SENATOR MEGHAN E. KALLMAN

District 15

Room 310 Rhode Island State House Providence, Rhode Island 02903

> MOBILE: 401-648-9422 OFFICE: 401-276-5581

sen-kallman@rilegislature.gov

State of Rhode Island



VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Committee on Housing and

Municipal Government

SECRETARY
Committee on Rules,
Government Ethics and Oversight

Committee on Commerce

Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Friday, May 28, 2021

Dear Chairman Gerwatowski and Members of the Energy Facilities Siting Board:

I appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on Sea 3 Providence, LLC's Petition for a Declaratory Order currently pending before the Board. I urge the Board to reject the Petitioner's request for a Declaratory Order and submit the proposed alteration to a complete regulatory review. Any expansion of an existing fossil fuel facility will impair Rhode Island's efforts to address climate change and its impacts rapidly and justly. Given the massive threats of climate change and the unique vulnerabilities of the Ocean State in particular, the proposal requires—at the bare minimum—a comprehensive review process. The specifics of the project are particularly worrisome as well: the project is in a waterfront location vulnerable to climate-change related sea level rise, storm surge, and related issues, and it is also located in an area that is already overburdened with polluting facilities.

The Sea 3 Providence expansion is clearly an "alteration to a major energy facility" and as such, it requires a full application and review by the Board. Along with colleagues and constituents throughout the state, I urge the EFSB to do the following:

- Extend the public comment period at least another 2 months
- Have the full review include cumulative health and safety impacts

Senator Meghan E Kallman

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Sincerely.