



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT
100 PENN SQUARE EAST
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107-3390

OCT 17 2017

Ms. Pat Voveris, Mayor
Town of South Bethany
Office of the Mayor
402 Evergreen Road
South Bethany, DE 19930

Mr. Gene Langan, Mayor
Town of Fenwick Island
Office of the Mayor
800 Coastal Highway
Fenwick Island, DE 19944

Mr. Jack Gordon, Mayor
Town of Bethany Beach, DE
Office of the Mayor
214 Garfield Pkwy.
Bethany Beach, DE 19930

Dear Mayors:

This is in reference to your letter dated October 11, 2017 regarding the Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Projects at Bethany Beach, South Bethany Beach and Fenwick Island. Specifically your letter, also signed by the Mayors of Bethany Beach and Fenwick Island, concerned dune grass and dune fencing installation on the above mentioned projects.

As you know, the USACE Philadelphia District successfully awarded a contract to Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company (GLDD) on September 27, 2017. Based on preliminary coordination with GLDD regarding scheduling the start of construction, it appears dredging and beachfill operations will not begin until the Spring of 2018. Even with this start, it is expected that GLDD will complete the work within the 240 day period of performance. This 240 day period of performance will begin once the Notice to Proceed (NTP) is issued which is expected by the end of October 2017.

Regarding your concerns, the dune fence shall be installed after the completion of beachfill operations. It can be installed after each portion of the project is completed, but we do not believe this will be necessary. No delays are expected for the dune fence installation. We believe this fencing will be installed prior to June of 2018.

The dune grass can be planted between October and March. Planting the dune grass between April and September is not recommended, because the dune grass will most likely not survive. The dune grass portion of the contract was extended through April 2019, but we plan to have the grasses planted prior to that date. If construction is not completed until early Summer of 2018, the USACE Philadelphia District would ask the contractor to plant the dune grass in October of 2018, which is the earliest month within the planting season. It is correct that the dune grass option of the contract was extended through April 2019, but we plan to have the grasses planted prior to that date.

We appreciate your concerns about the dune grass and fencing installation for these projects. As our partners, along with the Delaware Department of Environmental Control, your willingness to volunteer services in support of these projects has been and remains critical for long-term success. As this project continues, we will continue to work with DNREC and your communities for a successful completion of the project.

If additional information is required, please contact Mr. Michael Hart, Project Manager, at (215) 656-6513.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan C. Barcomb". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nathan" being more prominent.

Nathan C. Barcomb, PE
Deputy District Engineer,
Programs & Project Management

Cc:

The Honorable Tom Carper
Mr. Shawn M. Garvin, Secretary, DNREC
Mr. Tony Pratt, DNREC