

# Florida Defense Support Task Force White Paper



## Oil Drilling & Military Mission Compatibility





# Florida Defense Support Task Force

January 31, 2017

SUBJECT: Florida Defense Support Task Force White Paper on Oil Drilling and Military Mission Compatibility in the Gulf of Mexico

## Members

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The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) is charged with making recommendations to preserve and protect military installations, supporting the state's position in research and development related to or arising out of military missions and contracting, and to improve the state's military friendly environment for service members, military dependents, military retirees and businesses that bring military and base-related jobs to the state. In support of that mission, the Task Force has produced a White Paper on Oil Drilling & Military Mission Compatibility in the Gulf of Mexico.

Florida is fortunate to host 20 major military installations within the state. Many of these facilities are comprised of U.S. Air Force or Navy flying units due to two simple important reasons: great flying weather and easy access to thousands of square miles of air and sea ranges in the Gulf of Mexico that support military aviator training and modern weapons testing. The Task Force understands that the Gulf of Mexico is also an area traditionally used for oil exploration and production. Unfortunately, the sentiment of former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld in 2005 that, "offshore drilling is 'incompatible' with military training and weapons testing in the Gulf of Mexico off Florida's shores" is even more true today.

The Task Force recommends that Florida maintain a united front in supporting an extension of the current moratorium on drilling in the Gulf of Mexico east of the Military Mission Line (MML). To allow drilling east of the MML would mean loss of range areas and possible relocation of aircraft/bases to other unrestricted range areas. If you have any questions please contact Terry McCaffrey, FDSTF Deputy Executive Director, at [tmccaffrey@eflorida.com](mailto:tmccaffrey@eflorida.com) or (850)878-4578.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clay Ingram".

Representative Clay Ingram  
Chairman, Florida Defense Support Task Force

# Oil Drilling & Military Mission Compatibility In the Gulf of Mexico

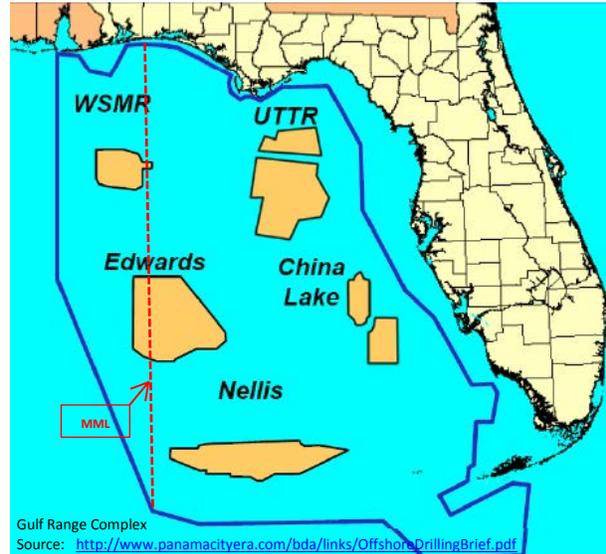
31 January 2017

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico is typically discussed with respect to energy independence or concerns over environmental impact, but off the Florida coast in the eastern Gulf of Mexico, another critical factor is incompatibility with military weapons testing and training. For Florida, the case for environmental protection of its pristine coastline married to concern for loss of the state's enormous tourism industry in the case of an oil spill always receives top billing. However, the state's fourth largest industry (accounting for more than 775,000 jobs and \$80 Billion in economic impact including 65% of regional economy of NW Florida) and especially its test activities, is considerably dependent on unconstrained access to the eastern Gulf of Mexico airspace and sea space.

