

Re: Docket #2020-P-0024

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To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources) <DNRECHearingComments@delaware.gov>**Cc:** doug.gramiak@faegredrinker.com <doug.gramiak@faegredrinker.com>

Lisa A. Vest

Hearing Officer, Office of the Secretary

Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC)

89 Kings Highway

Dover, DE 19901

RE: Re: Docket #2020-P-0024

Dear DNREC and Ms. Vest,

Please consider this letter as a sign of the International Longshoremen's Association's (ILA) enthusiastic support for the Diamond State Port Corporation's (DSPC) efforts to develop a new Edgemoor Port. The DSPC has consulted with the ILA throughout this process and we believe the new Port will provide many benefits to the surrounding area, including hundreds of new jobs for ILA members and others.

The Edgemoor property provides a unique opportunity to develop a new economic hub, while also addressing legacy environmental issues from its previous industrial uses. Additionally, we are excited by the plans to make the Edgemoor Port one of the most energy efficient and environmental-friendly ports in the country.

This project is extremely important to the ILA and its local members. As we continue through a time of economic uncertainty due to the Covid-19 pandemic, developing a new port at Edgemoor is a tremendous opportunity at a critical time for our current and future members. The additional estimated 1000 jobs created at Edgemoor will provide a steady, living wage for the longshoremen and others who work there. And for this to occur in the Wilmington community, where the large majority of our members live, it is an opportunity that will not come again.

In short, the hundreds of ILA members in the Wilmington area are excited to see the currently abandoned Edgemoor property developed into an active container port that provides jobs and opportunity for their community. They are looking to the [Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control](#) and others to make sure it happens.

Thank you for your time. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

William B. Ashe, Jr.

President, ILA Local 1694

Vice President, International Longshoremen's Association

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