the case of Nantucket shore
17 windmill argument, you know the environmental
18 statement came out saying that nobody would be
19 affected, very few people because nobody fished
20 there.

21 But the Massachusetts Fisherman
22 Partnership conducted an economic study where it
23 showed according to the fisherman industry, we find

1 that 45 boats and permits to fish in their area for
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2 squid and other species.

3 So this thing needs to be done before
4 we open the door for all other uses. Because let's
5 face it, It is really about protecting fishing. If
6 we did this also other things are going to come
7 forward. But we don't want to be in a position to
8 finally say you read a document for some windmills,
9 other energy uses, this is all if we put it in there,
10 it doesn't bother anybody because nobody fishes
11 there, and then the industry has to go and find funds
12 because they will do a socioeconomic study to prove a
13 point.

14 we strongly believe that, you know, the
15 Commonwealth should do this and put in a record how
16 many boats we have our infrastructure that is all to
17 do with this. We made this mistake when the 20 mile
18 limit was passed. We told the government at the time
19 before they opened up the ocean other fishing uses or
20 more fishing uses, they should have had that
21 assessment. And back then they said there was no
22 need for this because it was American free
23 enterprise.

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1 At the same time they were regulating
2 people for not fishing who were giving money out to
3 build bigger and more efficient boats. So these
4 things are all things we would like to see collected

5 in an assessment so that we can look for a value for
6 what the ocean is being used for four hundred years
7 before we allow anything else.

8 Yes, we were very strong and we still
9 feel very strong the fishing in the fisheries should
10 be regulated fisheries within three miles. And again
11 I have to use the example Stellwagen Sanctuary, in
12 the environmental impact statement when we did the
13 sanctuary that says the New England fishery
14 management will be the one managing fisheries. And
15 today we are finding out sanctuary people would like
16 to regulate fishery. And they know they cannot do it
17 because we have the authorization of the act, but
18 they also move into the upper -- all the national
19 sanctuaries that dragging would not be allowed within
20 the sanctuary.

21 So we are presenting this issue to you
22 in the experience we have had through the years.
23 Plus I also want to remind you that in the three

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1 miles are very prominent spawning ponds. In places
2 that nobody fishes except with a line.

3 I read reports as I cover the
4 newsletters, I read reports that right here at Niles
5 Beach caught fish spawns. All of these things are
6 very important. We always learned through the years
7 that a lot of ground fish spawn within our coast. So
8 these things need to be identified and to make sure

9 we need to protect them for other uses, you know,
10 plan for the social. Thank you. We plan to work
11 with you. And the Massachusetts Fisherman
12 Partnership is very grateful. We had the real strong
13 pleasure that the Act allows us appointment to the
14 science committee and we made a recommendation, so I
15 wish all of you to work together to make sure that we
16 protect this ocean. Thank you.

17 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you very much,
18 Angela. Sara from the City of Gloucester.

19 We will come back to Sara. Marsha
20 Hart.

21 MARSHA HART: Hi. I am Marsha Hart and
22 I am a Citizen of Gloucester. And I want to talk
23 about what is important to us. What is important to

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1 me is to see that the local, state, and federal
2 governments are moving towards practices that protect
3 and respect our environment. And the public interest
4 are placed first. And that they start to supercede
5 the interests of powerful individuals and
6 corporations.

7 I haven't been seeing these things in
8 recent years. I haven't seen them in the last couple
9 of terms of the Presidential Administration. And I
10 feel extremely tired of the way that things are going
11 for the people in this country.

12 I am not preferential of the super
13 nuclear power plant. I am a long term member of the
14 clam shell alliance, in fact, I still am. I do not
15 want to see this country moving in the direction of
16 nuclear power. I think it is time to focus on the
17 alternatives which will allow us to not create ill
18 effects for future generations, to not really
19 continuing our dependence on oil from nations who
20 threaten us or from drilling that threatens our other
21 resources.

22 So I would be in favor of making
23 varieties of alternative energies that despite any

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1 costs that they may bear as they are being
2 developing, they will save us costs in the future and
3 they're added in. I think it is a good deal.

4 I would also like to see support for
5 this community and the other fishing communities to
6 instead of being pushed out by things like oil
7 drilling or liquid natural gas, to have the
8 importance of the protein that is garnered from the
9 sea by these brave people, to have that recognized as
10 the more important resource.

11 We can get energy from other places,
12 but fish protein is particularly high grade. I am a
13 nurse. It is a healthy protein. It provides the
14 Omega 3 oils. It is currently being recognized at
15 least in scientific circles as perhaps the oil of the

16 future.

17 And I think that all of the heartache
18 that has fallen upon this city in trying to comply
19 with all of the federal regulations in the many
20 years, I think that should be rewarded by having our
21 fishing industry supported at this time through the
22 period of time when the fish stocks are rising, and
23 yet the fisherman have their hands tied in terms of

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1 catching them in order to get to a point of
2 sustainability.

3 So since we are getting close to that
4 2014 target. Time moves very fast. As we all know
5 that will be here before long, I think we need to
6 support the Gloucester community and other
7 communities like us. Although I know there aren't as
8 many as there used to be, who have the structure to
9 allow for fisherman to go out and catch this valuable
10 resource and that they should not be pushed out so
11 that it is another opportunity for corporations to
12 come in and overtake our crab fishing heritage.

13 You also asked where are my thoughts on
14 the process. I had never before gone to Hearings
15 that involved the federal government until I got
16 involved in the LNG Hearings and I have to say that I
17 am not easily discouraged by processes and that's why
18 I am here again. Because I found that to be a

19 process that appeared to me although I approached it
20 open mindedly. After it was all over, I felt I had
21 been part of a dog and pony show put on by some
22 people who appeared to be very lovely, kind people.
23 I don't want that to happen any longer

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1 in this country, anymore than I want you to have
2 power.
3 It is time for these things to stop.
4 It is time for the right things to happen. It is
5 time for families to be protected. It is time for
6 food to be healthy. It is time for pollution to
7 stop. It is time for the corporations to stop
8 running our country. It is time for people like you
9 to stand up as strong as you can against the forces
10 that try to move you around so that you do the things
11 that other people decide, the people want you to do.
12 And I am asking you to please do so in this important
13 instance. This is a monumental thing. I can tell
14 that. I just read about it in the paper today. It
15 is extremely important. You have a very heavy charge
16 upon you. And I wish you good luck in doing the
17 right thing.

18 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you very much.
19 Mr. Lund.

20 MR. LUND: I have to thank you very
21 much for being here. First of all I want thank you
22 and commending you all for passing this great piece

23 of legislation which is so important, so necessary.

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1 Also, I want to at this point to thank you Vito for
2 fourteen years for working for the fisherman for
3 Gloucester. We appreciate everything you have done
4 for us. Thank you.

5 I also realize you folks are faced with
6 an extremely difficult task. This is the time in
7 which this legislation in this town is critical. The
8 stakes are getting higher and higher. In the past
9 two years we were opposed to the LNG. But we also
10 had properly the most challenging place in which to
11 put this plan forward. The coast along Massachusetts
12 has developed the economy it has because of the ocean
13 because of the natural resources. I should also say
14 I am the director of the whale watch of Gloucester.
15 I have thirty years of experience. So these comments
16 come that way.

17 So it is you who are faced with a very
18 difficult task and I wish you the best. I am glad
19 you have a lot of good resources on your side. But
20 given that you really need to use the best possible
21 information going forward. That is very different
22 from the most conveniently available information.
23 There is a lot of information about the uses of the

1 ocean that need to be monitored. I understand you
2 are against a short time period. There are many
3 things that need to be done for this plan to get
4 under way.

5 Along those lines it is also critical
6 that continued dialogue throughout the planning
7 process and I am really glad to hear you say that
8 once there was development of some proposal that the
9 group is really in favor of coming back have another
10 dialogue before you get to the draft process and you
11 sit there and listen to that dialogue throughout.

12 It is very difficult to come here from
13 a different perspective from the basis of developing
14 a plan. We all have different views and maps in our
15 heads. We need to see things and be able to move it
16 down to a more defined process. I can't emphasize
17 the importance of that enough.

18 It is also critical to remember that
19 the important uses of the natural resources in this
20 Commonwealth. I have been the one sitting there and
21 looking and realize that you are sitting in front of
22 something someone painted right behind you.

23 It says "Build not for today alone but

1 for tomorrow as well." There as a mural right above
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2 you that doesn't really show LNG plans and oil and
3 gas. It tries to show people living in harmony in
4 nature.

5 That is very much the point what we are
6 doing here today. We are trying to find the balance.
7 I think it is important to remember we have to
8 balance on the side of caution. We manage on the
9 side of caution. And we take the side that is able
10 to sustain the fisheries, the marine life, and whale
11 watch and everything else that is out there.

12 Finally one of the special things about
13 the Commonwealth I would like to remind you are used
14 by a variety of the nature present. And that it is
15 certain that is on the edge of extinction and that is
16 humpback whales, fin back whales and other fisheries
17 that use these areas and that rely on these areas.

18 Whether or not they are critical
19 habitat, they appear in nature and they are important
20 for survival and we think it is our responsibility to
21 make sure that these continue going forward.

22 The Whale Institute looks forward to
23 working with you throughout this process and the

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1 issues like this. I cannot be happy enough to help
2 with the National Massachusetts Ocean Act
3 collaborative to get it passed. It is a great piece
4 of legislation. The country is looking at it. The

5 world is looking at. Let's make sure we get it right
6 and good luck.

7 MR. BABB-BROTT: Valerie Nelson,
8 please.

9 VALERIE NELSON: My name is Valerie
10 Nelson. I am a resident of Gloucester. I apologize
11 for not spending a lot more time tracking this
12 process up to now. Partly, I think my own experience
13 would suggest that it is really important to have
14 public input after everyone has more complete ideas
15 to what you think is going to be integrated.

16 But I mean I am really happy this
17 process is under way because you are portraying a
18 sense in which there are a lot of resource extractors
19 eyeing this to create some new economic activity out
20 there. But I have to say I am horrified, to be
21 dramatic, at the arrogance of an approach that
22 basically has failed land side relationship of human
23 settlements with nature.

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1 we are talking about planning. We are
2 talking about balancing. We are talking about
3 rational organized use of the ocean space. And we
4 are talking about some sort of public participation.
5 All of those principles are embodied in a way that we
6 have been managing land use to an incredible perilous
7 detriment.

8 Most of this language has supported
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9 very large scale destruction of ecosystems and
10 extracting industries. We are suffering from bad
11 approaches in energy, in water, in toxic chemicals.
12 In almost every dimension Massachusetts has
13 mismanaged land based resources for decades.

14 It has been done under the same kind of
15 process you are talking about here. A lot of
16 ecologists and people worry about things like climate
17 change, hydrology, air quality, and ecosystems are
18 saying that the global system is nearing a point of
19 collapse. Now why is that. It is because they use
20 notions of efficient resource extraction, specialized
21 planning approaches, balancing ideas, a few
22 wilderness areas. And it is not working by any
23 stretch of imagination.

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1 I think when you set about this, it is
2 really important not only to take a precautionary
3 approach, but take seriously the notion of maximum
4 understanding of this zone and how it actually
5 functions more naturally. These ecosystems are
6 extraordinarily rich life-giving systems. They used
7 to be on land in Massachusetts. And they probably
8 are still off shore.

9 And it is through great peril that we
10 can start conducting essentially industrial scale
11 extraction industry in that zone before we understand

12 how that ecosystem functions.

13 Some of the most interesting work in
14 ecology now suggests that nature has generated
15 incredible value, but it is not industrial value.
16 Now there could be pharmaceuticals in this zone of
17 life.

18 There could be species that we don't
19 get really and identified. There could be ecosystem
20 functions in that zone that we are not quite aware
21 of. There could be ways in which we as human beings
22 could relate to the zone, to explore value and
23 synergy in this ecosystem health that we are not

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1 quite aware of.

