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Dear Lucy,

I am writing you today to show my support for the Safe Harbor Marina project in Vineyard Haven. Before I do that, I just wanted to thank you for what you are doing, as I know it's not easy and takes a lot of time and energy. We all benefit from your hard work.

I wanted to let you know my perspective on the Marina as I know it. I keep my boat there and have spent time with the people at the Marina. My brother-in-law also owns and runs a few marinas in Long Island so I have some experience seeing what is entailed in running a similar operation. From my perspective, Safe Harbor has done an incredible job updating and cleaning up the Marina since they've taken over. The facilities and grounds are much cleaner, more professional, and more functional since they've been in business in Vineyard Haven. They are always conscious of the environment, lagoon, and their neighbors.

As a boater who lives up in Chilmark and loves every part of the Vineyard, I am very cognizant of the environment and the waters in and around the island. We all need to do our best not only to maintain the natural beauty of the island but also to limit the our impact on it. I strongly believe Safe Harbor shares those values and is committed to modernizing and making needed improvements to the existing structures on their site. They are is also committed to improving ways to minimize storm runoff and protecting the local vegetation. I wish others in the area, and other parts of the Vineyard would do the same. Minimizing the number of boats sitting in the water vs stored in racks is another one of the many important changes they would like to make that would help make things better.

In general, I know people resist and don't like change. But change with the goal of making things better for everyone can help benefit even those who oppose it. I am not an expert, but I feel strongly that everyone around the lagoon and other parts of the island also need to do their part in addressing the main environmental concerns we see happening in the waters. Practicing and enforcing the best, eco-friendly regulations around septic and fertilizers for everyone that borders the lagoon will help it enormously.

Again, my family and I love the lagoon. It's a treasure. There is nothing better than being out on it and enjoying the surroundings. Once a year we have a quiet little picnic in the

lagoon, but mostly we enjoy a deliberately slow, peaceful ride through the markers while taking in the setting. The people at Safe Harbor that I know and see regularly also love the lagoon even more than my family.

I hope this helps provide perspective. I am happy to speak with you further if you have any questions.

Thanks again -

All the best,
John McGarry