



State of Connecticut

SENATE

STATE CAPITOL
300 CAPITOL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591
SENATE REPUBLICAN OFFICES

October 20, 2021

Connecticut Port Authority
455 Boston Post Road
Old Saybrook, CT 06475

Chairman Kooris and Members of the Connecticut Port Authority Board,

We are writing today to express our sincere concerns about the progress of the State Pier renovation.

It was reported this week that a second deadline to obtain a federal permit for work on the State Pier renovation was missed by the Connecticut Port Authority.

It is of extreme importance that all responsible parties stay on top of the demands and deadlines of the State Pier renovation project, especially as it relates to the state's development of the offshore wind energy field. We understand that this missed deadline allows an out for the developers and could create additional costs for the city and state.

It is our hope that these deadline lapses will be resolved as soon as possible. We do not want the private company's funding portion, which is necessary to complete the entire proposed redesign and build-out of the State Pier, to be further jeopardized.

We respectfully request that you explain to us your strategy moving forward that would mitigate our concerns as well as any information that you have received from the developer regarding the missed deadlines. Also, can you assure us that the lack of the Army Corp permit does not pose any liability to the state as the work has already begun?

In addition to our concerns with the project permits, we have specific questions about the fill material that is to be used in the river between the two piers. The fill originally selected was from Connecticut as well as tested and approved by the State Pier's contractor. It is our understanding that the order has been cancelled and replaced with concrete demolition materials from a location in New Jersey. We are concerned about the quality of this particular substance as it could possibly be contaminated. **Please advise as to the testing and procedures this material underwent to deem that it meets the cost, safety, and integrity necessary to properly serve as fill for the State Pier project.**

Thank you and we look forward to your response.

Paul Formica
Senate Republican Leader Pro Tempore
Ranking Member, Energy & Technology Committee

Heather Somers
Senate Republican Deputy Leader
Ranking Member, Transportation Committee

CC:

Chief of Staff Paul Mounds, Office of the Governor
Secretary Melissa McCaw, Office of Policy and Management
Commissioner Katie Dykes, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection##