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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

27TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

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Colonel Alan M. Dodd
Commander and District Engineer
Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Miami Permits Section
9900 SW 107th Avenue, Suite 203
Miami, Florida 33176

Dear Colonel Dodd:

It is my understanding that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is currently considering permit application SAJ-2014-01034 (SP-AG) which involves plans to house the Miami International Boat Show at the Miami Marine Stadium, the Miami Marine Stadium Basin, and surrounding lands on Virginia Key. As you know, the Miami International Boat Show is a world-renowned event that serves to enrich South Florida's economy each year. Last year, a record 96,000 people attended the Boat Show. Because of the potential impacts this large event may place on local residents near this new location, I request that USACE hold a public hearing regarding this permit application.

Local residents and elected officials have expressed concerns over potential environmental impacts that may occur from hosting the Boat Show near sensitive ecological areas. Additionally, according to the Village of Key Biscayne, local residents can anticipate significant impacts to traffic intensity and patterns along the Rickenbacker Causeway during site construction, event preparation and demolition, and during the week of the event itself. **As a result of these concerns, on May 8, 2015, the Village of Key Biscayne formally requested that USACE schedule a public hearing on the permit application for this project.**

The issues raised by the Village of Key Biscayne regarding this permit application should warrant a public hearing. It is important that this process is conducted in an open and fair way. Regardless of the final decision USACE makes with regard to this permit application, the decision will be greatly served by a public hearing that ensures local stakeholders receive adequate opportunities to share their support or concern. Once again, in accordance with all rules and regulations, **I request that USACE hold a public hearing regarding permit application SAJ-2014-01034 (SP-AG).**

Sincerely,

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress