ITEM #14:  CORRESPONDENCE OF INTEREST

A. Letter from the Honorable Williams Sessoms, Mayor, City of Virginia Beach, to Mr. Don Luzzatto, Editorial Page Editor, The Virginia Pilot, May 3, 2013.

Attached is a letter from the Honorable Williams Sessoms, Mayor, City of Virginia Beach, to Mr. Don Luzzatto, Editorial Page Editor, The Virginia Pilot, regarding the Pilots April 21, 2013 Editorial, “The Risks of BRAC to Hampton Roads”/ Proposed Oil and Natural Gas Development off Shore in Virginia.

Attachment 14-A


Attached is a letter from Mr. Brain E. Kamoie, Assistant Administrator, United States Department of Homeland Security, FEMA to Mr. Dwight Farmer, Executive Director, HRPDC, thanking the HRPDC for providing the Department of Homeland Security with the Hampton Roads Urban Area Security Initiative Effectiveness Report.

Attachment 14-B

C. Letter from Mr. Michael Johnson, County Administrator, Southampton County, to Mr. Dwight Farmer, Executive Director, HRPDC, May 31, 2013.

Attached is a letter from Mr. Michael Johnson, County Administrator, Southampton County, to Mr. Dwight Farmer, Executive Director, HRPDC, stating that the Board of Supervisors has appointed Mr. Barry Porter to the HRPDC to replace Mr. Ronald West who resigned from the HRPDC due to scheduling conflicts.

Attachment 14-C

D. Letter from Ms. Delores A. Moore, City Clerk of Chesapeake to Mr. Dwight L. Farmer, Executive Director, HRPDC, June 4, 2013.

Attached is a letter from Ms. Delores A. Moore, City Clerk of Chesapeake to Mr. Dwight L. Farmer, Executive Director, HRPDC stating the reappointment of Mr. Amar Dwarkanath to the HRPDC beginning July 2013 and expiring July 2015.

Attachment 14-D
E. Letter from Ms. Delores A. Moore, City Clerk of Chesapeake to Mr. Dwight L. Farmer, Executive Director, HRPDC, June 4, 2013.

Attached is a letter from Ms. Delores A. Moore, City Clerk of Chesapeake to Mr. Dwight L. Farmer, Executive Director, HRPDC stating the reappointment of Ms. Ella P. Ward to the HRPDC beginning July 2013 and expiring July 2015.

Attachment 14-E

F. Letter from Congressman Scott Rigell to Mr. Dwight L. Farmer, Executive Director, HRPDC, May 28, 2013.

Attached is a letter from Congressman Scott Rigell to Mr. Dwight L. Farmer, Executive Director, HRPDC asking to submit a public statement of support for the Virginia Jobs and Energy Act, H.R. 1782.

Attachment 14-F

G. Letter from Mr. Dwight L. Farmer, Executive Director to Ms. Shannon Kendrick, District Director for Congressman Scott Rigell.

Attached is a letter from Mr. Dwight L. Farmer, Executive Director to Ms. Shannon Kendrick, District Director for Congressman Scott Rigell including Mr. Farmer's authorized statement of support for the Virginia Jobs and Energy Act, H.R. 1782.

Attachment 14-G
May 3, 2013

Don Luzzatto
Editorial Page Editor
The Virginian-Pilot
150 W Brambleton Ave
Norfolk, VA 23510

Subject: 4-21-13 Editorial “The Risks of BRAC to Hampton Roads” /Proposed Oil and Natural Gas Development Off Shore in Virginia

Dear Don:

I want to congratulate Congressman Scott Rigell for proposing legislation that would require the Interior Department to sell leases for oil and natural gas development off the coast of Virginia and require the federal government to share revenue from these operations with Virginia. I understand that Senators Mark Warner and Tim Kaine will also support similar legislation in the U.S. Senate.

Obviously, any oil or gas developed from this work will not make the U.S. energy independent. However, as my Alternative Energy Commission recommended in its report over a year ago, we need to pursue all of the above. This includes nuclear power, renewables, and traditional sources such as oil and gas. Although Virginia has been making progress toward developing an offshore wind industry, market forces and the tremendous costs involved may not allow that alternative to proceed before the turn of the decade. Likewise, it will take a number of years for oil and natural gas to be investigated and developed off the coast of Virginia, but these are investigations and work that need to begin now. This would be a great opportunity for energy development, whether it is renewables or traditional such as oil and natural gas, that would help diversify the economy in Hampton Roads and provide high-paying jobs.

