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Office of The Attorney General
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February 3, 2004

Branden Blum, Esq.
Senior Counselor
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
United States Department of Commerce
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RE: *CZMA Consistency Appeal of the Islander East Pipeline Co., LLC*

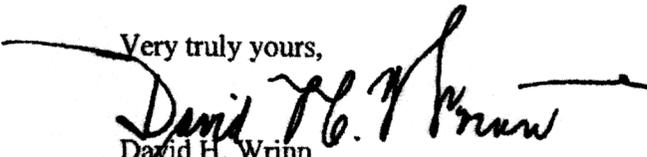
Dear Mr. Blum:

I in receipt of a January 29, 2004 correspondence from Frank L. Amoroso, counsel for Islander East Pipeline Company, to you requesting that the Secretary of Commerce close the administrative record in the above-referenced administrative appeal "as soon as possible" and that the agency proceed to a decision.

This is to inform you that the State of Connecticut in its opening brief reserved the opportunity to file on the record of this proceeding its Section 401 water quality certification. The Department of Environmental Protection's final determination will be forwarded to your attention at NOAA for inclusion in the record no later than February 11, 2004. As you will appreciate, this documentation is important in order for the record to be complete, particularly in light of the fact that Islander East's reapplication for a Section 401 certification was the driving force behind the company's requested remand to the DEP, which NOAA Office of the General Counsel approved on June 2, 2003. Islander East's documentation is of record, and, likewise also is the water quality certification of the State of New York for that portion of the proposed project that will be in New York waters.

Thanking you for your consideration and cooperation, I am,

Very truly yours,


David H. Wrinn
Assistant Attorney General

DHW:mt

cc: Frank L. Amoroso, Esq.
James R. Walpole, General Counsel, NOAA