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**House Bill 886 – SUPPORT**

House Bill 886 – Environment – CAD Task Force  
House Committee on Environment and Transportation  
February 23, 2024

My name is Paige Pendzick. I live in the waterfront community of Pine Grove Village on Rock Creek in Northern Anne Arundel County. My husband and I moved to Maryland from Pennsylvania in 2017 so we could live along the jewel of Maryland – the Chesapeake Bay waterways. We enjoy being able to swim, play, and kayak in the waters of Rock Creek. I'd hate to see the waterways we moved over 250 miles to enjoy get contaminated without having the proper research completed.

I understand that the Confined Aquatic Disposal (CAD) program is in place in many harbors, including Boston and Newark Bay.<sup>1</sup> My concern is most people do not live, fish, and swim in harbors, but the proposed site planned for the Southern side of the outer Patapsco River just 1 mile off Stoney Creek and Rock Creek is where many of the residents of the peninsula swim, fish, and play. To move forward with the CAD without understanding the impact that the potentially contaminated soil could have on so many people would be irresponsible and could be dangerous.

Furthermore, we as one of the states in the Chesapeake Bay, should be concerned about how the proposed CAD can and will impact the health of the Bay as a whole. The 2022 State of the Bay score remained unchanged from 2020 at 32, or a D+. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation CEO states that “states are not on track to reduce pollution fast enough to improve and sustain water quality over the long term”<sup>2</sup> and yet we are looking to move forward with depositing dredged material that cannot be used for offsite fill use due to its toxicity, exposure, and properties. The DMMP needs to be addressing how the chosen site for the CAD will affect each of the health index indicators that we use to judge the overall health of our precious resource.

**It is important that the task force proposed in House Bill 886 is moved into legislation. It's important the task force has independent science experts, impacted citizens, and watermen in its membership. It's also important that the task force has meaningful bidirectional interactions with impacted communities in North Anne Arundel County and with our legislative representatives.**

Sincerely,

*Paige Pendzick*

Pine Grove Village Waterfront Community

<sup>1</sup> [https://maryland-dmmp.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/CAD\\_FACT\\_SHEET\\_11\\_23.pdf](https://maryland-dmmp.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/CAD_FACT_SHEET_11_23.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://maryland-dmmp.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/DMMP\\_Mid\\_Year\\_Report\\_2023\\_Final.pdf](https://maryland-dmmp.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/DMMP_Mid_Year_Report_2023_Final.pdf)