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August 16, 2013

Josee Auclair & Richard Weber
Arctic Watch Wilderness Lodge
Nunavut, Canada

Dear Josee and Richard,

I am writing to convey my support of the proposed live feed or “beluga cam” focused on the belugas that spend a portion of the summer in Cunningham Inlet. This provides a unique educational and outreach opportunity for Mystic Aquarium, a division of Sea Research Foundation. We will display the live feed on a monitor next to our beluga Arctic Coast exhibit, providing our guests with an opportunity to see belugas in their natural environment while at the same time featuring the natural history and behaviors with our whales in the Aquarium’s exhibit. The live feed enables people to see the belugas firsthand while we educate about the current threats to belugas and inspire people of all ages to do their part in beluga conservation and protecting their habitat. With these capabilities at Arctic Watch we would also like to broadcast live from Arctic Watch and feature updates from our scientists with the belugas in the background. The broadcast will be shown in our Nautilus Live Theatre at multiple times throughout the time our scientists are at Arctic Watch studying the belugas. We have been able to secure \$5000 from a grant in order to contribute to this effort in the summer of 2014. We are grateful for our partnership with Arctic Watch and look forward to continued collaboration on beluga research, education and outreach.

Sincerely,

Tracy Romano, PhD

Executive Vice President
Research & Zoological Operations