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Dear Mr. Minard,

Hurricane Sandy has devastated a number of cottage homes on Hen Island in Rye. One home on the North Island was completely destroyed and many others sustained heavy structural damage. The North Island also lost five docks and Larry Krutzner and I lost large sections of our sea walls and patio's. We recently removed two 19 foot boats with engines that were smashed into pieces in front of our cottages and another 23 foot overturned boat still awaits removal by Sea Tow due to its length and weight.

We also removed a full sized commercial ice storage machine which came across Milton Harbor east to west from American Yacht Club along with apparently half of the wood torn from cabana's and fencing from The Shenorock Shore Club. In the days after the storm - rainwater storage tanks, platforms, dock sections and other debris from Hen Island residences were retrieved from the lawns, patios and pools of waterfront homes in the Greenhaven section of Rye which is west of Hen Island.

Given the related public safety issues with this storm, I have a few questions for the Kuder Island Colony Board of Directors.

(1) Has anyone taken an inventory on the Hen Island propane tanks that were washed into the harbor during the storm? I know of at least nine tanks that are unaccounted for.

(2) Has anyone made an attempt to locate those missing tanks?

(3) Can you tell me if the board intends to inform the City, the County, the Army Corps of Engineers or any other public safety agency, explaining that propane tanks are submerged in the navigable waters between Hen Island and Greenhaven?

(4) How does the Island intend to locate and recover these propane tanks? Or are we going to ignore these tanks as the board did after the "no name storm" of 1992 and hope again that no boat propeller ever strikes a large high pressure propane tank?

As you are aware, I have been publicly vocal regarding the still missing propane tanks that washed into the harbor during the "no name storm" in 1992 and I have been both ignored and then publicly chastised for raising this public safety issue for over a decade. (The same has been the case with West Nile Virus mosquitoes breeding in Island cottage water cisterns, untreated sewage entering the Sound from Island cottage cess-pits and cottage use of non potable water.)

If this issue of submerged missing propane tanks continues to be ignored the tanks abandoned from 1992, and the 100 pound tanks lost in Hurricane Sandy, are directly akin to submarine antipersonnel mines - waiting for some innocent family out for a pleasure boat ride off the shores of Hen Island during the boating season.

The increased legal exposure and liability from the past failures to admit and address this submerged propane problem has now increased by at least two fold due to the new 100 pound propane tanks that have been deposited by Hurricane Sandy. Please advise me and the other concerned Hen Island cottage owners that the board intends to proactively locate and recover these tanks in this very dangerous and life threatening public safety matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray Tartaglione". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Raymond J. Tartaglione