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# NORTH STAR TERMINAL & STEVEDORE CO. LLC NORTH STAR EQUIPMENT SERVICES

*Contracting Stevedores   Terminal Operators   Materials Handling  
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**Anchorage**

**Valdez**

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**Dutch Harbor**



Mike Chenault, House Speaker  
State Capital Building, Room 208  
Juneau, AK 99801

January 30, 2014

Subject: Letter of Support that exempts the Homer Port and Harbor from the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area (KBCHA).

Dear Mr. Speaker,

North Star Terminal & Stevedore Co LLC (NSTS) has been in business in Alaska since 1950. Our headquarters and main barge terminal is in Anchorage. We also operate on the Homer Spit both at the City's Port and at English Bay's Homer Spit Marine Terminal.

Being a member of the Alliance and RDC North Star firmly supports the mission of responsible resource development and an advocate of the oil and gas industry. HB 285 is a tactical piece of legislation that will protect Homer's Port and Harbor from the onerous environmental movement's strategy to shut down exploration in the lower Cook Inlet.

We employ roughly 5 fulltime equivalent employees in Homer that support the jack up rigs and other oil and gas marine needs in Homer. Along with the heavy lift equipment we use this represents a large economic impact on the Homer area.

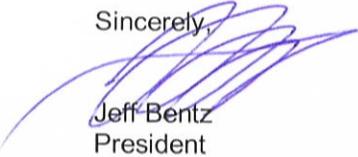
The proposed exclusion, see attached map, to the KBCHA should be expanded 3,000' feet to the north to include the Homer Spit Marine Terminal. This would allow the potential use of that dock and terminal and enhance the private / public relationship as well.

Other reasons why HB 285 needs to be passed include:

- ✦ HB 285 is necessary to allow the drill rigs to moor at the Homer Deep Water Dock.
- ✦ Support services for the rigs are easier to acquire then they are moored at the DWD versus just outside the KBCHA only accessible by boat or helicopter
- ✦ The proposed boundary change plus my requested expansion north still protects the resources and beauty that is the KBCHA.

Your attention and support of this bill is appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Jeff Bentz  
President  
[jeffb@northstarak.com](mailto:jeffb@northstarak.com)  
907-263-0101

# Proposed Exclusion to The Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area

1/22/14 MJH @ DNR

*Homer Spit Marine Terminal*



Legend

Google earth

Image © 2014 DigitalGlobe

Image © 2014 TerraMetrics

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