



Town of Brookhaven Long Island

Edward P. Romaine, Supervisor

August 17, 2017

Ms. Connie Gillette
Chief of Public Affairs
United States Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Office of Public Affairs
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Gillette,

I want to express my strong opposition to a proposed leasing plan for off-shore drilling in the Atlantic and Arctic Oceans. I would ask the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to oppose any effort to reopen the Atlantic or Arctic Oceans for off-shore drilling. Opening the Atlantic to off-shore drilling would put New York's coastal communities' jobs and ecosystems in danger.

As Long Island's largest township in terms of geographic size, Brookhaven Town is very concerned about the impact that off-shore drilling would have on its coastline. The Town has three coastlines that would be put in jeopardy should a spill occur; the Long Island Sound, the Great South Bay/Moriches Bay, and the Atlantic Ocean.

We know that even one spill could have an impact on livelihoods and critical, natural resources for a long time, and often these spills don't stay within state lines. A spill off the Virginia/Delaware coast could spoil our beaches here on Long Island and impact our fishing industry as surely as a spill off Long Island would.

The Town is joining with many environmental and civic organizations, including the New York State League of Conservation Voters, and is asking BOEM to protect our coastline and reject off-shore drilling in the Atlantic.

Sincerely,

Edward P. Romaine
Supervisor

EPR:lw

Office of the Supervisor

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