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FISHERMEN'S CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

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The FISHERMEN'S CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION (FCA) is a tri-state 501 (c) 3 organization with 1000 members, with over 600 NYS members. Our mission is to protect the fishery, promote access and protect and enhance habitat in the marine environment. I am also President of the Staten Island Chapter. In the marine environment around NYC and Long Island have presented several energy related proposals on the board. Some proposals are renewable and some fossil fuels. 1st I noticed that there are no fishing groups as stakeholders. The reason I bring this up, as a fishing organization we are worried about impacting the habitat, the fish and reducing our access to productive fishing areas. We feel that there should be a presence of recreational fishing organizations that can state the pros and cons for a particular proposal and make sure that all the proper studies are performed. Especially, fishing organizations that fish both locally and offshore. We are very aware that we need to cut our dependence on foreign fossil fuel and use renewable energy sources wherever possible and feasible. We would like to participate as a stakeholder.