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January 20, 2011

Mr. Isaac Byrd, Assistant Attorney General
State of Georgia
Department Of Law
40 Capital Square, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-1300

Mr. Spud Woodward, Director
Coastal Resources Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
One Conservation Way
Brunswick, Georgia 31520

RE: Letters of Permission under the Shore Protection Act

Dear Messrs. Byrd and Woodward:

I am writing to inform you of the serious concerns that many of my current and former clients have concerning the use of Letters of Permission ("LOPs") issued, ostensibly, pursuant to the Shore Protection Act (O.C.G.A. § 125-230, *et seq.*). In lieu of permits, LOPs have been issued to authorize activities which have the potential to impact coastal sand dunes, beaches, sandbars, shoals and other fragile areas within the jurisdiction of the Act.

Many individuals and groups have expressed their concerns regarding the unchecked use of LOPs by the Coastal Resources Division ("CRD"). The process by which a LOP is issued is not subject to standard public participation requirements. Consequently, the public is deprived of its right to be notified of and comment on proposed activities which can and have affected Georgia's unique and irreplaceable natural resources. In effect, LOPs are used to circumvent the permit process, thereby eliminating public review of activities which impact delicate areas held in public trust.

It is my understanding that CRD received a letter from the Southern Environmental Law Center ("SELC"), dated December 16, which expressed similar concerns and said letter was

forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for review and action (see attached). This communication is intended, in part, to notify you that my clients and I share SELC's unease. Additionally, I am troubled that both CRD and the Attorney General's Office have yet to respond - in any way - to SELC's correspondence and invitation to discuss this critical issue. Does the Attorney General's Office intend to respond to the concerns identified by SELC? Should we expect a response from CRD? If so, when can SELC and, by extension, the greater environmental community expect such responses?

I would also like to make you aware that, given the gravity of the actions historically taken by CRD through the use of LOPs, my clients have authorized me to proceed accordingly should the concerns expressed by the general public not be immediately addressed. I look forward to your timely response.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald D.J. Stack". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

Donald D.J. Stack

cc: William Sapp