



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
2600 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-2600

HOMELAND DEFENSE  
& AMERICAS' SECURITY AFFAIRS

JAN 14 2009

Mr. Joel La Bissonniere  
Attorney-Advisor  
Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
US Department of Commerce  
1305 East-West Highway, Suite 6111  
Silver Springs, Maryland 20910

Dear Mr. Bissonniere:

I am writing on behalf of the Secretary of Defense in response to a December 2, 2008, letter seeking the Department's comments on an appeal by Broadwater Energy LLC and Broadwater Pipeline LLC (collectively, Broadwater). Broadwater is appealing the State of New York's objection to its proposal to construct and operate a floating liquefied natural gas terminal in Long Island Sound along with an associated pipeline that would transport natural gas from the terminal to an interstate pipeline grid serving the Northeastern United States.

We are not aware of any national defense or other national security interest that would be significantly impaired if the project is not permitted to go forward as proposed. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter F. Verga".

Peter F. Verga  
Principal Deputy

