



May 20, 2024

EPA Administrator  
Michael S. Regan  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

**Subject: Letter of Support for City of Seward EPA-R-OAR-CPP-24-02 Clean Ports Program: Zero-Emission Technology Deployment Competition**

Dear EPA Administrator Regan,

The Alaska Chamber (the Chamber) writes in support for City of Seward EPA-R-OAR-CPP-24-02 Clean Ports Program: Zero-Emission Technology Deployment Competition.

The Alaska Chamber was founded in 1953 and is Alaska's largest statewide business advocacy organization. Our mission is to promote a healthy business environment in Alaska. The Chamber has more than 700 members and represents businesses of all sizes and industries from across the state, representing 58,000 Alaskan workers and \$4.6 billion in wages.

By vote of our diverse membership, the Chamber has a formal policy position to support the installation of shore power infrastructure across the State of Alaska to reduce carbon emissions. Shore power capabilities in Alaska would benefit both cruise and community sustainability goals, advance decarbonization efforts across shipping sectors and help to future-proof cross-gulf cruise itineraries that feed Anchorage, Southcentral and Fairbanks regions.

The Port of Seward, as the southern terminus of the Alaska Railroad, plays a crucial role in connecting Alaska with the continental US and the global economy. It supports the Alaskan Cruise industry, the local coast guard, and the transport of goods and resources. The Shore Power Project, which allows ships to connect to the local electrical grid while at berth, aims to reduce emissions and noise pollution, enhancing both environmental and financial sustainability for the port and its operators. This project aligns with national goals of promoting renewable energy and combating climate change by reducing the port's carbon footprint and leveraging its access to renewable power sources.

Additionally, the Shore Power Project is expected to provide significant economic benefits by lowering fuel consumption and operating costs for all vessels at the Seward Passenger Dock, including cruise ships, coast guard, and freight vessels. By offering predictable and cost-effective power, the project will enhance the financial sustainability of these vessels and lines. This initiative will also integrate with the planned reconstruction of the Seward Passenger Dock and Terminal, ensuring that Port Seward continues to be a strategic connection for industry, the coast guard, and the community for the next century.

In closing, the Chamber supports the City of Seward EPA-R-OAR-CPP-24-02 Clean Ports Program: Zero-Emission Technology Deployment Competition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kati Capozzi'.

Kati Capozzi  
President and CEO



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