2 And one could say that essentially what
3 is happening is that you are creating a structure in
4 an 18 month period to plan a resource extraction move
5 into that zone without actually enough understanding
6 of what the impacts of that would be. And I only
7 want to repeat that this generalized approach is
8 leading to our perilous declining ecosystem values on
9 land.

10 I think a couple of things. There are
11 in the fields of ecosystem and science management a
12 realization of the brilliance of nature. We need to
13 work with it in a very very sensitive way. In
14 fisheries this is going from single species
15 management in the understanding that we need to go

16 into ecosystem management.

17 Complex resilience of this zone, these
18 are the kinds of things that are coming out in the
19 signs of fisheries and the signs of ecosystem
20 management. In water management we are coming to
21 understand the insanity in Massachusetts of
22 constructing rational bound infrastructure systems
23 that have pumped so much fresh water into the ocean,

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1 that we are having water shortages in the western
2 suburbs of Boston. That is rational planning. And
3 it is reeking havoc on the hydrology, stream flows,
4 aquifer levels. What we are learning is that a
5 better management of water is a nature's principal
6 management.

7 Use it efficiently, recharge it,
8 capture rain water, replenish aquifers in the
9 streams. That is a very different model of
10 management that is based on design with nature.

11 In energy we are learning that we have
12 huge plants, huge waste, huge industrial models of
13 energy. When we could have rain gardens, roof
14 gardens, cooling mechanisms, building designs, the
15 way nature does it and the way ancient culture did it
16 dramatically cut the whole industrial use of energy.

17 Now that ocean zone, do we know enough?
18 what is there. How it functions. What is the values

19 now and in the future could be. And I think that
20 that science, that cautious precautionary planning,
21 that recognition that are at our peril, we introduce
22 aquiculture, sand mining is on these lists. Those
23 industrial versions are reeking havoc with our

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1 ecosystem on land and maybe to the ultimate detriment
2 of our survival on the planet.

3 I encourage you to think of ecosystem
4 functions, balance -- not balance that is the wrong
5 way. It is value and how, not just wilderness zones
6 on land but the sustainable way that human
7 participation in a rich, rich natural ecosystem will
8 sustain us all in the future.

9 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you very much.
10 Sarah.

11 SARAH: Actually. I didn't sign in to
12 speak.

13 MR. BABB-BROTT: That brings me to the
14 end of the list of folks that I have up here who have
15 indicated that they would like to speak. Have I
16 missed anyone or is there anyone who has not signed
17 up who would like to do so, please. And why don't
18 you introduce yourself when you come up to the
19 microphone.

20 VITO: I did sign up.

21 MR. BABB-BROTH: Vito, I apologize.

22 VITO: My name is Vito, Executive
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23 Director of the Massachusetts Fisheries Commission.

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1 I am also the Chairman of the State Fisheries
2 Commission of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. And
3 in my past life, I was economic director of the
4 Gloucester Fisheries Commission. I hear a lot of
5 good comments here tonight, Mr. Chairman.

6 The first comment I heard today was by
7 the Mayor of Gloucester where she put it in
8 perspective about the Division of Marine Fisheries
9 should be responsible for the fishing industries. I
10 would like to commend you for saying that.

11 I also commend Senator Tarr for saying
12 something similar to that. But history is a great
13 teacher as we all know and I would like to give you a
14 little background. And I may be redundant in what I
15 say here tonight from the past speakers. But one
16 thing I will come forward to tell you is that it was
17 the Massachusetts Fisheries Commission where it was
18 Senator Tarr's, State Representative Verga and other
19 senators and representatives throughout the
20 Commonwealth of Massachusetts that helped develop the
21 Act. We had many goes at it. Many goes at it.

22 There was a time where I was really
23 scratching my head to see where we were going because

1 it was very obstructive to the fishing industry. But
2 I find that people in the legislative body, that I
3 think we have come up with a pretty good Act at this
4 time.