In addition, I would like to counter a statement that was made in the editorial page of The Virginian-Pilot recently. The Navy has never threatened to move carriers from the Hampton Roads area because of oil and natural gas development. As was the case when an offshore wind development area was developed after consultation with all the military, the Coast Guard and the Federal Aviation Authority, the same level of collaboration will take place for development and approval of areas off shore of Virginia for oil and natural gas development.
In fact, although the Navy has objected to development in the eastern portion of lease block 220, the western portion, which lies on the edge of the continental shelf, is where most of the oil and natural gas deposits are thought to exist. When the Council adopted its Alternative Energy Report, it included a disclaimer on the oil and natural gas development portion that such development should be done with protections for the environment and not to cause any negative impact on the military.

Again, congratulations to Congressman Scott Rigell for his leadership on this issue, and I will do everything I can, as Mayor and a citizen of Hampton Roads, to help him in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

William D. Sessoms, Jr.
Mayor
May 28, 2013

Dwight L. Farmer  
Executive Director  
Hampton Roads Planning Direct Commission  
723 Woodlake Drive  
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Dear Director Farmer:

Thank you for your recent letter to Secretary Napolitano and for providing the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) with the Hampton Roads Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Effectiveness Report. We look forward to reviewing the report to gain a better understanding of the valuable capabilities that have been built in the Hampton Roads area. Your letter was forwarded to FEMA's Grant Programs Directorate (GPD) for response, as GPD administers the UASI grant program.

As you know, the UASI program addresses the unique planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density urban areas, and assists them in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism.

Through the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2013, Congress has clearly expressed its intent that DHS should limit the number of eligible urban areas under the FY 2013 UASI to 25. Given that Congress has plainly expressed its intent that there should be no more than 25 eligible urban areas for FY 2013, DHS does not have the flexibility to expand the number of eligible areas. UASI eligibility and allocation decisions are informed using a risk-based approach. DHS understands that urban areas face diverse risks throughout the nation, and strives to capture this diversity as best as possible in the risk formula.

While the number of eligible UASI areas is limited to 25, there are several other opportunities to take advantage of Federal preparedness grant funding in FY 2013. The Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2013 provides funding for several other grant programs. These preparedness grant programs continue to provide valuable resources to the Hampton Roads area and may be leveraged to sustain and maintain existing investments, as well as build new capabilities.

DHS recognizes that budget reductions have significantly impacted preparedness grantees nationwide. In order to offset this impact, DHS has worked to ensure that capabilities previously funded with UASI, Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) and Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) grant funds are also authorized under the continuing State Homeland Security Program (SHSP). Information Bulletin No. 379: Guidance to State Administrative Agencies to Expedite the Expenditure of Certain DHS/FEMA Grant Funding was released with the intent that this

www.fema.gov
increased flexibility enables grantees to maintain and sustain existing homeland security capabilities and continue to be a stakeholder in whole community initiatives.

I appreciate your interest in the DHS preparedness grant programs and look forward to working with you on future homeland security issues. If you have any further questions or concerns, please have a member of your staff contact the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk at (202) 786-9475 or via email at askcsid@fema.gov.

Regards,

[Signature]

Brian E. Kamoie
Assistant Administrator
Grant Programs Directorate
May 31, 2013

Mr. Dwight L. Farmer, Executive Director
Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
723 Woodlake Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Dear Mr. Farmer:

Due to a scheduling conflict, please be advised that Mr. Ronald M. West resigned his appointment to the HRPDC during a regular session of the Board of Supervisors on May 28, 2013.

The Board of Supervisors subsequently appointed Mr. Barry T. Porter to fill Mr. West’s unexpired term on the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission through June 30, 2014. The Board further appointed Mr. Porter to represent Southampton County at meetings of the HRTPO as prescribed by the MOA that will be reconsidered June 20.

Thank you in advance for contacting Mr. Porter with regard to orientation and notice of upcoming meetings. He may be contacted electronically at bporter@southamptoncounty.org

With kind personal regards, I remain

Sincerely,

Michael W. Johnson
County Administrator
May 29, 2013

Mr. Amar Dwarkanath
306 Cedar Road
Chesapeake, VA 23322

Dear Mr. Dwarkanath:

I am pleased to advise you that City Council, at its meeting of May 28, 2013, reappointed you to your fifth term on the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission. Your term begins on July 13, 2013 and expires on July 12, 2015.

