DEAR EDITOR:

Your editorial, "Two heads not better," conveys a wrong impression as to the controversy over the proposed marina at Liberty State Park.

When you say that the conflict between the Liberty State Park Public Advisory Commission (LSPPAC) and the Liberty State Park Development Corporation (LSPDC) has delayed the award of the contract for the $8 million marina, you apparently confuse conflict with the review process by the LSPPAC, now going on by its Ad Hoc Marina Committee. The review is needed to protect the public interest as set forth in the Governor's Executive Order 65, "to review and evaluate public and private proposals for facilities at the Parkland and make recommendations to the Commission concerning implementation of the Master Plan." 1/21/87

Commissioner Richard Dewling is quoted in a Star-Ledger article: "The public is part of doing business. You sign on with that knowledge that you're not going to be able to ramrod stuff through."

Your editorial statement, "The conflict could affect the plans for the $43 million New Jersey Science-Tech Center as well as those for a golf course, aquarium, lodge and an amphitheater" is nonsense, since the Science Tech Center has already been adopted and depends on funding, while the other projects are part of the Master Plan which the advisory commission has supported and will support when in conformity with the Master Plan.

For you to say that "because of the competitive nature of the two groups a self-defeating impasse is in effect" is to misunderstand the separate and distinct roles of the two bodies which have attempted to fulfill their duties. The advisory commission was created to represent the public interest as an adviser to the DEP, and when you say members (unnamed) of the corporation call the advisory commission "obstructionist," this should surprise no one familiar with governmental agencies which in many cases resent the voice of the people as an interference with their infallible plans.

The 100 percent track record of the advisory commission in saving Liberty State Park from commercial exploitation on four separate occasions since 1977 has prevented one of America's great parks from being dismembered. To Gov. Thomas Kean goes the credit for saving the park in 1981 when first elected, when he rejected proposals to turn the park into condominiums and for canceling a lease by the DEP converting the Central Rail Road Terminal into a glorified doll house after we secured an interim injunction from the Superior Court.

Space will not permit us to discuss the present marina lease, but when the public learns of its contents through public hearings, they will find out that the marina proposal of the DEP and the Development Corporation, as a public/private partnership approach, whereby revenues generated can be used to develop and operate the park by giving away 57 acres of parkland, is not a partnership, but "tantamount" to a corporate takeover, in complete violation of the park's Master Plan.

The advisory council has supported a 288-slip state operated marina with available Green Acres funds as recommended by Langan Associates for the DEP, which will generate $471,000 in revenues without relinquishing one square foot of parkland and is consistent with the Master Action Plan.

The DEP and the corporation have failed to provide the Ad Hoc Marina Committee with a financial and economic impact study. We predict that the income from the proposed marina will be much less than the "Langan Marina."

Morris Pesin and Audrey Zapp,
Members of the Liberty State Park Advisory Commission.