Office of the Mayor-President

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Parish of East Baton Rouge

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MELVIN L. "KIP" HOLDEN
Mayor-President

July 14, 22015

Mr. Jay G. Hardman
Executive Director
Port of Baton Rouge
P. O. Box 380
Port Allen, LA 70767

Re: Tubal Cain Barge Cleaning Facility

Dear Mr. Hardman:

Your fiduciary duties as the Executive Director of the Port of Baton Rouge do not trump the safety and livelihood of the people of this parish. Just because the Port owns the land, you are willing to sacrifice the best interests of the citizens of Baton Rouge for a $120,000.00 a year contract the Port entered into with Tubal Cain.

This is outrageous and a total disrespect of the people of our community. You have made a decision relative to the quality of life for thousands for $120,000 a year. Why don't you throw in as a bonus 30 pieces of silver?

You have refused to hear the outcry from people who could be impacted by this facility. Can you take the blinders off for a second and predict the economic impact if there is a leak that forces closure of the river to ship and barge traffic? How can you be so sure that this is being blown out of proportion when the consequences are not fully known?

If the Port is so financially strapped that it is willing to douse the hopes of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, then I suggest it is time for soul searching

You are a good man but this is a situation that we should say no to. The gifts of life, safety, peace and happiness are not negotiable.

Sincerely,

Melvin L. 'Kip" Holden
Mayor-President