



Chattanooga  
Convention &  
Visitors Bureau

July 16, 2013

Lieutenant Colonel James DeLapp  
United States Army Corps of Engineers  
Nashville District  
110 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Nashville, TN 37203-3863

Ms. Tammy R. Turley  
Chief of Regulatory Branch  
United States Army Corps of Engineers  
Nashville District  
3701 Bell Road  
Nashville, TN 37214

Dear Lieutenant Colonel DeLapp & Chief Turley:

I'm sending you this letter as a follow-up to the previous letter sent by Chattanooga Mayor Andy Berke dated July 9, 2013.

On behalf of the Chattanooga Area Convention & Visitors Bureau, we respectfully request that you revoke Mr. Allen Casey's permit and force him to remove his disgraceful barge located downtown on the Tennessee River in Chattanooga, TN.

This barge has been an eyesore for nearly four years. It sits in the center of our front porch, the center of one of our most valuable assets – the downtown riverfront. This community spent more than \$120 million revitalizing this area, making it a pristine playground for our locals as well as our visitors. This barge detracts from the beauty of this well-planned development.

Chattanooga has a reputation for being such a clean, friendly, vibrant and active town. Having this unsightly barge viewable by more than 3,000,000 tourists puts a horrible stain on our reputation. Collectively, city organizations can't continue to spend millions of dollars annually to promote a revitalized riverfront when we have to deal with the embarrassing view of this dilapidated barge.

As you may know, the vessel was partially submerged in June of 2012 and TVA had to lower the water levels for the fourth time in order for Mr. Casey to make repairs. Although I'm not an expert on watercraft, two things come to mind: (1) something submerged in water would become a public health disaster, and (2) the structural integrity of the barge would be compromised.

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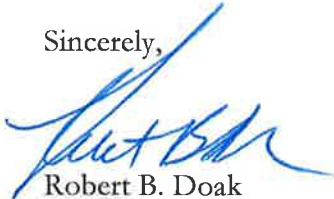
I met with Mr. Casey and he told me he would need to raise \$100,000,000 and acquire additional land in order for this project to move forward.

For your information, I have attached 31 documents dating back to 1996 where Mr. Casey has proposed various projects on the North Shore/Manufacturers Road area (where the barge currently sits). They describe either the deplorable condition of the barge or unfulfilled promises made by Mr. Casey.

In summary, we respectfully request that you revoke Mr. Casey's permit for the barge and force him to remove this vessel as soon as possible from our downtown riverfront.

Thank you for your time in listening to our concerns. We appreciate everything that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers does to manage the Tennessee River.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert B. Doak".

Robert B. Doak  
President & CEO

cc: The Honorable Andy Berke, Mayor, City of Chattanooga  
Ron Harr, CEO, Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce  
Kim White, CEO, River City Company