



Oregon Museum of  
Science and Industry  
1945 SE Water Avenue  
Portland Oregon 97214  
503 797 4000

oms.edu

December 3, 2014

Admiral Paul Zukunft, Commandant  
US Coast Guard Headquarters  
2100 2<sup>nd</sup> St. SW STOP 7000  
Washington, DC 20593-7000

Dear Admiral Zukunft:

I am writing to urge you to keep the Coast Guard helicopter facility open in Newport, Oregon. The rescue helicopter is of crucial importance to the coastal community and to all who visit there. Moving the facility more than an hour's flight time away to North Bend will delay response time and have deadly consequences in the frigid waters of the Pacific.

The Oregon Museum of Science and Industry operates residential marine science camps at the Oregon Coast where thousands of children learn about the ocean ecosystem and the many industries that fuel the ocean-based economy. We are building a new facility adjacent to the Port of Newport, the Coastal Discovery Center, that will serve more than 100,000 students over the next 20 years. Children from across the Northwest will study tide pools along the shoreline and go out on marine excursions. We rely on rich collaborations with the fishing community, marine tour operators, and numerous state and federal agencies and university researchers that operate research vessels. We all depend on Coast Guard emergency support. The recent helicopter rescue of the crew of a fishing boat in high seas serves as a vivid example of the need.

On behalf of the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry and the thousands of families we serve, I urge you to continue to operate the rescue helicopter out of Newport.

Sincerely,

Nancy Stueber  
President and CEO

Cc: Newport Fishermen's Wives ✓  
Mr. Kevin Greenwood

**Christi A Clark**  
**PO Box 884**  
**4455 Silverton Avenue**  
**Neskowin, OR 97149**  
**360 621 9104**  
**cclark@oregoncoast.com**

Admiral Paul Zukunft  
Commandant US Coast Guard Headquarters  
2100 2<sup>nd</sup> St SW STOP 700  
Washington, DC, 20593-7000

November 20, 2014

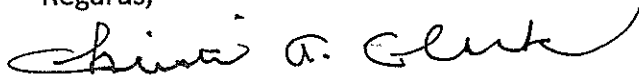
Dear Admiral Zukunft,

I hope you will keep the US Coast Guard Life Saving Helicopter Facility in Newport, Oregon. For the safety of those of us who live and work on the Central Oregon Coast the Helicopter Facility in Newport is literally life saving. It is a matter of minutes as to whether or not the rescue mission is successful.

Most of us who live here have witnessed life saving rescues by the US Coast Guard. We thank you for that gift of life.

Thank you for your consideration and efforts to maintain the Newport US Coast Guard Life Saving Helicopter Facility.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christi A. Clark".

Christi A Clark

Cc. Newport Fisherman's Wives Association  
PO Box 971  
Newport, OR 97365

Peyton and Connie Owston  
P.O. Box 1006  
47325 Beach Crest Dr.  
Neskowin, OR 97149-1006

November 28, 2014

Adm Paul Zukunft  
Commandant (CG-00)  
US Coast Guard Headquarters  
2100 2nd St. SW STOP 7000  
Washington DC 20593-7000

Re: Scheduled Closure of Coast Guard Air Station in Newport, Oregon

Dear Admiral Zukunft:

We are quite concerned about the decision to remove helicopter service from Newport, Oregon. As full-time residents on the central coast of Oregon for past 18 years, we are well aware of the valuable service performed by the US Coast Guard and, on several occasions, have personally witnessed Coast Guard helicopters in search and rescue operations. In another instance, a long-time friend was lifted to safety from a personal fishing boat by a Newport-based chopper.

Three important factors come to mind:

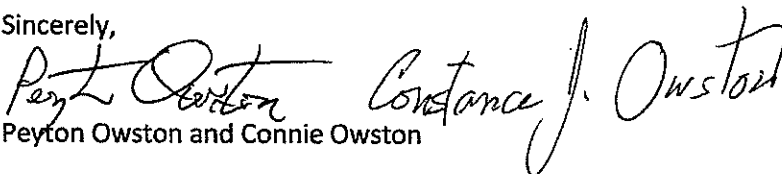
(1) In addition to the many commercial fishermen who are based in Newport, the central coast is seeing an ever-increasing number of visitors who use the beaches, take advantage of the fishing and whale-watching opportunities, and come to storm-watch in the winters—and many of these visitors are quite unfamiliar with the potential dangers posed by the rough, cold waters off our shore;

(2) the year-round cold temperature of the ocean waters off our coast makes hypothermia a dangerous, fast-acting threat—because of this, an hour longer for a rescue at sea is more apt to become the retrieval of one or more bodies; and

(3) the routine helicopter patrols along our shore not only provide reassurance of help close-at-hand, we believe it is valuable PR for the Coast Guard, the US Military, and the Federal Government as a whole.

We urge you to retain the Newport-based helicopter service.

Sincerely,

  
Peyton Owston and Connie Owston

✓ cc: Newport Fishermen's Wives Association

To: Admiral Paul Zunkuft

11-21-2014

Commandant, USCG Headquarters

2100 2<sup>nd</sup> St. S.W., Stop 700

Washington, D.C. 20593-7000

Dear Sir,

First of all let me begin by stating how much I respect the U.S.C.G.

Among all their "other duties" your command save hundreds of lives off the Oregon coast every year. All of us who live here appreciate them. Their presence and efforts here would be hard to quantify. For the most part they are great young people doing a great job.....

It is my understanding you plan to remove the "Air Station" (helicopter) from the Newport Oregon Station. I would most whole heartedly ask you to reconsider that decision.

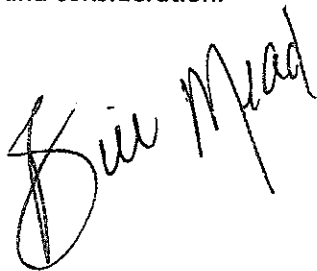
Your helo is indispensable to the Central Oregon Coast. Consider the fact that Newport is one of the busiest fishing ports on entire west coast, but is without a doubt the busiest Sport Fishing port in Oregon. Without the Air Station in Newport the nearest helicopter would be dispatched out of North Bend, Oregon. The extra time involved (20 – 30 minutes ?) for that flight to occur would convert many missions from "Rescue" to "Recovery". I don't believe that is a viable option for anyone. Please keep in mind these coastal waters are very cold. Surviving those extra 20 minutes or so isn't going to happen very often.

I do understand budgetary issues have to be addressed these days. However in the overall scheme of things, I can't imagine any other scenario where the U.S.C.G. and the people of the region get more bang for their buck than the helicopter servicing the Newport / Central Oregon Coast area. It is money very well spent. You should be proud of it's service.....all of us locals are.

Please reconsider your action to close the Air Station in Newport.

Thank You for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,  
Bill Mead  
Wells Plastic, Inc.  
PO Box 309  
Florence, OR. 97439

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Mead". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.