<table>
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May 26, 2022

Dear Senator Markey, Senator Warren, and Congressman Keating:

We the undersigned write to you to urge you to introduce and support federal legislation to secure permanent protection for Nantucket Sound. Nantucket Sound is a critical resource to the economy of the Cape and Islands. Its historic, environmental, wildlife, and cultural values support commercial and recreational fishing, tourism, marine transportation, aviation, marine trades, and other businesses and industries that are vital to the region.

Permanent protection would preserve Nantucket Sound’s rich cultural and tribal heritage and the historic features of its maritime history, including the role of our fishing industry. It would maintain the Sound’s unique environment with respect to fish, marine mammals, and birds, and it would ensure the future environmental health of Nantucket Sound. The area is a recognized habitat for many state and federally protected species, including roseate terns, piping plovers, sea turtles, right whales, and grey seals. Protection would also promote tourism and benefit the regional economy of the Cape and Islands. As historic preservation advocates, environmentalists, commercial fishermen, tribes, renewable energy developers, businesses, chambers of commerce, municipalities, and others, we fully embrace this important preservation goal.

Nantucket Sound, Cape Cod, and the Islands of Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket form an integral part of the maritime history of this country. The adjacent land areas are home to numerous historic properties, including the National Historic Landmarks of Nantucket Island, the Kennedy Compound in Hyannis Port, and Wesleyan Grove in Oak Bluffs. This unique ecosystem is home to many different species of wildlife, including federally protected birds, and several types of seals, porpoises, turtles, and whales. The Sound supports a fishing industry that is of historic significance and continuing economic importance. It attracts millions of visitors each year that drive our local tourist economy. Nantucket Sound has sacred value to the Native American people of the region and, as such, has been designated a traditional cultural property eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. It is the only ocean-based traditional cultural property that has been recognized by the Keeper of the National Register.

We fully support protection for the historic, environmental, cultural, and tribal resources of Nantucket Sound while allowing for continued commercial and recreational fishing activities and other ecologically and economically sustainable uses of the marine environment. These include the siting of electrical transmission infrastructure from responsibly sited offshore wind projects and the development of hydrokinetic power in the Sound. We urge you to:

- designate the Sound as a National Historic Landmark to recognize this unique cultural, tribal, environmental, and maritime history.
- provide significant environmental protections to address the many threats facing Nantucket Sound, such as diminished water quality, coastal erosion, habitat degradation and other climate change effects.
- ensure that the protections that exist under state law for the waters that extend three miles from shore are extended to the federal waters located in the center of Nantucket Sound with respect to energy generation, while making certain that no regulatory or management authority of commercial or recreational fishing activities is added.
- ensure that the installation of transmission infrastructure used to connect offshore wind generation facilities, whose turbine arrays are located more than 10 miles from an inhabited area, or in upland
locations, to the mainland grid, and the development of responsibly sited hydrokinetic power in Nantucket Sound, are not prohibited or otherwise impacted.

Such a bill would be precedent-setting legislation that achieves protection of the many public interest values of an entire marine ecosystem, ensures its future environmental health, and does so without imposing additional cost or management responsibilities on government or new regulatory requirements on businesses or the public. We appreciate your prompt attention to enactment of federal legislation to preserve this national treasure and critical environmental resource in perpetuity. Thank you.

Audra Parker
President and Chief Executive Officer
Alliance to Protect Nantucket Sound

Jeremy D’Entremont
President
American Lighthouse Foundation

Steve Holmer
Vice President of Policy
American Bird Conservancy

John Townes
President
Barnstable Association for Recreational Shellfishing (BARS)

Zenas Crocker
Executive Director
Barnstable Clean Water Coalition

Historical Commissioners
Barnstable Historical Commission

Janet Milkman
Executive Director
Barnstable Land Trust

John T. Griffin, Jr.
Chairman
Barnstable Municipal Airport Commission

Peter Allen and Michael Ausere
Directors
Bay State Wind

Robert S. Douglas
President
Black Dog Tall Ships/Coastwise Packet Co.
Sara Johnson
Director
*Cahoon Museum of American Art*

Paul Niedzwiecki
Chief Executive Director
*Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce*
Brian Shortsleeve
Owner
*Cape Cod Publications*