5 You can say you should think it is all
6 covered in the Act. And I feel that many times where
7 I thought, I assumed it was correct that we were
8 protected. I have seen through history in fifteen
9 years that when I was the executive director for the
10 Gloucester Fishing Commission, that we valued the
11 fishing industry.

12 With State Representative Verga as the
13 Executive Director of the Gloucester Fisheries
14 Commission and I was one of the commissioners and so
15 was Angela Sanfilipo at that time, we mean years ago
16 voted to have a marine sanctuary on Stellwagen Bay to
17 protect it from dragging, mining, oil drilling. At
18 that time fuel was like 60 cents, 70 cents a gallon.
19 There was plenty of it around.

20 But our major resource was good healthy
21 fish and protected for our fishing industry. Here we
22 are 15 years later, I testified in Maine how they
23 wanted to stop the fishing industry on Stellwagen

1 Bay. It wasn't them that went to Washington D.C. It
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2 wasn't them that asked the United States senators, I
3 almost said Tarr, candidates and Kerry to fight this
4 battle for us.

5 It was the Gloucester Fishing
6 Commission led by State Representative Anthony Verga
7 at that time with us supporting it. And we were
8 guaranteed our rights to fish along Stellwagen Banks
9 forever. Yet fifteen years later, here we are. Just
10 like this Act. Yes, I followed the Act. I
11 testified. I was the chairman who testified with the
12 blessing of the Massachusetts Fisheries Commission at
13 the time.

14 It was the same Act that I worry about
15 from time to time -- even though I hear the Mayor
16 speak and our senator speak. And I hear the great
17 people from Gloucester, the community.

18 One of the speakers referred to that
19 mural on the back. It says, "Build not for today
20 alone but for tomorrow as well." I think in
21 Gloucester, we try to do that for many years. We are
22 talking about endangered species such as whales.
23 Right now the endangered species is our fishing

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1 industry.

2 And with the fine leadership at this
3 time, and this is this time I think we go fifteen
4 years down the road, what fishing industry. I think

5 we need protection here. I like this to be on the
6 record as I have spoken tonight it is now on the
7 record. We in Gloucester are a community fishing
8 industry and it is being destroyed.

9 A little history and I will be done
10 very shortly is that it was Gloucester Fishing
11 Industry that developed the whole seashore along the
12 east coast, sent fish, salted cod across to England
13 and other areas. It was the Gloucester fishing
14 industry. And that sacred cod too sits in the Senate
15 is the Gloucester fishing industry. Cod fish. How
16 important it was. How important it is. And how
17 important it should be for tomorrow. Thank you very
18 much.

19 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you very much,
20 Vito. Is there anyone else who wishes to speak.
21 Please.

22 RICK NOONAN: Good evening. My name a
23 Rick Noonan. I am a local Gloucester resident. I am

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1 a business owner and an appointed board member here
2 in the City of Gloucester. I didn't plan on speaking
3 this evening, but one of the issues that is near and
4 dear to my heart is energy. I spent 14 years in the
5 energy business specifically in natural gases. It
6 has been touched on this evening.

7 This may be the venue to remind folks
8 of the resources that are of our coast. More

9 importantly, water access or by natural gas. Three
10 or four years ago, the counsel for wind governors
11 requested a study to outline energy needs for the New
12 England states moving forward. The conclusion of
13 this independent study was that by year 2011 based on
14 heating demand and natural growth for industry and
15 home and power generation, frankly, was that we would
16 be short. Meaning no infrastructure for assistance.
17 No new power generation that were non natural gas.

18 And I applaud the state and Federal
19 Government for approving the two docks that were
20 located off of Gloucester. One was completed, one
21 soon to be completed. One of those companies home
22 based here in Gloucester. I think the important
23 point is, frankly, that the waters off of coastal New

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1 England or Massachusetts specifically are for the
2 common good of the Commonwealth.

3 Not exclusively for fisherman or for
4 whales. Those are all notable causes, and frankly
5 the Commonwealth has received over 40 million dollars
6 mitigation monies as a part of these projects which
7 is all good stuff.

