



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17101-1900

OFFICE OF  
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

June 28, 2016

Mr. Paul N. Jaenichen, Sr., Maritime Administrator  
U.S. Department of Transportation - MARAD  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Marine Highway Project Designation - Letter of  
Support - Philadelphia/Canaveral Marine  
Highway Service along M-95 Corridor  
Maritime Administration 46 CFR Part 393 –  
Docket No. MARAD-2010-0035 RIN 2133-AB70  
Final Rule

Dear Mr. Jaenichen:

We would like to express our strong support for the Philadelphia/Canaveral Marine Highway Designation application. The Philadelphia Regional Port Authority (PRPA), Port Canaveral, and Columbia Coastal Transport, LLC, are submitting an application to the United States Maritime Administration (MARAD) for designation of a containerized tug barge service between the Port of Philadelphia and Port Canaveral. The PRPA is an independent agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Commonwealth has provided substantial capital funding for port infrastructure maintenance and development.

The establishment of a marine highway between Philadelphia and Canaveral would provide a multitude of opportunities and benefits to the local port community. Significant growth in freight volumes are anticipated in the coming years. A marine highway service would reduce truck traffic along congested interstates and roadways, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve energy and enhance safety.

Should the designation be awarded, we fully intend to work with the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority and the other project partners to further develop transportation services and infrastructure requirements to see the Philadelphia/Canaveral service become a feasible marine highway option.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Leslie S. Richards'.

Leslie S. Richards  
Secretary of Transportation