

The Garden Club of Long Beach Island, NJ

Aug 11, 2003

Mr. David Kaiser
Federal Consistency Coordinator
Coastal Programs Division
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resources Management
NOAA
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 209910

Dear Mr. Kaiser:

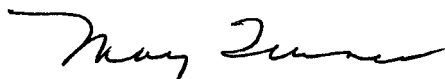
The ocean off Long Beach Island is clean, clear and beautiful. This is no accident. In 1987 when the medical waste hit our beaches The Garden Club with 200 members and affiliated with 125 other clubs across New Jersey took a leadership role in a campaign to stop the dumping of sewage sludge. Under the guidance of Clean Ocean Action we involved 20 other coastal clubs in a card writing action that generated thousands of pieces of mail to different legislators over that period of a year. The people won that battle with the passage of The Clean Water Enforcement Act and now (sixteen years later) our ocean is clean and beautiful. We like it that way and are willing to fight for it.

It is not surprising, then that there is considerable concern and worry, since we learned of your proposed changes to The Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) that would seriously impact New Jersey's ability to protect its environment. The club has initiated a new public awareness and letter-writing campaign. This letter is to inform you that you have our strong opposition to this legislation. This seashore community loves its ocean. Please make no changes in CZMA.

It also seems unfair to us that your comment period is so short. At this time of year when everyone, including our elected officials, is on vacation, it is very likely that many citizens will learn of this pending disaster after it is too late to write. We beg you to extend this period.

It is important to protect our environment and we remain vigilant.

Most sincerely,



MARY TURNER, Chm Environmental
Box 85
Barneget Light, NJ 08006
(609) 494-2851
Email cfoam@att.net



PEG APPELGET, President
128 E. Dune Lane
The Dunes, NJ 08008
(609) 492-2455
Email pappelget@worldnet.att.net