

# Safe Harbor Proposal

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To: Adam Turner <turner@mvcommission.org>; Alex Elvin <elvin@mvcommission.org>;

Adam and Elvin

The following are my thoughts on the request by Safe Harbor to expand their operation. I'm a board member of the Lagoon Pond Association but I write this email as a private citizen of Oak Bluffs residing on the Lagoon.

It's troubling to me that neither Safe Harbor (nor the MV Shipyard and their past proposal) feel any responsibility financially to the clean up and/or facilitate maintenance of that clean up as "tenants" of the Lagoon.

Both parties claim they "care" about the Lagoon but stop short of using their proposed increase of human activity and therefore increased financial windfall to actually do anything about years of neglect and destruction of a once vital and viable body of water.

The commercialization of ANY part of Lagoon Pond should not only include promises of not making things worse-but to actually provide the funds and leadership to REVERSE the degradation of the body of water these entities depend on for financial gain.

But these entities do not do any of this.

Their true motivation is not that 10 boats on racks "improves the pond"-10 boats out of the pond is akin to a deck chair being thrown off the Titanic in hopes of slowing her sinking-but rather the almighty dollar.

We know this to be true because reversing the effects of years of pond destruction is not in the first sentence of any of their proposals and never will be because it simply doesn't make them money to do or say so.

In conclusion, I would ask the Commission to please recognize that apparently the best a 2 billion dollar net worth, off island company is willing to bring to the environmental and historical Lagoon Pond table is 10 boats out of slips and onto racks.

I would also ask the Commission to please address Vineyard Haven leadership about the underutilization of Vineyard Haven harbor for projects Safe Harbor (and MV Shipyard) have proposed.

Safe Harbor could be leading and/or setting a new standard for national companies to invest environmentally as well as financially in our overburdened bodies of water-unfortunately it's only about making more money and not our island resources.

...and that's the way it is.

Thank you

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