

# CONNECTICUT MARINE TRADES ASSOCIATION

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March 8, 2010

Environment Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: **R.B. No. 273 An Act Concerning The Discharge of Certain Vessel Pressure Washing Wastewaters.**

Chairmen Meyer and Roy;

Distinguished Chairmen and Members of the Environment Committee, the Connecticut Marine Trades Association (CMTA) and their membership urge you to support **R.B. No. 273 An Act Concerning The Discharge of Certain Vessel Pressure Washing Wastewaters**. The intent of this bill is to allow marinas to engage in the pressure washing of vessel bottoms if the wastewater generated does not contain copper compounds, the facility maintains a stormwater discharge permit and continually and satisfactorily meets the requirements of runoff water testing.

The objective of this bill is to give the DEP the ability to issue a permit to discharge bottom pressure washing wastewater to the ground or to surface water if a facility maintains a stormwater discharge permit and continually and satisfactorily meets the requirements of runoff water testing. It fills a fairly narrow void and realistically most facilities may not meet the criteria. Few permits are anticipated being issued for discharging pressure wash water to the ground or to surface waters, without the construction and use of an appropriate treatment system. This bill is an excellent beginning but still needs further development and additional language to ensure that all the necessary issues are being covered.

We urge you to support this initiative, **R.B. No. 273 An Act Concerning The Discharge of Certain Vessel Pressure Washing Wastewaters**. It is a step in the right direction to modify the requirements for washwater discharge but still needs further development. We would be pleased to discuss this at any time. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Sincerely,

John S. Johnson  
Legislative Chair

Grant W. Westerson  
President