



State of New Jersey

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

March 13, 2013

Samuel D. Rauch, III
Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
Attention: William Chappell

Dear Mr. Rauch:

Thank you for contacting my office regarding the three seats that will become vacant on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council later this year.

As mandated by the Magnuson-Stevens Act, I submit for your consideration three recommendations for appointment to the at-large seat currently held by Erling A. Berg. I highly recommend reappointment of Mr. Berg. A new appointment would be Mr. Berg's third and final term of membership on the Council. The following candidates are listed by order of preference. Please note I do not submit recommendations for the at-large seats currently held by Mr. Robins of Virginia and Mr. Linhard of Maryland.

I. Erling A. Berg:

Mr. Berg has served two consecutive terms in this at-large seat. In 2009, he became chairman of the Council's Squid, Mackerel and Butterfish Committee. Mr. Berg has over 50 years of experience in this industry; his familiarity with state, interstate and federal regulatory processes and issues has made him an effective Council member, strongly supported for reappointment by members of the regulated community.

II. Jeffrey H. Kaelin:

Mr. Kaelin has a 40-year career in various aspects of commercial fisheries. He serves as an advisor to the Council's Squid, Mackerel and Butterfish and Ecosystem and Ocean Planning Committees since 2007. Mr. Kaelin has also served as a member of the Maine House of Representatives from 2002 to 2006.

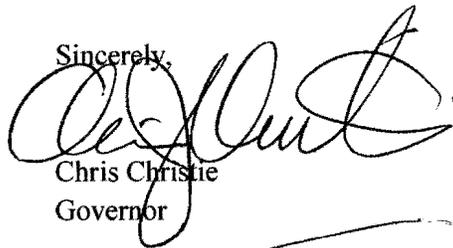
III. Peter Hughes:

Mr. Hughes is a longtime commercial fisherman and has been the Director of Sustainability for Atlantic Capes Fisheries in Cape May, New Jersey since 1990. In this capacity, he has assisted several local, state and federal regulatory agencies in developing policies with regard to stewardship and sustainability of our national resources.

I have enclosed for your review a nomination application kit for each recommended candidate.

In identifying qualified candidates for recommendation, my administration worked closely with Commissioner Robert Martin of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, as well as the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance, the New Jersey Chapter of the Recreational Fishing Alliance and the Garden State Seafood Association. I am committed to ensuring that New Jersey's appointees are qualified, exhibit the highest integrity, and represent the diverse nature of our State. Please note that particular attention was paid to identifying qualified women and minority candidates for appointment to the Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Christie", written over the typed name.

Chris Christie
Governor

Attachments