



January 25, 2010

Mayor
Bill Saffo

Mayor Pro-Tem
Earl Sheridan, Ph.D.

Council Members
Kevin O'Grady
Laura W. Padgett
Charlie H. Rivenbark, Jr.
Ronald W. Sparks, PE
Kristi A. Tomey

The Honorable Beverly Perdue
Governor of the State of North Carolina
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699

Re: Targeted Employment Area Designation

Dear Governor Perdue:

It is with great pleasure that I provide this endorsement and recommendation of the Northern Riverfront Marina and Hotel project in Wilmington North Carolina. The owners of this project have gone to great lengths and costs to provide all the necessary documentation verifying their request for a Targeted Employment Area designation.

The owners of this project have already successfully recorded a Brownfields Agreement with the State, obtained all federal, state and local marina permits, entered into a development agreement with the City of Wilmington and completed the initial phases of development. They now are moving forward with specific portions of the project construction. We encourage you to assist them by certifying the areas requested as Targeted Employment Areas. This designation, will allow this project and others to maximize investment potential for various projects and thereby create numerous jobs for our community and the State. The TEA designation is utilized by many other states to encourage utilization of the EB-5 immigration program. We want North Carolina to be competitive in attracting new jobs; this is one way to advance that goal.

As you are aware, the City of Wilmington has invested many dollars in the construction and development of our new 105,000 square foot Convention Center. The Convention Center is located in the northern portion of historic downtown Wilmington. The adjacent property owners, Riverfront Holdings II, LLC, have a dynamic and wonderful project that will further enhance the northern portion of our great city.

The jobs created by this development through the EB-5 program will benefit all the citizens of Wilmington, New Hanover County and the Great State of North Carolina.

Sincerely,

Bill Saffo
Mayor

cc: Wilmington City Council
Wilmington City Manager
Riverfront Holdings II, LLC



Mayor and City Council

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