

DELAWARE BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

AFL-CIO

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Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 74
Boilermakers Local 193
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Glaziers Local 252
Electricians Local 313
Iron Workers Local 451
Operating Engineers Local 542
Cement Masons Local 592
Carpenters Local 626
Sprinkler Fitters Local 669
Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 782
Floorlayers Local 1823
Millwrights Local 1906
Carpenters Local 2012

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
Vice President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20501

Dear Mr. Vice President,


Today I write to you on behalf of the 24 affiliated local construction unions of the Building & Construction Trades Council of Delaware. I hope this letter finds you and your family in good health and in good spirits.

We are asking for your help regarding the deepening of the Delaware River channel from 40 ft to 45 ft. This endeavor, once it is complete, will enhance the competitiveness of the Port of Wilmington and will create jobs and revenue for Delawareans, the State of Delaware and the US Treasury. The overall increase in cargo will stimulate growth in both Wilmington and Philadelphia. I think it's significant to mention that the lowest bridge in elevation spanning the Delaware River is the Commodore Barry, so the conclusion can be drawn that many ships will not be able to dock in Philadelphia, but right here in our backyard, Wilmington.

Additionally, deepening the channel just makes sense. It would help the Port of Wilmington maintain its current customers and enable the Port to attract more clients, thus creating an influx of private money to invest in construction. I don't have to tell you that the construction industry is among the hardest hit both here in Delaware and nationally.

I want to thank you for all your support in the past and I look forward to your response.

Fraternally,



Harry A. Gravelle, President

