From: Pagemaster, Reg POA
To: Campellone, Estrella F CIV USARMY CEPOA (USA)
Cc: Pagemaster, Reg POA
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Cruiseship dock in Ward Cove, Permit POA-2019-0013
Date: Monday, September 16, 2019 10:15:48 AM

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fyi

-----Original Message-----
From: Deborah Porter [mailto:dporter@kpunet.net]
Sent: Sunday, September 15, 2019 8:08 PM
To: Pagemaster, Reg POA <regpagemaster@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Cruiseship dock in Ward Cove, Permit POA-2019-0013

Dear Ladies & Gentlemen,

This email in in response to the notice of public comment regarding permit POA-2019-0013 to allow a cruiseship dock over a superfund site. I am emphatically against any consideration of such a venture. The superfund site was not remediated, but rather, buried under a sand cap to prevent the toxins from continuing to impact the fish and wildlife in Ward Cove. The area is slowly beginning to recover as long as the poisonous debris is locked under the sand cap.

What will the bow thrusters of a mega cruiseship do to the fragile cap protecting the waters of Ward Cove? What will the owners and of funders of this enterprise do to protect the citizens of the community that live and work in this area when contaminants are released and the fish, crab, and wildlife are once again poisoned?

Aside from the waterway issues, the buildings and remnants of buildings that remain at the former Ketchikan Pulp Company are filled with asbestos and other nasty things.

I happen to work in the former KPC headquarters building that has been occupied by the Alaska Marine Highway System main offices for the past 15 years. The landlord (Dave Spokely) is partnered in this new cruiseship dock venture and the proposed renovations to create a tourist destination on the old pulp mill site. The property is in atrocious condition. The building offices that AMHS occupies contain rot, asbestos and a large infestation of carpenter ants. The heating and cooling system was never worked, and buckets need to be placed in the hallways and some offices each time there are heavy rains. Mr. Spokely hasn't maintained the property which is easily accessible for renovation and upkeep. What kind of coverup will he do when the sand cap is blown out by the first ship to dock?

The bus traffic coming through the pulp mill site and turning out onto North Tongass Highway is a horrifying concept. The traffic coming across the bridge over Ward Creek is already a steady flow. The driveway out of the mill site is midway down a hill with poor visibility and already a challenge to gain access into the flow of traffic. There are no other roads to divert traffic coming from town. If there is a bus accident, it will shut down the highway. Buses transporting 4500 passengers from the ship out onto the highway to town will create a bottleneck of traffic in an already very dangerous section of highway.

Thank you for allowing the public to provide thoughts and input regarding this proposed venture.

Regards,

Deborah Porter
Citizen of Ketchikan Gateway Borough