



DAVID A. PATERSON
New York



JON S. CORZINE
New Jersey

May 4, 2009

The Honorable Timothy M. Kaine
Governor, State of Virginia
Patrick Henry Building – 3rd Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Governor Kaine:

The coastal and offshore ecosystems of the Mid-Atlantic Ocean face a new generation of challenges and opportunities that compel us to commit to greater collaboration across our states. Even amidst the crises in our state and national economies, we must act now on behalf of these invaluable resources to secure the present and provide what future generations need.

While we are individually responsible for the ocean resources within our state borders, the development of a regional, ecosystem-based approach will help address the complex and interconnected nature of our shared challenges. Working together in a spirit of shared leadership, we can foster a more cooperative and constructive relationship among our states, improve the health of our ocean resources, and leverage greater federal investment and action on our priorities.

It is, therefore, our great pleasure to confirm the date of June 4, 2009, for the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Summit to be held in New York City. The Summit will include a signing ceremony during which we, the five Governors of the Mid-Atlantic States, will formally commit to collaborating more closely on regional ocean issues. The Summit also will provide an opportunity for appropriate personnel from each of our states to discuss opportunities for moving forward.

We sincerely hope that you will be able to join us in person for this historic event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David A. Paterson".

David A. Paterson
Governor of New York

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jon S. Corzine".

Jon S. Corzine
Governor of New Jersey