

OCEAN COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY

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August 7, 2003

Mr. David Kaiser, Fed. Consistency Coordinator
Coastal Programs Div, Office of Ocean & Coastal Res. Mgt.
NOAA
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Kaiser:

In thinking over the proposed changes to the Coastal Zone Management Act, our Ocean County Environmental Agency feels very strongly that the State of New Jersey has been doing a fine job of protecting our coast and its resources, and we see no reason why this should be changed. The State, County, and Municipality should continue to be afforded reasonable opportunities for review of and to comment on proposed activities. If the local authority's position is disregarded, it should be able to appeal the decision and ultimately should be able sue to stop the activity in court. We should have a right to protect our ocean and coast from projects that can result in environmentally harmful and destructive activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in support of local rights in protecting the marine ecosystem.

Sincerely,

A. Jerome Walnut
Chairman

AJW/jnl
C: Freeholders
NJDEP