8 So I have to think that as this process
9 moves forward I want the scope to be a little bit
10 more broad. New England is a dense population area.
11 Everybody has embraced natural gas as a clean fuel.

12 And frankly if you do your math LNG delivery
13 worldwide, they have a 40 year history without any
14 significant water loss. It is a very responsible
15 industry. And provides a much needed service to our
16 densely populated area.

17 So in consideration moving forward,
18 that this is not just a fisheries for a whale or a,
19 you know, there is other components that should be in
20 consideration. I appreciate your consideration.
21 Thank you this evening.

22 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you very much.
23 Sir.

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1 HENRY: My name a Henry and I live
2 downstairs. Not in the park but behind it. I just
3 wanted because everybody is talking about the poster,
4 the mural. And since it doesn't say construct, it
5 doesn't say make. You build things without doing
6 something. Like the farmer builds the fields by not
7 plowing. Letting it lie fallow. You don't build
8 fish docks by fishing them in spawning grounds. You
9 don't do something to build something.

10 I think I hear today people talk
11 precautionary. I think it is very much in play in a
12 sense. I am a former ex-fisherman having served in
13 the scallop and the fisheries back in the '70s and
14 '80s. And since that time having done that job found
15 or thought there might be an easier way to do it and

16 got into aquaculture.

17 I served as the attorney for the first
18 federally licensed aquaculture project in the EEZ.
19 That's the area that comprises the zone for three to
20 two hundred miles. Approximately 3.2 million square
21 miles of ocean.

22 We did that back in 1996. That was
23 called the SeaStead Project. It was a collaboration

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1 of MIT, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, fisherman from
2 Westport Scallop Corporation. What did we do. We
3 had eight thousand acres. That is nine square miles
4 of federal water to conduct sea scallop aquaculture.

5 And I would just point out that, yes,
6 there is good aquaculture and bad aquaculture. But
7 it is all a question of looking at it carefully and
8 making distinctions about what's possible and what's
9 not. What's good for the ecology area and what's
10 not.

11 How do we do it. How do we do this
12 project using public waters for private interest.
13 And well you see they are having a lot of difficulty
14 down there now with the wind project for that same
15 purpose. Using it for that same purpose. But the
16 thing is you have to talk to people. There were
17 fishermen that didn't want it in a particular place.
18 We moved it. Somebody else didn't like it. We move

19 it. You work with people and you do the ground work
20 that some people haven't done in this instance.

21 whenever you are talking about using
22 the Commonwealth's property, you have to be very
23 careful. And I would say that as far as aquaculture

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1 is concerned because I see it is listed in here and
2 it is very near and dear to me as a subject. I do
3 research on the laws for different states and come to
4 find out that different states have many different
5 approaches to this.

6 And I think you have to go very
7 carefully. I mean you can imagine what it is like if
8 you are an aquaculture applicant and you apply for a
9 space out in the water and you are granted that
10 space. well, fine, maybe someone was fishing there
11 before. And they had an opportunity to talk about it
12 but yet over the course of time, you get this checker
13 boarding affect. So that every couple of weeks,
14 couple of months, there is a new site out there. And
15 if you are a fisherman, that could present a problem,
16 right?

17 I mean we are all working in the
18 Commonwealth's water but some states have put
19 specific where people can do this activity. So you
20 know where they are. You don't need a chart every
21 week that is where Mary can't fish.

22 So I would say if you are going to say
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23 setting up aquaculture, that is one of the things

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1 that the service rights to a particular area. Down
2 in Florida they are have these areas that they say
3 economic development. We want to seed in these
4 areas. So they have created these use areas. And,
5 you know, they should really set aside for fisherman
6 in a way.

7 Fishing co-ops so there is somebody --
8 I have talked to somebody, a lot of people don't
9 really care for it one way or another, but think it
10 might be a good idea to have a mussel farm or a sea
11 scallop farm there. In Buzzards Bay and right up
12 close and go out and tend to it.

