**SAN FRANCISCO BAR PILOTS**
Pier 9 East End
San Francisco, CA 94111

June 17, 2026

Executive Director Larry Goldzband
San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)
375 Beale Street, Suite 510
San Francisco, CA 94105

*VIA EMAIL*

**Re: Gashouse Cove Fuel Dock — Critical Infrastructure for San Francisco Bar Pilots**

Dear Executive Director Goldzband:

The San Francisco Bar Pilots (SFBP) respectfully express serious concern regarding the proposed closure of the Gashouse Cove fuel dock as part of the SF Marina Improvement and Remediation Project. This facility is not an amenity—it is essential to SFBP's ability to provide the statutorily mandated pilotage services that ensure safe navigation on San Francisco Bay. We urge BCDC to reject the current plan unless the fuel dock and associated touch-and-go capabilities remain operational throughout remediation.

**Fueling Operations: Essential, Not Optional**

SFBP's pilot vessel, *PV Golden Gate*, operates 24/7/365 to meet California's statutory pilotage requirements and support regional maritime commerce. Reliable, centrally located fueling is mission critical. Gashouse Cove is one of our primary fueling sites and this dependable facility is crucial to support our operational tempo.

Alternatives are not viable. Hyde Street Pier is unreliable and has not been able to function as sole fuel source. Clipper Yacht Harbor cannot accommodate a vessel of our size, and East Bay options are too distant, introducing delays that could compromise timely pilot transfers. As fueling infrastructure in the Bay Area continues to contract, Gashouse Cove's reliability and location are increasingly irreplaceable.

Closing the dock—even temporarily—would force SFBP into inefficient and less reliable arrangements that are incompatible with our obligation to provide continuous service. We are not aware of any equivalent substitute.

The dock also serves as a critical "touch-and-go" facility for SFBP and emergency responders. Its proximity to San Francisco is essential for rapid response, including medical emergencies or rescues near Crissy Field.

**Request for BCDC Action**

Marina remediation and ongoing maritime operations can safely coexist using established measures such as containment systems, turbidity barriers, and phased construction. The fuel dock has operated without issue for nearly four decades and is located approximately 167 meters from the remediation area—demonstrating that concurrent use is feasible.

Accordingly, SFBP requests that BCDC reject the project as currently proposed and require that the fuel and touch-and-go docks remain operational during remediation. Alternatively, BCDC should ensure that equivalent, centrally located infrastructure is maintained.

Pilot vessel operations—and the safety of San Francisco Bay—depend on it.

Respectfully submitted,

John Carlier
John Carlier (Jun 16, 2026 19:21:19 PDT)

Capt. John Carlier
President

Cc:

Daniel Lurie, Mayor, San Francisco
Sarah Madland, Director, SF Parks and Recreation Dept.
Kathleen Anderson, President, SF Recreation and Park Commission
Gail Gilman, President, SF Port Commission
Eileen White, Executive Officer SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
Allen Garfinkle, Executive Director CA Board of Pilot Commissioners

# Gas House Cove Letter

Final Audit Report 2026-06-17

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