



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Robert F. McDonnell
Governor

April 4, 2012

Mr. Samuel D. Rouche
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway/RM 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Virginia's Nominations for the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

Dear Mr. Rouche:

I write you to recommend three qualified candidates for Virginia's seat on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC).

Our nominees embody a strong conservation ethic and have the knowledge required to make the difficult decisions confronting the Council. Each representing experiences that would be beneficial to the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council and meet the requirement listed in Section 302(b) (2) (A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

We have consulted with the commercial and recreational fishing communities within the Commonwealth regarding each nominee. Both Steven G. Bowman, Commissioner of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission and his Chief Deputy, Jack G. Travelstead have provided great insight and recommendations concerning each one of the candidates.

The three nominees are:

J. Bryan Plumlee

Mr. Plumlee currently acts as an environmental attorney specializing in land use litigation and serves on the Virginia Marine Resource Commission.

Peter Nixon,

Mr. Nixon is a commercial fisherman and a long-time member of the VMRC Finfish Management Advisory Committee.

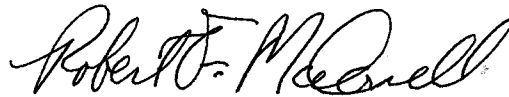
Jeff Deem,

Mr. Deem served as the Virginia Obligatory Member of the MAFMC before, and currently operates and manages a small commercial heating and air conditioning business, Altus Corporation.

These nominees would each contribute to the Council. They have demonstrated the willingness and eagerness to fully participate in Council business and related activities for the duration of a 3-year term. Per the qualifications of the program, we have considered qualified women and/or minority candidates.

We respectfully decline to submit at-large nominations for the two seats that will become vacant on August 10, 2012.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert F. McDonnell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "R".

Robert F. McDonnell