The Gulf Range Complex is a unique national resource. The range is larger than all other training ranges inside the continental US combined. According to the Joint Gulf Range Complex Strategic Plan published in 2002, the range "stretches from the Florida Panhandle south to Key West and encompasses the eastern Gulf of Mexico. Surrounding it are numerous DoD installations, ranges, and special use airspace that make the Complex one of a kind in the DoD. The Complex has served the nation for over 60 years. It started as a place to practice air-to-air engagements, air-to-surface bombing, and strafing. After WW II, it was also used to test surface-to-air rockets against drones. The Complex has stood the test of time and adapted to numerous changes. Today it is extensively used for testing and training, as well as exercises and experiments."<sup>1</sup>

The DoD position has been keeping the Eastern Gulf free from obstruction which is essential for military activities for well over a decade and two administrations. Without access to train and test modern / emerging weapons systems and the aircrews that support them, Florida loses a primary reason to host DoD's critical installations; namely access to the Gulf Ranges. Oil exploration and/or platforms placed in the eastern Gulf could jeopardize military missions and severely reduce Florida's appeal to keep military installations in the sunshine state.



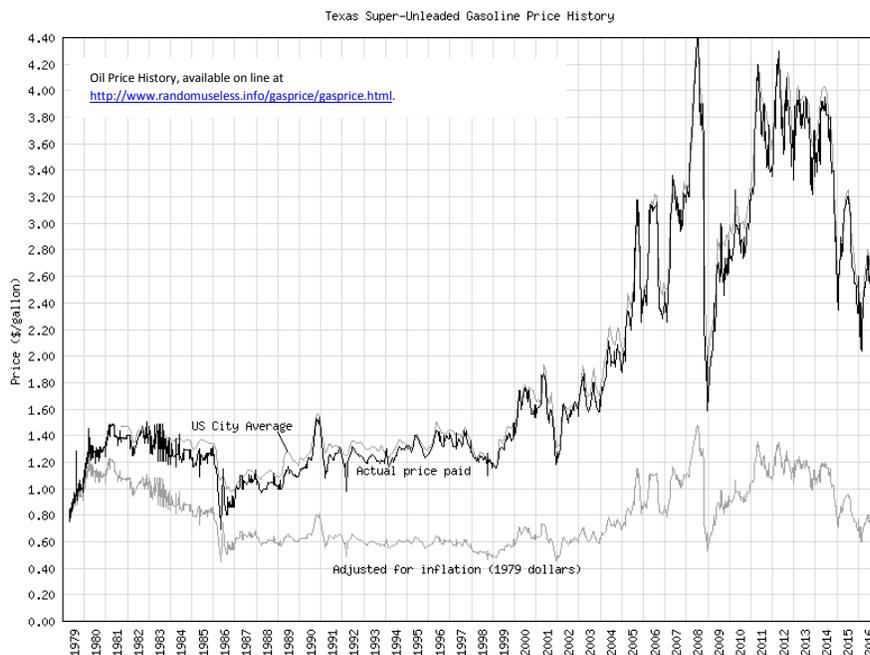
**Florida must maintain a united front in supporting an extension of the current moratorium on drilling in the Gulf of Mexico east of the Military Mission Line (MML). To allow drilling east of the MML would mean loss of range areas and possible relocation of aircraft and/or bases to other unrestricted range areas.**

## ISSUE

Pressure to increase U.S. oil production could lead to unacceptable encroachment to the Gulf Range Complex threatening military missions in the region.

## BACKGROUND

**Gulf Oil Production** – Energy exploration and domestic oil production needs compete for access to reserves across the Gulf of Mexico. Although oil exploration and drilling existed in the Gulf of Mexico since the 1930s, need for more oil married to new exploration and drilling technology has caused it to increase dramatically in recent decades. Gas prices in the United States were relatively low and fairly stable two decades after the very memorable OPEC crisis in



the 1970s that saw long lines and fuel shortages that resulted in prices spiking above \$1.00 for the first time by 1979 (See figure<sup>2</sup>). Resolution of the embargo led to stable prices for most of the 1990s; with prices beginning a consistent rise by the end of the decade. That story changed, however, after the attack on the Twin Towers in Sept 2001. After the attack, the US saw a steady climb in oil prices coupled with continuous conflict and

insecurity in the Persian Gulf region that led to a renewed interest in energy production, especially domestic oil and natural gas production. Environmentalists resisted drilling in the majority of states across the nation which added pressure to move off shore, especially in the western Gulf of Mexico off Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi which contained known large reserves. The eastern Gulf of Mexico, however, has not been an area that has historically produced or is expected to produce large amounts of domestic oil or gas.<sup>3</sup>