Scott Zeien
President
*Cape Cod Marine Trades Association*

Elizabeth York
Executive Director
*Cape Cod Maritime Museum*

Jack Creighton
President
*Cape Cod Salties Sportfishing Club*

Zak Mertz
Executive Director
*Cape Wildlife Center*

Kurt Peterson
Captain
*Catboat Charters*

David Kaplan
President
*Cetacean Society International*

Gregory R. Egan
Vice President
*Crosby Yacht Yard*

Dave Phillips
Executive Director
*Earth Island Institute/ International Marine Mammal Project*

Historic Commission
*Dennis Historical Commission*

District Commission
*Edgartown Historic District Commission*
Board of Directors
Figawi Charities, Inc.

Jack Sheeran
President
Freedom Cruise Line Inc.

Angela Sanfilippo
Executive Director
Gloucester Fishermen’s Wives Association

Marty Bruemmel
President
Greater Hyannis Chamber of Commerce

Betsy Young
President
Greater Hyannis Civic Association

Board of Directors
Harwich Chamber of Commerce

Michael Lach
Executive Director
Harwich Conservation Trust

Board of Directors
Historical Society of Santuit and Cotuit

Elizabeth Wurfbain
Executive Director
Hyannis Business Improvement District

Jack MacDonald
President
Hyannis Historical Society

Wayne Kurker
President
Hyannis Marina

Jake Filoon
President
Hyannis Port Civic Association

R. Murray Scudder, Jr.
Vice President/Operation
Hy-Line Cruises
Charles Bardelis, Jr.
Owner and President
Island Queen/Island Commuter Corporation

David Duquette
Chief Executive Office
Littoral Power Systems

John R. Miller
Executive Director
Marine Renewable Energy Collaborative of New England (MRECo)

Nancy Gardella
Executive Director
Martha’s Vineyard Chamber of Commerce

Chuckie Green
Director Natural Resources
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

Ron Borjeson
Vice President
Massachusetts Commercial Fishermen

Dan O’Connell
President and Chief Executive Officer
Massachusetts Competitive Partnership

Kris Wiggin
President
Nantucket Anglers’ Club

Board of Commissioners
Nantucket Historic District Commission

Niles Parker
Executive Director
Nantucket Historical Association

Board of Directors
Nantucket Island Chamber of Commerce

Valerie Grussing
Executive Director
National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO)

Fawn Sharp
President
National Congress of American Indians
Theresa M. Barbo  
Executive Director  
**Orenda Wildlife Land Trust**

Bruce Cunningham  
President  
**Osterville Anglers’ Club**

Jennifer Morgan Williams  
Executive Director  
**Osterville Historical Museum**

Peter Maryott  
Vice President  
**Oyster Harbors Marine**

Colleen Stephens  
President  
**Passenger Vessel Association**

Barbara Birdsey  
Founder  
**Pegasus Foundation**

Ed Anthes-Washburn  
Port Director and NBPA Executive Director  
**Port of New Bedford**

Jim Igoe  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
**Preservation Massachusetts**

Mike Oleksak  
President  
**Save Popponesset Bay**

John Haviland  
President  
**South Shore Lobster Fishermen’s Association**

Linda Morales-Morceau  
Chief  
**The Chappaquiddic Tribe of The Massachusetts Nation**

Charles A. Birnbaum  
President and CEO  
**The Cultural Landscape Foundation**
Mark Ells  
Town Manager  
*Town of Barnstable*

Board of Selectmen  
*Town of Dennis*

Board of Selectmen  
*Town of Edgartown*

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Board of Selectmen  
*Town of Tisbury*

Dan Knapik  
Town Administrator  
*Town of Yarmouth*

Chief Kirk E. Francis, Sr.  
President  
*United South and Eastern Tribes (USET)*

Jeff Gales  
Executive Director  
*United States Lighthouse Society*

Brendan O’Neill  
Executive Director  
*Vineyard Conservation Society*

Erich Stephens  
Chief Development Officer  
*Vineyard Wind*

Cheryl Andrews-Maltais  
Chairwoman  
*Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)*
Robert B. Davis  
General Manager  
Woods Hole, Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority

Board of Directors  
Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce

Yarmouth Historical Committee  
Yarmouth Historical Commission