



# City of Salem, Massachusetts

Office of the City Council

City Hall

COUNCILLORS-AT-LARGE

2000

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JOSEPH A. O'KEEFE, SR.

November 2, 2000

Mr. Jim Hall, Chairman  
National Transportation Safety Board  
WASHINGTON DC 20594

RE: National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)  
Safety Recommendation M-00-5  
February 18, 2000

Dear Chairman Hall:

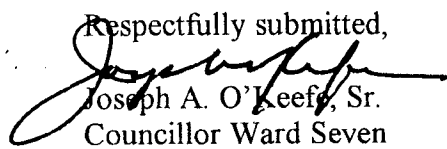
I am writing to the NTSB for clarification of the above captioned Safety recommendation.

I received a copy of the above captioned Safety recommendation on February 23, 2000 and promptly communicated with the company that provides seasonal amphibious passenger vessel service in this city i.e. Moby Duck Tours (Public Access Tours), 75 Essex Street, Gloucester MA 01930, Jim Dominick, President. This company was identified in M-00-5 as a company using amphibious passenger vessels. Attached is a copy of my March 28, 2000 letter to Mr. Dominick.

In a prompt reply to me dated April 7, 2000 Mr. Dominick appended a copy of a letter from Mr. Gerald E. Gilligan, Naval Architect, John W. Gilbert Associates, Inc. Naval Architects & Marine Engineers, 199 State Street, BOSTON MA 02109 which stated "the NTSB hastily concluded that the amphibious vessels were operating at a lower level of safety than other small passenger vessels, based on a mistaken belief that all U.S. passenger vessels had positive flotation or met a one-compartment standard of subdivision", further along in this communication Mr. Gilligan stated "We would advise that operators of LARCs not undertake installation of watertight bulkheads or positive flotation until engineering studies are completed showing that it is feasible to provide upright, stable flotation characteristics after flooding". I have attached Mr. Gilligan's letter and a copy of a letter from Mr. Dominick dated April 7, 2000 indicating Mr. Gilligan's letter was his formal response to the NTSB pursuant to M-00-5.

The Salem City Council Committee on Ordinances, Licenses and Legal Affairs has before it an application from Moby Duck Tours (Public Access Tours) to operate in the City of Salem for calendar year 2001. As a member of this committee I do not believe we should act on this application until we have clarification and guidance from the NTSB on M-00-5.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph A. O'Keefe, Sr.  
Councillor Ward Seven  
City Hall  
93 Washington Street  
SALEM MA 01970

P/c Mr. Jim Dominick, Moby Duck Tours  
Sgt Peter Gifford, Acting Salem Harbor Master  
City Solicitor John D. Keenan  
Councillors Hayes, Driscoll, Furey and O'Leary



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NOT. 7222A  
City of Salem, Massachusetts

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November 3, 2000

Mr. Jim Hall, Chairman  
National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)  
WASHINGTON DC 20594

Re: National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)  
Safety Recommendation M-00-5  
February 18, 2000

Moby Duck Tours  
Public Access Tours, Inc.  
75 Essex Street  
GLOUCESTER MA 01930

Dear Chairman Hall:

In a communication to you dated November 2, 2000 I neglected to attach documents I obtained from the web site, [www.mobyduck.com/](http://www.mobyduck.com/), which should have been included in this letter.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph A. O'Keefe, Sr.  
Councillor Ward Seven  
City Hall  
93 Washington Street  
SALEM MA 01970