

Honorable Members of Congress:

We have been working with MARAD for several months on the Marine Highway initiative. Recently they shared with us a letter April 27, 2010 (Attached) signed by members of congress in support of the Marine Highway effort.

DJMP Engine Solutions, LLC was formed to provide best value solutions to marine vessel owners. This work includes technical and funding assistance. In that pursuit we have met with various interested parties and presented findings to government which provide a unique public sector view.

The Whitepaper, *Marine Highway Perspective from Private Sector*, (Attached) tells a compelling story of the many advantages of incorporating the Marine Highway into the Intermodal Transportation System. It also tells the story of the plight of the vessel owners (many of which are small businesses). Over 75% of the fleet of 2500 inland waterway vessels are operating with unregulated diesel engines. The cost to upgrade is high. Regulations are in place that will put many of these fleets out of business without some government assistance. As you know, the marine sector has been overlooked to date when it comes to government assisted funding for the upgrade effort. We have support from DERA and MARAD officials to increase the focus on the Marine Sector to help bring the funding in line with On-highway, Off-road Construction, and Rail efforts.

We are asking for your support with our effort to work with the Marine Sector to upgrade their fleets and to bring them into EPA compliance. We have assisted the fleet owners in submitting several federal grants including... DERA, MARAD and TIGER.

Our research shows the Marine Sector to have many advantages over other modes of transportation:

- It is the most **Cost Effective** use of funding for diesel emission improvements
- Most **Fuel Efficient** method of transport... reduces reliance on foreign oil
- Relieves on highway **Congestion** (One 15 barge tow is equivalent to 1050 semi trucks)
- Produces the fewest **Emissions** per ton mile of cargo.
- It is the **Safest** mode of transport
- Creates and maintains **Jobs**

Thank you for taking your valuable time to read this short summary. We are looking forward to your support as we move forward with this important National Program.

DJMP Engine Solutions, LLC
Operations Manager
Mike Bima
6203 Jamestown Rd
Peoria, IL 61615
C 309 264 4785
bima_mike_r@comcast.net