Your Certificate of Appointment is enclosed. As required by State law, you must take the Oath of Office prior to taking your voting position on the Board/Commission. Failure to be sworn in prior to taking your seat on the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission could result in all actions of the Board/Commission on which you participate as an active member being nullified. The oath is administered by Ms. Faye Mitchell, Clerk of the Circuit Court. Please contact Ms. Mitchell’s office at 382-3022 to arrange to take your oath. Again, it is necessary to be sworn in before you take your position on the Board/Commission.

By copy of this letter, the chairperson/liaison will be notified of your appointment and will advise you of the next meeting date. In the near future, you will receive additional information regarding this appointment from the Office of the City Attorney. This information includes the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) recently amended by the Virginia State Legislature. Section 2.2-3702 of the Act requires officials of any public body to read and familiarize themselves with the information contained in the FOIA. Additionally, Section 2.2-3701 of the Act defines a public body as "...any legislative body, any authority, board, bureau, commission, district or agency of the Commonwealth or of any political subdivision of the Commonwealth ...supported wholly or principally by public funds." Carefully review the information contained in the FOIA when your package arrives from the City Attorney's office.

Should you have any questions, please call Mitzie Wright, Deputy City Clerk, 382-6151.

Sincerely,

Dolores A. Moore, MMC
City Clerk

DAM:mbw
Enclosure
cc: Faye Mitchell, Clerk of the Circuit Court
    Ronald S. Hallman, City Attorney
    Nancy G. Parr, Commonwealth's Attorney
    Kelly Peterson, Liaison, Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT

I, Dolores A. Moore, City Clerk, City of Chesapeake, Virginia, do hereby certify that

Amar Dwarkanath

was appointed by Chesapeake City Council to serve on the

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission

for a term to begin July 13, 2013
and expires on July 12, 2015

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the City of Chesapeake, Virginia, to be affixed hereto this Twenty-ninth day of May, 2013.

Dolores A. Moore, MMC
City Clerk
May 29, 2013

Council Member Ella P. Ward
1517 Pine Grove Lane
Chesapeake, VA 23321

Dear Council Member Ward:

I am pleased to advise you that City Council, at its meeting of May 28, 2013, reappointed you to your fifth term on the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission. Your term begins on July 13, 2013 and expires on July 12, 2015.

Your Certificate of Appointment is enclosed. As required by State law, you must take the Oath of Office prior to taking your voting position on the Board/Commission. Failure to be sworn in prior to taking your seat on the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission could result in all actions of the Board/Commission on which you participate as an active member being nullified. The oath is administered by Ms. Faye Mitchell, Clerk of the Circuit Court. Please contact Ms. Mitchell’s office at 382-3022 to arrange to take your oath. Again, it is necessary to be sworn in before you take your position on the Board/Commission.

By copy of this letter, the chairperson/liason will be notified of your appointment and will advise you of the next meeting date. In the near future, you will receive additional information regarding this appointment from the Office of the City Attorney. This information includes the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) recently amended by the Virginia State Legislature. Section 2.2-3702 of the Act requires officials of any public body to read and familiarize themselves with the information contained in the FOIA. Additionally, Section 2.2-3701 of the Act defines a public body as "...any legislative body, any authority, board, bureau, commission, district or agency of the Commonwealth or of any political subdivision of the Commonwealth ...supported wholly or principally by public funds." Carefully review the information contained in the FOIA when your package arrives from the City Attorney's office.

Should you have any questions, please call Mitzie Wright, Deputy City Clerk, 382-6151.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Dolores A. Moore, MMC
City Clerk

DAM:mbw
Enclosure
cc: Faye Mitchell, Clerk of the Circuit Court
    Ronald S. Hallman, City Attorney
    Nancy G. Parr, Commonwealth's Attorney
    Kelly Peterson, Liaison, Hampton Roads Planning District Commission

"The City of Chesapeake adheres to the principles of equal employment opportunity. This policy extends to all programs and services supported by the City."
CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT

I, Dolores A. Moore, City Clerk, City of Chesapeake, Virginia, do hereby certify that

Ella P. Ward

was appointed by Chesapeake City Council to serve on the

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission

for a term to begin July 13, 2013
and expires on July 12, 2015

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the City of Chesapeake, Virginia, to be affixed hereto this Twenty-ninth day of May, 2013.

Dolores A. Moore, MMC
City Clerk
Dwight L. Farmer  
Executive Director  
Hampton Roads Planning District Commission  
723 Woodlake Drive  
Chesapeake, VA 23320  

Dear Dwight,  

I know you share my deep commitment to grow and diversify the Hampton Roads economy. The #1 opportunity for us to achieve that is through the development of coastal energy including traditional sources like oil and gas and renewable ones like wind. In fact, a study by research firm Wood Mackenzie says we can create more than 18,000 jobs by leveraging these resources, and in the process, generate the revenue we need to improve our schools, fix our roads, and create a new industry for our region.  

