

RESOLUTION 90-II

In Opposition to the Use of Combustion/Incineration Ash for Artificial Reef Construction

WHEREAS, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission is concerned with the promotion of sound and effective use of artificial reefs in fishery development and management; and,

WHEREAS, the National Artificial Reef Plan, developed pursuant to the National Fishing Enhancement Act of 1984 (P.L. 98-623, Title II), states that "artificial reef materials ... should minimize environmental risks", and that "Whenever a material is proposed, the standards for function, durability, stability, availability, compatibility, and safety must be assessed and satisfied", and,

WHEREAS, there is a lack of clear federal or state guidelines and standards for the testing and classification of cement-stabilized combustion/incineration ash; and,

WHEREAS, the ASMFC is concerned that in addressing the growing problem of solid waste disposal, precipitous decisions will be made to use the ocean environment as a disposal outlet for unproven, potentially toxic waste products, and,

WHEREAS, substantial uncertainty exists as to the long-term stability of cement-stabilized combustion/incineration ash, and the eventual fate of the potentially toxic constituents of this material;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission requests that the Environmental Protection Agency and United States Army Corps of Engineers develop and adopt standards for the use of stabilized combustion/incineration ash products in the marine environment, particularly as artificial reef substrate;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission opposes the use of said stabilized combustion/incineration ash products as artificial reef substrate and requests that permits not be issued other than for experimental applications, until such time as these guidelines and standards are adopted; or until the time member states adopt such standards that ensure the protection of the marine environment. *Adopted at the ASMFC Annual Meeting, November 7, 1990.*