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May 15, 2003

**VIA FACSIMILE (301) 713-4408
AND FEDERAL EXPRESS**

Mr. Branden Blum
Senior Counselor
c/o Office of Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1305 East-West Highway
Room 6111, SSMC-4
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: Appeal of Islander East Pipeline Company, L.L.C.; Request for Remand

Dear Mr. Blum:

Pursuant to 15 C.F.R. §930.129(d), Islander East Pipeline Company, L.L.C. ("Islander East") hereby requests that the Secretary continue the current stay of Islander East's appeal ("Appeal") of the denial by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection ("CT DEP") of Islander East's request for a determination that its pipeline project ("Project") is consistent with the enforceable policies of Connecticut's Coastal Zone Management Program. In addition, Islander East requests that this proceeding be remanded to the CT DEP for reconsideration of the Project's consistency with the State's Coastal Zone Management Program in light of significant new information. This significant new information involves revised construction techniques and the formal withdrawal of another project which had been considered by Connecticut as an environmentally reasonable alternative.

Islander East submitted its original request for a Coastal Zone Management consistency determination to CT DEP on April 1, 2002. By letter dated October 15, 2002, the CT DEP advised Islander East that the Project was not consistent with Connecticut's Coastal Zone Management Program. Islander East filed this Appeal with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce ("Secretary") on November 14, 2002.

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By letter dated March 17, 2003, the Secretary stayed the processing of this Appeal, until May 1, 2003, to permit the parties to engage in discussions with the aim of resolving this Appeal without the need for formal action by the Secretary. The stay was extended by the Secretary by letter dated May 2, 2003, until today, May 15, 2003.

During the period following the filing of this Appeal, Islander East has submitted significant new information to CT DEP in an effort to resolve CT DEP's concerns about the Project without the need to burden the Secretary with processing an appeal. This information along with a description of those efforts are summarized in an attachment to this letter. In order to facilitate CT DEP's consideration of this additional information and to further the efforts of the parties to settle this Appeal without resort to further action by the Secretary, Islander East now requests that the Secretary remand the matter to the CT DEP for a period to end no later than July 31st, and to stay this Appeal for the same period of time.

Very truly yours,



Frank L. Amoroso
Nixon Peabody LLP
Attorneys for Islander East Pipeline Company, I.L.C.

FLA:mm
Enclosures

cc: Thomas L. Stanton, Jr., Esq. (via Facsimile without enclosures and via Federal Express with enclosures)
David Wrinn, Esq. (via Facsimile without enclosures and via Federal Express with enclosures)