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March 18, 2003

Regional superintendent
Navigable Waterways Protection
Canadian Coast guard
Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans
P.O. Box 1000
Dartmouth, NS B2Y3Z3

Re: Application #2704, Approval of Terminal at White's Point

Dear Sir:

As a long-time summer resident of Sandy Cove, a sailor and kayaker, I am writing in opposition to a proposed bulk-freight terminal in White's Cove.

I am particularly sympathetic to the effect such a construction would have on the livelihood of a significant number of herring and lobster fishermen who use the cove. What consideration has the proponent given to the disturbing impact of a large terminal, with the coming and going of ocean-going vessels, on the annual herring runs?

It is my understanding that White's Cove is presently used by upwards of 25 lobstermen and a number of inshore herring fishermen. This project, if approved, will seriously impact on their livelihoods.

In inclement weather, small boats will be forced, in order to bypass the terminal, away from the shore and into some of the most treacherous waters in the area. The same difficulties will also be faced by sailing vessels and kayakers.

Given the proposed scale of operations of the quarry, there will be a considerable increase in the vessel tonnage in the area. May this not require an additional shipping lane, and one close to shore, again increasing the hazard to small vessels?

These may appear to be small objections, but they all address a significant disruption to local life. It is all too easy in the momentum created by a grandiose project to minimise the concerns of individuals whose life will be disrupted. But such concerns need, I believe, to be granted at least equal standing to those of the proponent, even though they are not advanced by paid professionals.

Yours sincerely,

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cc. Hon. Robert E. Thibault, Minister of Oceans and Fisheries Canada
Hon. Ron S. Russell, Minister N.S. Dept. of Environment and Labour
Ray MacCallum, Counsel, Sierra Legal