

From: Zeigler, Tate <TZeigler@SCSPA.com>

To: Godfrey, RobRobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov

Adams, ChaneyChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov

Symmes, BrianBrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov

CC: Melvin, BarbaraBMelvin@SCSPA.com

Dhand, Erinedhand@SCSPA.com

Baker, JoshJoshBaker@gov.sc.gov

Date: 6/24/2015 3:39:17 PM

Subject: Charleston Harbor Deepening Project Milestone - info for you

Attachments: Civil Works Review Board Key Points.pdf

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Team Haley,

I know things are a bit hectic, but I wanted to pass this information along to you. Tomorrow, Thursday is a major milestone for the Charleston Harbor Post-45 Deepening Project – the Civil Works Review Board Meeting by the Army Corps of Engineers. The Governor graciously wrote a letter of support for the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement last fall, and tomorrow marks the Corps' checkpoint on the final version of those reports (Josh has been working on a possible letter of support from the Governor for tomorrow's meeting – we understand if you're unable to get that completed due to the ongoing events). This preserves the timeline of the issuance of the Chief's Report in September – keeping the project on schedule.

I wanted to share this information with you in case you were interested in releasing a statement (or Tweet about it) after the meeting tomorrow. SCPA will issue a separate release once the CWRB votes, and we will be sure to send to you. The meeting begins at 9am at Corps' HQ in DC and is expected to last approximately two hours. I have copied our PR Manager Erin Dhand on this email if you'd like to work directly with her on timing, etc.

Also, I've provided some talking points, as well as a more formal one-page document with key points on the meeting. If you have any questions, please let me know. Thank you for your continued support.

Talking Points:

- Procedurally, the Civil Works Review Board (CWRB) is the Corps' checkpoint to determine if the final integrated feasibility study report and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and the proposed Report of the Chief of Engineers, are ready to be released for State and Agency review.
- Last fall, you wrote a letter to the Corps supporting the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement – this upcoming meeting is the CWRB's consideration of the FINAL versions of those reports, and will result in a recommendation by Corps HQ on whether the project has the green light to move forward at a recommended depth of 52-feet.

Additional Points:

- This project is important for the long-term economic well-being of our state. Our port system is a key factor in South Carolina's tremendous economic growth since recruiting BMW in the early 1990s and most recently South Carolina's successful recruitment of Volvo's first US plant.
- Realizing a Corps recommendation to deepen the harbor to 52-feet is absolutely essential to our economic future and has statewide support from the South Carolina Legislature, business groups, and other stakeholders.
- Additionally, the state's full share of the estimated funds needed for the project, which were set aside in 2013, were fully authorized to be spent on the project earlier this year – further demonstrating both the

importance and the broad range of support of the project.

Regards,

Tate

**Tate Zeigler**

MANAGER, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS  
SOUTH CAROLINA PORTS AUTHORITY  
OFFICE (843) 577-8670  
CELL (864) 414-5256  
scspa.com



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