United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 13, 2019

David Heller Acting Associate Administrator for Business and Finance Development Maritime Administration 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington DC 20590

Dear Acting Associate Administrator Heller:

We write in support of the application submitted by Rockland Marine Corporation to the Maritime Administration's Small Shipyard Grant Program. Rockland Marine Corporation seeks to purchase new equipment to boost production, create efficiencies, and become more competitive.

Located in Rockland, Maine, Rockland Marine Corporation is an operating shipyard with a staff of 40 employees that specializes in custom steel fabrication for marine uses and the full spectrum of ship repair. The company seeks to purchase more equipment to increase its capacity and complement a major capital improvement project that it is currently in the process of completing.

If selected for funding under the Small Shipyard Grant Program, Rockland Marine Corporation would purchase a high pressure water blast system, two telescoping boom lifts, and two fork lift trucks, which will replace the use of rental equipment or outdated equipment. New equipment would ensure worker safety and would reduce environmental impacts while also lowering costs and increasing Rockland Marine Corporation's efficiency. With these upgrades, the company hopes to invest in capital improvements by reconstructing its third marine rail which will lead to expanded jobs. This will enable the company to boost production and remain more competitive.

Thank you for your time and effort on behalf of Rockland Marine Corporation. We urge your consideration of this application, subject to all applicable laws and regulations, and ask that you please notify and when a final decision has been made.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Collins United States Senator

Swan M. Collins

Angus S. King, Jr. United States Senator