13 But there is possibility that those
14 sites be captured by somebody else. And you really
15 need to keep it home because, like I said they are
16 opening up that big zone, that big -- there is
17 federal legislation to open up the EEZ to aquaculture
18 and only the big dogs can play out there.

19 It is economies of scale once you get
20 out there. But our area should be preserved for
21 local people. Fisherman should be given preference
22 if they are inclined to want to set up that way. So
23 that's what I would say if that is simply one of the

1 uses, it should be a very carefully cordoned off, and
2 it should be left for people who are working the
3 ocean now and may want to do this in the future.
4 Thank you.

5 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you very much.
6 Is there anyone else this evening who
7 would like to speak. Ron Foley.

8 RON FOLEY: My name is the Ron Foley.
9 I live here in Gloucester. Don't have an agenda.
10 Don't represent anybody. I consider myself a citizen
11 with young kids that utilizes the waters here in
12 Massachusetts.

13 Just a little feedback on your plan. I
14 know it is its infancy. But it was very difficult
15 for me as just a regular citizen to find out about
16 this meeting to come. And I would hope that maybe
17 more effort could be made to reach out, not just to
18 the groups, but to the citizens and the people that
19 utilize the waters.

20 And also I know it is in its infancy
21 but it is really vague. A lot of, you know, act and
22 it kind of makes me nervous to a certain extent
23 because I see the EPA sounds like a great idea, you

1 know. And I don't know if it has met all the needs
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2 of this community.

3 And I get the sense that this plan kind
4 of parallels that. And I would like to see and hope
5 that when you come back later, a little bit more
6 information on what you are really actually going to
7 do. What are your goals. Is it to regulate windmill
8 farms. Is it regulate LNG. Or is it to protect
9 certain areas for aquaculture.

10 I would just like to see myself a
11 little bit more exacting information on what the real
12 end goal is here with your plan. I think on paper it
13 sounds like a great idea. I think we need it. The
14 world is changing. We need a little more protection
15 for the waters that are around Massachusetts. And I
16 just thought I would pass that along. Thank you.

17 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you very much.

18 VITO: May I have a second bite at the
19 apple. I would like to say something.

20 MR. BABB-BROTT: Yes.

21 VITO: Thank you very much. Listening
22 to the energy problem of today.

23 MR. BABB-BROTT: But it is important to

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1 recognize, let's not do a Ping-Pong match.

2 VITO: This is something, this is the
3 last word you will hear from me. Energy is very,
4 well important to us, all of us. I have said that

5 before. Energy is important to all of us. So is
6 our, you know, our bounty of the sea. But, you know,
7 I listen to the people saying the fishing industry
8 got money to allow them to put the LNG tanks out
9 there. That's fine.

10 I am trying to figure out with
11 everybody who's trying to protect the environment and
12 the changes we are hearing from our scientists says
13 it might not be over fishing but the environmental
14 conditions are changing, what is going to happen if
15 the LNG tankers dump millions of gallons of hot water
16 near the shore. That is going to be detrimental to
17 our industry. Is that going to be detrimental to our
18 environment. Is it going to be killing off food
19 species for the whales and the fisheries.

20 I think there needs to be a safeguard
21 here. I am hoping that this Oceans Act will
22 investigate what is happening with these vessels that
23 are going to pump off and maybe dump millions and

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1 millions of gallons of hot water into the ocean.
2 Thank you. I appreciate the second lecture.

3 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you. Other
4 speakers. Seeing none I would just like to close by
5 thanking you for coming. Oh, I'm sorry.

6 VALERIE NELSON: Valerie Nelson, again
7 a resident of Gloucester. You know I think over time
8 we all need to really have an opportunity to make a

9 suggestion and all that process. But I would like to
10 having said that I think there are probably some
11 principles from what people are learning about
12 mismanagement of land mass.

13 Not just precautionary but really
14 searching for ways to enhance community and ecosystem
15 environment together. I think that concept of really
16 working to have the resources in these zones be
17 available to the communities along the shore so that
18 they actually contribute to the well-being and
19 economics of the shore site communities.

