

Commanding Officer U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office

100 MacArthur Causway Room 201 Miami, FL 33139 Phone: (305) 535-8705 Fax: (305) 535-8742

16711 June 3, 2004

Mr. Jacques des Aulniers Water Management Technologies c/o Florida Export Finance Corporation 10400 NW 33<sup>rd</sup> St, Ste 200 Miami, FL 33172

Dear Mr. des Aulniers:

I am writing to commend the services provided thus far along the Miami River from the Scavenger 2000 vessel. The United States Coast Guard is partially responsible for ensuring the Miami River's designated Federal Navigable Channel is clear of any hazards to navigation. It is my understanding that in one year of service, the Scavenger 2000 removed over 750 hazards to navigation from the river, including but not limited to logs, welding cylinders, etc. The removal of these hazards to navigation, which appear on a regular basis, have been critical to maintaining the Miami River's safe Federal Navigable Channel for vessels to transit.

Furthermore, the U.S. Coast Guard has a leadership role in providing Homeland Security in the Port of the Miami-River, free from terrorism and illegal contraband. The Scavenger 2000 Captain uses a cellular camera to take pictures of any suspicious activity, and the pictures are emailed real time to the U.S. Coast Guard. This service provides additional necessary surveillance of the Miami River area, which has benefited the U.S. Coast Guard's efforts in that regard.

I hope the Scavenger 2000 contract is renewed, so that we may continue to work in partnership on maintaining a safe, secure, and navigable Miami River.

Sincerely,

J. A. WATSON, IV