



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
& ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
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U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
One Blackburn Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930

Attn: Brian Hooker

Re: Protocol for Onboard Screening and Dockside Testing for PSP Toxins in Molluscan Shellfish in Federally Closed Waters, and application by Truex Enterprises and Sea Watch International for a harvest permit.

Dear Mr. Hooker:

We have reviewed the above-referenced Protocol and procedures to assure that clams and quahogs harvested under the Protocol meet public health protection standards.

The Protocol does meet public health protection standards. We will allow clams and quahogs harvested in accordance with the both the Protocol and harvesting permits issued pursuant to the Protocol to be shipped into Delaware for processing. Clams would be landed in New Jersey, and transported to Delaware in sealed trucks.

We support the issuance of a harvest permit to Truex Enterprises and Sea Watch International to implement a pilot program and process the clams in a plant in Milford, Delaware. The plant is under continuous inspection by our Office, as well as regular joint audits by our Office and FDA, and is in good standing with both our Office and FDA .

Should you have any questions, please contact me at John.Pingree@state.de.us or via 302-381-9507.

Regards,

Jack Pingree, Manager
Shellfish and Recreational Water Branch

Copies: P. DiStefano, FDA; M. Hickey, Mass; C. Alexander, NJ; E. Feerst, NJ; Wallace and Associates

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