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To: [Dg_clerk](#)
Subject: Haines Borough Assembly 2/27/24 - item 11C3
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Clerk: Please distribute to Haines Borough Assembly members -

Dear Assembly members:

For those who are proposing a significant change in the design submitted by Turnagain Marine Construction and approved at the 95% completion level, please consider the overall ramifications of swapping out the “combi wall bulkhead” with a proposed “rubble mound” approach.

A significant change and making it appear as a minimal change is disingenuous to the common good and could have disastrous effects. Let’s be honest – the “rubble mound” design has not been reviewed nor approved, which the “combi wall bulkhead” design has.

Proposing this as a “minimal change” is very short-sighted and does not encompass the full ramifications on the environment, much less the project cost, timeline, and safety of workers and ultimately the safety of dock users.

When describing this type of design change, please consider the words of Gershon Cohen from last November - “Defining activities as minimally as possible at each step so that each individual step is hard to oppose is a strategy used to generate momentum towards an internal goal. This strategy is known as “permit creep,” and Congress passed a law to address this problem over fifty years ago when federal permits are required.”

Please take Mr. Cohens’ advise and request a holistic approach to the project rather than a piecemeal deconstruction of the approved “combi wall bulkhead”.

If the opponents to the current and approved design want to change the freight dock into something that fits their concept, then please provide a completely new design and discontinue this shortsighted approach of making a significant change appear small.

Thank You –
Richard Clement
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