

Bouchard Transportation Co., Inc.

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ATLANTIC COAST • LONG ISLAND SOUND
GREAT LAKES • GULF COAST

Office of:
Morton S. Bouchard III
President / CEO

The Honorable Barney Frank
U.S. House of Representatives
2252 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

May 21, 2003

Dear Congressman Frank:

Bouchard Transportation Company, Inc. is in receipt of your letter dated May 6, 2003, regarding the recent marine casualty involving the M/V EVENING TIDE and B. No. 120 in Buzzard's Bay. I apologize for the delay in responding.

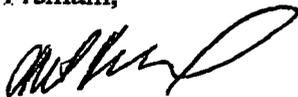
Bouchard Transportation shares your concerns for an environmentally safe operation in the transportation of petroleum products not only in Buzzard's Bay but the entire Gulf and East Coast in which Bouchard Transportation operates.

In the last fourteen years, Bouchard Transportation affiliates have invested over one hundred million dollars to comply with the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. (Phase out schedule) which was passed by the United States Congress.

Bouchard Transportation affiliates have the same goals that you do: namely, to operate only double hulls in the carriage of petroleum products. However, as you recognized when voting, to enact OPA '90, the phasing in of double hulls takes time and we are committed to the schedule of phasing out single hulls and phasing in double hulls as provided in OPA '90.

Bouchard Transportation is looking forward to working with you and your constituents on the environmentally safe transportation of petroleum products.

I remain,



Morton S. Bouchard, III
President/CEO

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