

PHONE (860) 399-6165
FAX (860) 399-5724
EMAIL harmar38@snet.net

HARRY & MARGUERITE RUPPENICKER (owners)
RON STEVENSON (manager)

HARRY'S MARINE REPAIR INC.

38 HAMMOCK ROAD SOUTH, WESTBROOK, CONNECTICUT 06498

MARINE ENGINES
PARTS AND SERVICE

BOAT YARD
MARINA

March 5, 2010

Environment Committee
General Assembly, State of Connecticut
Legislative Office Building
300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: S.B. No. 273

Dear Environment Committee Member:

I have owned and operated a boatyard in Westbrook for the past forty-five years. During the past year we have worked extensively with the Connecticut Department of Environment Protection to address boat bottom paint and power washing issues. I wish to inform you of these efforts and to request that you consider them in your deliberations.

I own Harry's Marine Repair, the first boatyard to be certified by the DEP as a Clean Marina. Together with the CT DEP, we have established procedures for the mitigation of environmental impact from the discharge of boat washing waste-water. These include, among others, the installation of filter fabric at the wash site and the requirement that all boat owners switch to copper free bottom paints.

As a result of these efforts, my boatyard has been issued a consent order from the DEP permitting us to resume boat bottom washing. In addition, we are now working with the DEP as they establish a general permitting process to enable other boatyards and marinas to discharge wash water to the ground.

I have found the DEP to be extremely cooperative throughout this process. Their concerns regarding the environmental impact from the discharge of waste water containing copper based paints are understandable. We appreciate their sensitivity to our business's operational requirements and their efforts to find a mutually satisfactory solution.

Sincerely,


Harry Ruppenicker, Sr.

