



TOWN of NEW SHOREHAM

TOWN COUNCIL

OFFICE of FIRST WARDEN JOHN T. SAVOIE

TELEPHONE (401) 466-3200

FAX (401) 466-3219

TTY (800) 745-5555

CELL (401) 996-0877

John Spirito  
Hearing Officer  
Division of Public Utilities and Carriers  
Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, R.I.

Re: Application of Interstate Navigation Company  
Docket D-05-06

Dear John:

The Town of New Shoreham appreciates the opportunity to make our concerns known with respect to Interstate Navigation Company's (Interstate) request to operate high speed ferry service between Point Judith and Block Island and between Newport and Block Island. While we are currently taking no formal position with regard to the application, we hope that the Division will take the following into consideration as the merits of the application are weighed.

The Town of New Shoreham has two areas of significant interest. First we would like to preserve passenger choice and options for ferry service to Block Island. Second, we are vitally interested in the viability of winter service and the ability to generate sufficient revenues in the summer to help support that winter service.

High speed ferry service is relatively new to Block Island and has clearly proven to be popular. We hope that this service remains available from multiple ports of embarkation. In Interstate Navigation's case, summer ridership clearly helps support winter service. Anything that potentially aids Interstate's competitiveness, and income, in the summer seasons has to be supported as it can only strengthen the year round service. We welcome the Division's review of whether what is proposed could potentially have a negative effect on the company's financial stability. We would seek assurances that the conventional ferries—that transport our food supplies and all our services such as trash, sludge, fuel oil, school trips, etc—will not be decreased in the future in favor of any high speed ferry runs.

We would not want the Division to discount the fact that fast transport to the mainland for our ambulance when weather only permits boat travel is welcomed by our

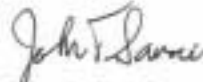
April 7, 2005  
DIVISION OF  
PUBLIC UTILITIES & CARRIERS  
DOCKET NO. D-05-06  
SPONSOR New Shoreham  
EXHIBIT NO. 1  
SENT (DATE) 6-13-05  
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RECEIVED BY JS

medical and Rescue personnel. The difference in time between conventional and fast ferry transport could be critical in those situations where our Life Star helicopter transport is grounded because of weather.

We hope that the Division will look at this application in light of the interests the Town has expressed and recognize that our issues stem from our need to protect and strengthen the year round service which is currently offered only by Interstate Navigation.

We, of course, look forward with great interest to your deliberations and decision. If you would like to speak with us further, we will be happy to submit any additional comments as appropriate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John T. Savoie".

John T. Savoie  
First Warden