



U.S. Department
Of Transportation
**Maritime
Administration**
(202) 366-5711

1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

May 11, 2011

Frederick M. Lowther, Esq.
Dickstein Shapiro LLP
1825 Eye St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20006-5403

Re: Liberty Natural Gas, LLC, Application for Deepwater Port License

Dear Mr. Lowther:

On behalf of the Maritime Administration, I am responding to the Liberty Natural Gas, LLC's (Liberty's) inquiry regarding its application for a license to own and operate a deepwater port adjacent to New Jersey. While we understand that the Governor does not support Liberty's application, his views expressed at this point in the process – before any public hearings have been held - have no legal significance. As a practical matter, however, they constitute a potential impediment that cannot be ignored.

Consequently, the Department of Transportation and Maritime Administration are holding the matter of licensure in abeyance pending Liberty's endeavor to address the Governor's concerns. We look forward to discussing the continuation of the application process once your client has concluded these efforts.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "KDR Krepp".

K. Denise Rucker Krepp
Chief Counsel