

Routing Slip for DIRBOE-14-0181-- Appropriate Action --[Print](#) [Close](#)**Control Information**

Control #: DIRBOE-14-0181	Control Type: DIRC	Control Date: 9/4/2014
Rec/Int Date: 9/4/2014	Exec Sec #: 00057709	LM#:
Resp Office: OCA	Surname: LM:OCL:SOL	
Corr. Date: 8/27/2014	Corr. Type: LETTER	Corr. Source: SENATE

TO: Title/Organization:	Last Name:	First Name:
SECRETARY	JEWELL	SALLY

THROUGH: Title/Organization:

FROM: Title/Organization:	Last Name:	First Name:
U.S. SEN.	NELSON	BILL
U.S. SEN.	JOLLY	DAVID W. & 11

FOR SIGNATURE OF: Title:	Organization:	Date Due:	Date Signed:
SECRETARY	OCA	9/17/2014	

Subject: COMMENTS ON THE 2017 -2022 FIVE YEAR OIL & GAS LEASING PROGRAM

Comments:

Action Information

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

646748

August 27, 2014

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary
Department of Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell:

As you begin the process for developing the Five Year Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2017-2022, we urge you to make clear that your agency will maintain statutory protections for the Eastern Gulf of Mexico Planning Area from offshore drilling for oil and gas. The Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (GOMESA, P.L. 109-432) implemented a moratorium for most of the eastern Gulf of Mexico, which is in place until 2022.


Over four years have passed since the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill disaster, which took the lives of 11 rig workers and spilled more than 4.9 million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico. Floridians are well aware of what another oil spill in the region could do, from spoiling beaches that attract tourists from all over the world to damaging productive fisheries and coastal communities.

The eastern Gulf of Mexico is also protected to preserve mission-critical military activities. According to the most recent report on the compatibility of Department of Defense (DoD) activities with oil and gas resource development on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), drilling in the eastern Gulf of Mexico would interfere with the majority of training and weapons testing areas. For example, Pensacola's Eglin Air Force Base is now the training site for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, which demands thousands of acres of airspace over the Gulf's open water.

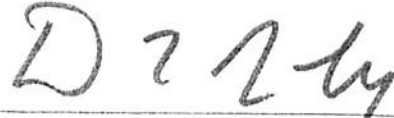
The 2012-2017 Five Year Program makes more than 75 percent of the offshore oil and gas resources in federal waters available for development, but oil and gas companies still only produce on less than a quarter of the available offshore leases. The Department should aggressively encourage the development of the millions of acres already available for leasing before offering a single acre more.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

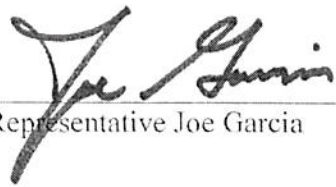


Senator Bill Nelson



Representative David W. Jolly

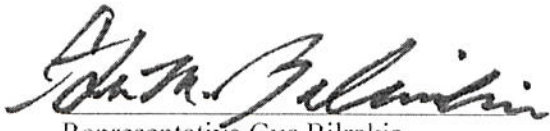
RECEIVED
2014 SEP -3 AM 10:40
OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY




Representative Joe Garcia



Representative Kathy Castor



Representative Gus Bilirakis



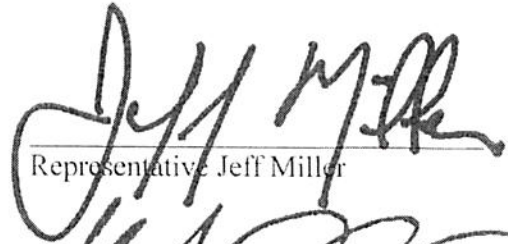
Representative Vern Buchanan



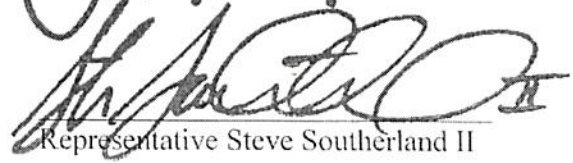
Representative Ted Deutch



Representative Alcee Hastings



Representative Jeff Miller



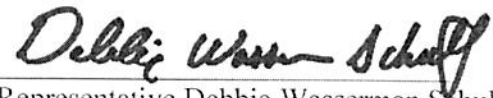
Representative Steve Southerland II



Representative Patrick Murphy



Representative Lois Frankel



Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz



Howarth, Robert <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>

Fwd: FI Delegation Letter to Jewell

1 message

Harding, Stephenne <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov> Wed, Sep 3, 2014 at 10:32 AM
To: Fay Iudicello <fay_iudicello@ios.doi.gov>, Robert Howarth <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>, Sarah Neimeyer <sarah_Neimeyer@ios.doi.gov>, Lee Tilton <lee.tilton@boem.gov>

FYI

——— Forwarded message ———

From: **Sher, Lauren (Bill Nelson)** <Lauren_Sher@billnelson.senate.gov>
Date: Wed, Sep 3, 2014 at 9:22 AM
Subject: FI Delegation Letter to Jewell
To: "Stephenne Harding (stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov)" <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov>

Stephenne,

I hope you are well. I've attached a letter to Secretary Jewell regarding the Eastern Gulf Planning Area and the next five year leasing plan.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Lauren

—
Stephenne Harding
Deputy Director
Congressional and Legislative Affairs
Department of the Interior
Stephenne_Harding@ios.doi.gov
202-208-6174 (desk)
202-341-8080 (cell)



Eastern Gulf - 5 Yr Offshore Drilling Plan - FL Delegation to Jewell 9.3.14.pdf
691K