



WILTSHIRE
& GRANNIS LLP

1200 18TH STREET, N.W., STE. 1200
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036-2516
U.S.A.

TEL +1 202 730 1337
FAX +1 202 730 1301
WWW.WILTSHIREGRANNIS.COM

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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**BY FEDERAL EXPRESS AND
ELECTRONIC FILING**

Ms. Debra Malek
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
U.S. Department of Commerce/NOAA
1305 East-West Highway, (N/NMS2), 11th Floor
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

*Re: Office of National Marine Sanctuaries Interim Policy and Permit Guidance for
Submarine Cable Projects, Docket ID NOAA-NOS-2009-0104*

Dear Ms. Malek:

Enclosed please find the comments of the North American Submarine Cable Association (“NASCA”) on NOAA’s Interim Policy and Permit Guidance for Submarine Cable Projects in the above-referenced proceeding. NASCA respectfully requests that NOAA accept, for good cause shown, these late-filed comments. NASCA is a membership organization that requires the affirmative votes of a majority of its members in order to file comments in a regulatory proceeding or rulemaking, such as the above-referenced docket. Due the filing deadline immediately preceding a holiday weekend, NASCA was unable to confirm the support of a majority of its members for this filing until after the holiday weekend. NASCA believes that no interested party will be prejudiced in any way by NOAA’s acceptance and consideration of these late-filed comments.

Should you require additional information, please contact me by telephone at +1 202 730 1337 or by e-mail at kbressie@wiltshiregrannis.com.

Yours sincerely,

Kent D. Bressie
Counsel for
North American Submarine Cable Association

Enclosure