That is why I am writing to ask for you to support the Virginia Jobs and Energy Act (H.R. 1782), which I recently introduced in the House of Representatives. The legislation requires the federal government to lift the moratorium on energy exploration in Virginia and allow Lease Sale 220 to move forward. This will open the Outer Continental Shelf off the coast of Virginia for responsible harvesting of traditional energy sources while fast tracking renewable energy like wind. The bill also sets the framework for revenue sharing between the federal government and the Commonwealth.  

What is encouraging to me is that this bill represents common ground. Governor McDonnell and the General Assembly want coastal energy to move forward. Virginia Beach Mayor Will Sessoms recently wrote a letter to the editor of the Virginia-Pilot expressing his support of coastal energy. U.S. Senators Mark Warner and Tim Kaine plan on introducing a bill similar to mine this summer. And the Richmond Times-Dispatch recently wrote an editorial called “Rigell is Right” regarding my legislation.
We need your public support to show the Administration that Virginia is united in this effort. I respectfully ask that you review the enclosed information about the bill and then contact my District Director, Shannon Kendrick, to provide her with a public statement of support on this legislation. She can be reached at shannon.kendrick@mail.house.gov or (757) 687-8290.

A sluggish economy continues to hurt families across our region. The time to create new jobs is NOW, and we can do it while meeting our deep obligation to leave the next generation clean air, clean soil, and clean water. Getting the Virginia Jobs and Energy Act to the House floor, and passing it with bipartisan support, is my number one legislative priority. I’ll keep you posted on the progress I’m making in the days ahead.

Fully focused on job creation, and always mindful that I work for you, I remain,

Yours in Freedom,

[Signature]

Scott Rigell
Member of Congress

Attachment
The Virginia Jobs and Energy Act (H.R. 1782)

~~ New Jobs, New Energy ~~

What This Bill Does

- Requires the Secretary of the Interior to execute Lease Sale 220 within one year
- Requires one additional lease sale in each subsequent five year oil and gas leasing program
- Protects national security by ensuring that no lease may be conducted that would conflict with U.S. military operational requirements
- Provides for revenue sharing with coastal states whose off shore oil, gas, and wind energy is harvested
- Creates the Virginia Lease Sale Planning Area to give planning for future leases exclusively to the Commonwealth
- Fast tracks the process for developing renewable energy sources, like wind

The Benefits of Rigell’s Jobs and Energy Bill

Jobs!!
- This legislation has the potential to create 18,000 direct and indirect jobs for our area.

Tax Revenue
- This generates revenues and royalties for the federal and state governments, providing funds for education, transportation, and other critical needs.

Regional Diversification
- Energy is the #1 opportunity to diversify our local economy beyond our already strong government and defense services.

Lower Gas Prices
- When supply goes up, prices go down. That’s economics.

National Security
- Every day, millions of American dollars go to countries that don’t share our values. This bill reduces our dependence on foreign oil while protecting Department of Defense navigation requirements.
Today’s Top Opinion: Rigell is right
April 29, 2013

The Obama administration’s decision to impose a moratorium on drilling off Virginia’s coast represented a hasty overreaction to the Deepwater Horizon disaster — a highly unfortunate, but fortunately rare, event. As a matter of public policy, it made little sense. The administration appeared to recognize this a few months later when it agreed to allow some seismic mapping off the Eastern Seaboard.

Virginia Rep. Scott Rigell wants to go further. He has proposed legislation that would require the Interior Department to sell leases, and require the federal government to share revenue from drilling operations with Virginia. Sens. Mark Warner and Tim Kaine reportedly share those goals.

This doesn’t mean turning the East Coast into the Wild West. Several considerations ought to weigh on how much drilling gets done, and where — including the effects on both marine life and U.S. naval operations.

Opponents of drilling correctly note that exploiting offshore oil reserves will not make the U.S. energy independent. It isn’t meant to — any more than background checks are meant to stop every homicide. But as progressives say about incremental gun control measures, it would help. And it certainly would help at least as much as one of the president’s supposed solutions: keeping your tires properly inflated.

