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Sanctuary Advisory Council

GULF OF THE FARALLONES NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

August 23, 2012

Acting Secretary Rebecca Blank
Secretary of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dr. Jane Lubchenco
Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and
NOAA Administrator
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

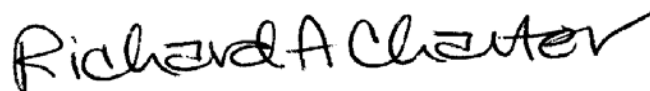
Dan Basta, Director
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
1325 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

Re: Reactivation of the National Marine Sanctuaries Site Evaluation List

Dear Acting Secretary Blank, Dr. Lubchenco, and Director Basta:

We are writing to support the reactivation of the sanctuary Site Evaluation List (SEL), which is a vital part of the process leading to the creation of national marine sanctuaries. The SEL is an important and proven process by which local communities can start a public conversation about options for creating a national marine sanctuary off their coast. The SEL will open up a process for communities across the country, not just those near the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, to engage in this process and make their voices known. Without the reactivation of the SEL, the ability of local communities to pursue this option is unnecessarily limited.

Sincerely,



Richard Charter
Advisory Council Chair

