



Town of Brookhaven Long Island

Edward P. Romaine, Supervisor

May 22, 2017

Kirsten Gillibrand
U.S. Senator
478 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Charles Schumer
U.S. Senator
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators:

Currently, there is no drilling for oil offshore in the Atlantic largely because of a moratorium enacted by Congress some years ago.

Now, however, President Trump has signed an executive order on offshore drilling in the Atlantic. This is foolish and something that, as Brookhaven Town Supervisor, I strongly oppose.

The U.S. Department of the Interior has acknowledged spillage from offshore drilling sites elsewhere as occurring frequently. In fact, the federal government stated that the Atlantic is an extremely difficult environment to drill in. Moreover, the President's Council on Environmental Quality has declared: "the Atlantic is a hostile environment for oil and gas operations. Storm and seismic conditions may be more severe than either in the North Sea or the Gulf of Mexico."

We all remember the 2010 blowout and massive spill from the BP Deepwater Horizon rig in the Gulf of Mexico. We don't need that to happen in the Atlantic.

A bill was recently introduced in the U.S. Senate called the Clean Ocean and Safe Tourism Anti-Drilling Act, which would ban oil and gas drilling in the Atlantic. I strongly support the passage of this act.

Page two

It's interesting to note that President Trump's order comes at a time when there is a glut of petroleum in the world market.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward P. Romaine". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "E".

Edward P. Romaine
Supervisor

cc: Chris Clapp, The Nature Conservancy
Kevin McDonald, The Nature Conservancy
Kevin McAllister, Defend H2O
Sean O'Neill, Peconic Baykeeper
Robert DeLuca, Group for the East End
Marcia Bystryn, NY League of Conservation Voters
Peter Gollon, Sierra Club