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September 12, 2024

The Honorable Michael L. Connor
Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works
108 Army Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20310

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

I write to request an update on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) evaluation of damage to the breakwater at Point Judith, resulting from the December 2023 and January 2024 storms that struck Rhode Island.

The Point Judith breakwater, constructed and owned by the USACE, forms a harbor of refuge that helps shelter the local fishing fleet, recreational vessels, and the surrounding area from the open ocean. I have long worked with the USACE to secure funding to protect the breakwater's structural integrity. This includes \$120,000 in FY03 for a survey to determine necessary repairs; \$285,000 in FY10 for the development of a restoration plan; and approximately \$8.8 million for repairs to the arms of the breakwater and surrounding areas, which were completed in 2017.

I appreciate the USACE's efforts to monitor the condition of the breakwater, including the survey it conducted following last winter's storms, which caused widespread damage and severe flooding across the state. I urge the USACE to conduct a prompt evaluation of its survey data to determine next steps for structural repairs.

Thank you for your continued work in Rhode Island. I look forward to your response regarding this important issue.

Sincerely,



Jack Reed
United States Senator