20 I know you said the zone doesn't start
21 until a half mile off. But a lot what it is, is the
22 industrial resource extraction is that it has really
23 crippled a lot of the local communities that are

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1 adjacent. Profits go nationally and internationally.
2 You know a place like Gloucester, if there is a move
3 for more use and relationship with this zone, I think
4 the principles that are emerging are generally are
5 for balance, national, and community development.

6 And so like in fisheries thinking
7 towards, you know, are there some good examples
8 emerging in water or energy. You know, conservation
9 precautionary principles, local community
10 development, so that the benefits of this extraction
11 come back into the community and not off into highly

12 specialized industrialized multinational
13 corporations.

14 And a lot of the sense you have a
15 really good principle of adapting management written
16 in which is another sense that the field needs to go,
17 but maybe some real sense of solid science, what is
18 the base line of the ecosystem. what is the health.

19 As Vito said right now we are starting
20 to learn it is not over fishing and it may be some
21 things out there in the ecosystem causing these
22 problems. Do we know enough about that. Can we
23 build a kind of a pie plan kind of approach. Try

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1 some of these things. Build this more increased use
2 in with healthy community and development short site
3 and adaptive management really suggests that you set
4 up the structure so that you are constantly looking
5 back as to see what impacts you are having on both
6 the communities and on the ecosystem itself.

7 And I think finally a real humility
8 about, again, the kinds of ecosystem functions that
9 we haven't acknowledged. Clearly we are
10 understanding the climate, water, and diversity,
11 biodiversity. All these things that we have
12 compromised for lack of understanding. Let's not do
13 that again in the coastal zone.

14 There are probably emerging lessons in
15 ecosystem and resource management and local healthy

16 community development where there could be an effort
17 to see how that plays out in this new zone opening up
18 that so that we don't repeat the mistakes we are
19 making still in the Commonwealth. And that we are
20 able to pilot and absolutely manage and keep our
21 options open for this healthy development process.

22 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you.

23 RICK NOONAN: If I might.

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1 MR. BABB-BROTT: The second bite of the
2 apple portion of the agenda is drawing to a close.

3 RICK NOONAN: Talking to my friend
4 Vito, as part of the LNG process, the public hearing,
5 two companies were the Suez and Excelerate,
6 capitulated and decided to use closed circuit as
7 opposed to open circuit which dramatically reduces
8 hot water discharge from the vessels that Vito was
9 correctly speaking of.

10 As a consideration of this Board, there
11 may be a mandate that in the future projects be
12 mandated to use close circuit. The industry -- it
13 was more expensive in the industry. Costs money for
14 them to do that. Because of the nature of the water
15 system, they made that change. So again. Thank you
16 for your time.

17 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you for your
18 time. I think we will have Angela come up to the

19 microphone.

20 ANGELA: I am not going to get into
21 that issue. Actually the thing that I want to remind
22 to you is that what we are trying to protect is food.
23 Food that is very valuable. Today 80 percent of our

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1 food -- fish food is important. And a lot has been
2 imported from China. Only one percent gets inspected
3 and gets rejected.

4 I just learned this a few days ago.
5 The only state that inspects 60 percent of its
6 imported food is Alabama. And 60 percent gets
7 rejected. We have something very unique and now
8 three mile -- Massachusetts' three mile is very rich
9 and that valuable food that we need to live on and to
10 survive.

11 And with that said, you know, whenever
12 we move forward, let's not forget what is at stake
13 when other developments and also marine developments,
14 fish farms and things like that can have an affect on
15 this natural bounty that we have enjoyed for the last
16 four hundred years.

17 MR. BABB-BROTT: Thank you for those
18 comments, Angela. With that I would like to thank
19 everyone for coming. We look forward to your
20 comments and we look forward to working with you as
21 the process unfolds. Thank you.

22 (The listening session concluded at
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23 8:30 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

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I, Carmen Branson, Court Reporter for
the County of Norfolk do hereby certify that the
foregoing is a transcript of the proceedings as taken
by me on September 23, 2008, for the Ocean Management
Plan Development Listening Session.

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Court Reporter

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DATED: September 23, 2008

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