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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2109**  
July 30, 1996

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The Honorable Tom Beville  
2302 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Tom:

I am following up on our recent conversation on the floor regarding the Boston Harbor Navigation Improvement Project. As you proceed to conference on the FY97 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, I respectfully request that you provide \$1.5 in funding for this project.

The project is a result of a planning process that has created an environmentally sound and cost-effective method for disposing of contaminated dredged material. The process has won the endorsement of local environmental groups, federal and state regulatory authorities, as well as Members of the Massachusetts State legislature and Congressional Delegation. This project has been recognized as a solution to the problem associated with ocean disposal and may serve as a model for future dredging projects.

The Port of Boston plays a key role for all of New England by serving as a catalyst for the region. Operations at the port are responsible for more than 9,000 maritime related jobs and contribute hundreds of millions of dollars annually to the economy. In order to remain competitive, we must deepen the channels and berths.

Massport expects the cost of the project to total \$73.2 million. Unlike other localities with requests before your subcommittee, Massport has raised the entire non-federal share and obtained commitments from the state and private berth owners. Federal funding is critical to help ensure that the projects costs do not increase and environmental assessments do not become dated. Your assistance with this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

**JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY**  
Member of Congress

JJM:ewh