

MASSACHUSETTS
MARINE TRADES
ASSOCIATION



DT: October 4, 2005
TO: Honorable Members of the MA Legislative Boating Caucus
FR: Massachusetts Marine Trades Association
RE: Proposed LNG Terminal @ Outer Brewster Island

“In truth, it is a noble island. Its jutting rocks and cavernous recesses were now invisible; but its grand position and imposing front, as it stood darkly revealed against a cloudy sky, seemed to give it a heroic charm. The ocean waves approaching Boston here meet the foremost champion of the port. Majestic and alone it stands forth on the ‘perilous edge of battle when it rages,’ and sternly encounters the maddened billows which seek another prey...”

Outer Brewster Island by T. Dean as quoted in *King's Handbook of Boston Harbor* by M. F. Sweetser, 1882,
Centennial Reprint by Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands, Inc.

Established in 1964, the Massachusetts Marine Trades Association (MMTA) is a non-profit, statewide, representative body for over 1,200 marine trades businesses in the Commonwealth including boat builders, marinas, boat dealers, retailers, repairers and marine industry professionals. Collectively our businesses employ over 27,000 men and women and generate over \$1.7 Billion in economic activity annually for the State. The mission of the Association is provide the framework for furthering the interests of the marine trades and the boating public through the promotion of boating, participation in legislation and professional improvement programs.

On behalf of the full MMTA membership and the 186,000 registered and documented boaters in Massachusetts, we have been carefully monitoring the proposed construction of a Liquefied Natural Gas terminal and storage facility on Outer Brewster Island within the Boston Harbor Islands National Park.

As an industry, we support efforts to develop cleaner energy sources as well as those specifically designed to increase US energy independence, enhance port and city security. We are steadfast in our commitment to and support of environmentally positive waterfront activities that foster recreational boating activity and the long term sustenance of the marine industry.

Nonetheless, we strongly oppose the consideration of and question the appropriateness of Outer Brewster Island as a location for an LNG facility. Such an industrial installation would not enhance the security nor fuel supplies of the constituency upon which it is imposed since it will not connect to Distrigas' Mystic Station in Everett or result in the diversion of tankers through Boston Harbor calling on the Mystic Station. Further, the installation will relegate the use of the Outer Islands once again to industrial activity, thereby destroying the incubation of Outer Brewster as a glistening jewel in the Boston Harbor Islands National Park System.

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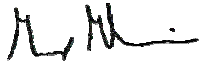
Specifically, our membership is concerned that the requisite Outer Brewster Island LNG Terminal security perimeters would halt recreational boating and fishing access in the area, resulting in the easternmost gateway to the nascent Boston Harbor National Park becoming off limits to future recreational and educational uses.

As marine industry professionals, boaters and stewards of the Commonwealth's waterways, we recall all too well how for generations we witnessed the pillaging of the natural resources of the Boston Harbor Islands. They had "become graveyards for outmoded institutions and desolate repositories for society's unwanted—human beings as well as human wastes. Abandoned and neglected, indeed almost forgotten... the islands lay dormant, waiting to be discovered once again."¹

The broad MMTA membership will not stand by silently as the checkered history of the Boston Harbor Islands threatens to repeat itself by once again proposing to convert Outer Brewster to private industrial and commercial activity. A promise of access and preservation is manifest in the creation of the Boston Harbor Islands National Park designation: let us not rediscover the Boston Harbor Islands by repeating the mistakes of the past.

Please join us in vocally opposing efforts to situate an LNG Terminal at Outer Brewster Island in order to prevent the eradication of the your constituents' inherent rights to fish, fowl and navigate upon the commonly held waters of Massachusetts. We respectfully request that you consider all of the implications of this proposal and recommend the LNG terminal be relocated to a less sensitive area.

Sincerely,



Greg Glavin
President

¹ *All About the Boston Harbor Islands*, Emily & David Kales, 1983