



Islands Trust

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May 31, 2010

File Number: TAS-MPA-3

Phil Rouget  
Marine Biologist  
Golder & Associates  
2640 Douglas St  
Victoria BC V8T 4M1

Dear Mr. Rouget:

**Re: Your April 1, 2010 Notice of Project regarding proposed vessel wave modelling and performance trial in Plumper Sound BC sent to "North and South Pender Islands Trust"**

I am writing on behalf of the Islands Trust Council and residents of the Plumper Sound area to relay their concerns about the proposed vessel testing project.

On April 27th, 2010 the Executive Committee of Trust Council unanimously approved the following motion:

*It was Moved and Seconded that the Executive Committee request staff to prepare a letter for the Chair's signature to Golder Associates Ltd. relaying local concerns regarding the trial in Plumper Sound with copies to Transport Canada, Canadian Coast Guard and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.*

The Islands Trust Council has a provincially legislated mandate to protect the environment of the Islands Trust Area, in co-operation with the government of British Columbia.

The Islands Trust Policy Statement, which received ministerial approval, includes a policy encouraging government agencies to place priority on the side of protection for Trust Area ecosystems when judgment must be exercised. The Policy Statement also states that it is Trust Council's policy that the intensity of noise and lighting in and through the Trust Area should be compatible with community character.

There is general concern from both residents and elected officials that this project is not an appropriate activity for this sensitive region. There may be unanticipated risks to the diverse marine life in Plumper Sound and noise from the vessel may disturb both the people and wildlife of the region.

For these reasons, the Islands Trust hopes the regulatory agencies of the government of Canada carefully consider the appropriateness of such a project in an area that has been identified for protection by provincial legislation.

Yours sincerely,

Sheila Malcolmson  
Chair, Islands Trust Council

pc: Bob Gowe, Manager, Navigable Waters, Transport Canada  
Jaspreet Rehal, Acting Director, Maritime Services, Canadian Coast Guard  
Scott Northrup, Habitat Management Biologist, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Islands Trust Web-site

Preserving **Island** communities, culture and environment

Bowen Denman Hornby Gabriola Galiano Gambier Lasqueti Mayne North Pender Salt Spring Saturna South Pender Thetis