

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

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October 21, 2005

Mr. Theodore L. Keon, Director
Department of Coastal Resources
Town of Chatham
549 Main Street
Chatham, MA 02633

Re: Decision on the Renewal of the South Coastal Harbor Management Plan.

Dear Mr. Keon:

It is with pleasure that I am writing to inform you of my decision today, to renew the approval of the South Coastal Harbor Management Plan. This approval is effective immediately.

In accordance with the provisions set forth at 301 CMR 23.04, my staff held a public hearing in Chatham on September 22, 2005, for the purpose of receiving public testimony relative to the Town's request for renewal. All in attendance spoke in favor of renewal, and no written comments were received during the associated 30-day public comment period.

The town has achieved a number of planning objectives of the original plan. Pursuant to 301 CMR 23.04(4)(b), I have concluded that on-going implementation of the town's 1994 vision for its harbor, as updated in 1999 and in this current version, will continue to promote the water-related public interests protected by the standards set forth in 301 CMR 23.05. Additionally, I find that sufficient rationale has been described for the renewal to be extended for the requested period of seven years from the date of approval.

This approval decision letter includes by reference, the language and provisions of the Decision on the Town of Chatham Request for Approval of the Chatham Comprehensive Harbor Management Plan; dated August 19, 1994, and signed by then Secretary Trudy Coxe; and the renewal decision on the same plan dated July 23, 1999, and signed by then Secretary Bob Durand. This Decision will expire on October 7, 2012, unless a renewal request is submitted prior to that date. No later than six months prior to said expiration date the Town shall notify the Secretary in writing of its intent to request a renewal and shall submit therewith an updated review of the implementation to date.

The Town and the Harbor Plan Implementation Committee are to be commended for their forward-thinking, proactive management of this precious resource and I congratulate all involved on the Town's accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Stephen R. Pritchard, Secretary

cc: Susan Snow-Cotter, CZM Director
Truman Henson, Jr., CZM Cape & Islands Regional Coordinator
Lealdon Langley, Director, DEP, Wetlands & Waterways
Ben Lynch, Acting Waterways Program Chief
Gary Moran, Director, DEP, Southeast Regional Office
David M. Peters, Commissioner, DFWELE
Margo Fenn, Executive Director, Cape Cod Commission