Both the Obama administration and Gov. Bob McDonnell claim to want an all-of-the-above approach to energy production. But their actions belie their words. The president’s imposition of a drilling moratorium and McDonnell’s tacit consent to Virginia’s moratorium on uranium mining suggest each of them prefers some, rather than all, of the above. The same might be said of some conservatives who too quickly brush aside the potential of renewable energy resources. Even with aggressive conservation, energy demand will continue to rise in the coming years and decades. Meeting that demand will require a comprehensive approach. Rigell’s legislation would be a good place to start.
(b) REVIEW AND UPDATION OF MOA.—The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Defense shall periodically review and revise such memorandum of agreement to account for new offshore energy production technologies, including those that use wind energy.

SEC. 4. DISPOSITION OF REVENUE.

(a) PAYMENT OF NEW LEASING REVENUES TO MID-ATLANTIC STATES.—Notwithstanding section 9 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1338), of the amount of new leasing revenues received by the United States each fiscal year under any lease issued under this Act, 37.5 percent shall be allocated and paid in accordance with subsection (b) to Mid-Atlantic States that are affected States with respect to the leases under which those revenues are received by the United States.

(b) ALLOCATION OF PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount of new leasing revenues received by the United States with respect to a leased tract that are required to be paid to Mid-Atlantic States in accordance with this subsection each fiscal year shall be allocated among and paid to Mid-Atlantic States that are within 200 miles of the leased tract, in amounts that are inversely proportional to the respective distances between the point on the coastline of each such State that is closest to the geographic center of the lease tract, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM ALLOCATION.—The amount allocated to a Mid-Atlantic State under paragraph (1) each fiscal year with respect to a leased tract shall be—

(A) in the case of a Mid-Atlantic State that is the nearest Mid-Atlantic State to the geographic center of the leased tract, not less than 25 percent of the total amounts allocated with respect to the leased tract; and

(B) in the case of any other Mid-Atlantic State, not less than 10 percent, and not more than 15 percent, of the total amounts allocated with respect to the leased tract.

(3) ADMINISTRATION.—Amounts allocated to a Mid-Atlantic State under this subsection—

(A) shall be available to the State without further appropriation;

(B) shall remain available until expended; and

(C) shall be in addition to any other amounts available to the State under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.).

(4) USE OF FUNDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a Mid-Atlantic State may use funds allocated and paid to it under this subsection for any purpose as determined by the laws of that State.

(B) RESTRICTION ON USE FOR MATCHING.—Funds allocated and paid to a Mid-Atlantic State under this subsection may not be used as matching funds for any other Federal program.
(ii) consult with the Secretary of Defense, the Commandant of the Coast Guard, and the heads of other Federal, State, and local agencies that would be affected by issuance of permit and right of way.

(C) DENIAL OF PERMIT; OPPORTUNITY TO REMEDY DEFICIENCIES.—If the application is denied, the Secretary shall provide the applicant—

(i) in writing, clear and comprehensive reasons why the application was not approved and detailed information concerning any deficiencies in the application; and

(ii) an opportunity to remedy such deficiencies.

(b) NEPA EXCLUSION.—Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)) shall not apply with respect to an offshore meteorological site testing and monitoring project.

(c) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—The information provided to the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to subsection (d)(3) shall be treated by the Secretary as proprietary information and protected against disclosure.

(d) DEFINITION OF AN OFFSHORE METEOROLOGICAL SITE TESTING AND MONITORING PROJECT.—In this section, the term “offshore meteorological site testing and monitoring project” means a project carried out on or in the waters of the Outer Continental Shelf administered by the Department of the interior to test or monitor weather (including wind, tidal, current, and solar energy) using towers, buoys, or other temporary ocean infrastructure, that—

(1) causes—

(A) less than 1 acre of surface or seafloor disruption at the location of each meteorological tower or other device; and

(B) not more than 5 acres of surface or seafloor disruption within the proposed area affected by for the project (including hazards to navigation);

(2) is decommissioned not more than 5 years after the date of commencement of the project, including—

(A) removal of towers, buoys, or other temporary ocean infrastructure from the project site; and

(B) restoration of the project site to approximately the original condition of the site; and

(3) provides meteorological information obtained by the project to the Secretary of the Interior.
May 29, 2013

The Honorable Scott Rigell  
Congressman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
c/o Ms. Shannon Kendrick  
4772 Euclid Road  
Suite E  
Virginia Beach, VA 23464  

RE: Support for H.R. 1782 Virginia Jobs and Energy Act  

Dear Congressman Rigell:

Below is a public statement of support for H.R. 1782.

"Hampton Road's economy is based on a strong military presence, a competitive port and world class tourist attractions. Congressman Rigell's leadership to support responsible development of Virginia's offshore energy resources is key to our region's future."

Please feel free to contact me if you require any additional assistance.

Sincerely,

Dwight L. Farmer  
Executive Director/Secretary

/jc