**Military Missions** – The Gulf Range Complex is a national asset that is larger than all other training ranges inside the continental US combined. A majority of Florida's bases are located here because of the good flying weather and proximity to the gulf ranges. Due to Florida's unique panhandle and peninsular geography with a long coastline, the state offers multiple access lanes into the airspace. Thus, the Gulf Range Complex supports NAS Pensacola, NAS Whiting Field, Hurlburt AFB, Duke Field, Eglin AFB, NSA Panama City, Tyndall AFB, MacDill AFB and NAS Key West missions directly while also supporting Joint live fire weapons and operational testing for Air Force, Navy and Marine units from around the world.

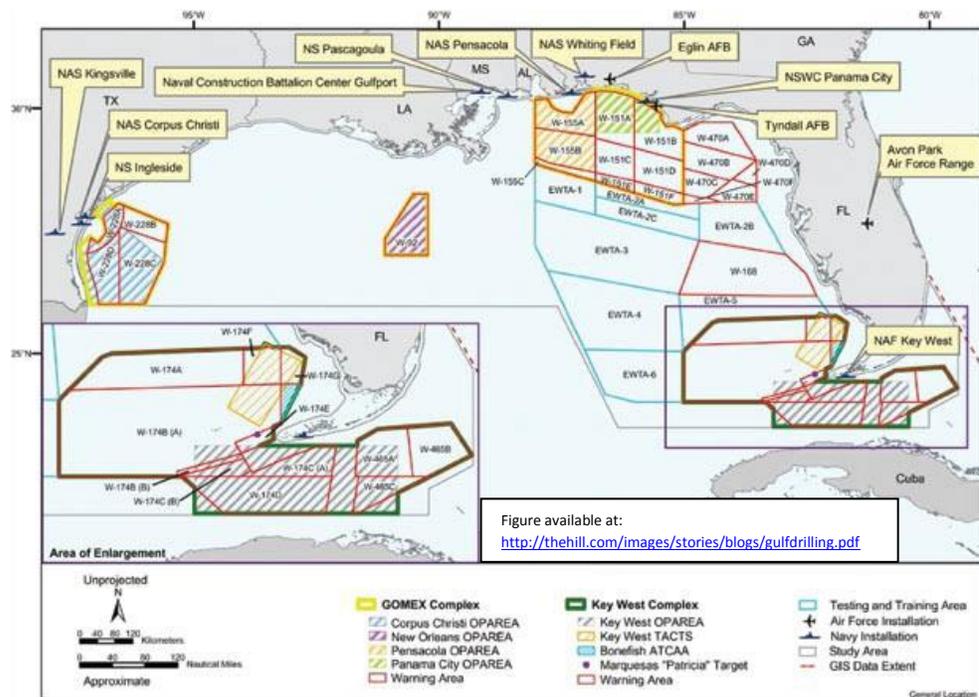
The newer fighter aircraft for the Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps have greater capabilities than in the past. Integrated sensor suites on the aircraft can identify enemy targets at much greater ranges than before. New munitions are also being developed that can travel longer distances. Training and time on range requirements for Air Force, Navy, Marines, and Special Operations are also increasing as the threats grow globally. Fifth and sixth generation aircraft are just part of the discussion. As unmanned and remotely piloted aircraft are added to the inventory, the complexity of airspace management becomes more and more challenging.

The greater ranges and standoff capability of current and future platforms combined with the lack of training assets nationwide and limited training budgets, make realistic training against “adversaries” that much more difficult. For example, when most fighter squadrons were larger (24 Primary Aircraft Authorized), they had internal training assets to act as adversaries. Additionally, units could continuously send squadrons on the road at the 6-aircraft and 12-aircraft level

without causing a huge impact on the squadron. The drastically-reduced size of the Combat Air Forces does not allow such luxuries anymore. Bottom line, there is a requirement to find adversaries close by that can help with training, and for a venue, a Range, to conduct that training.

As these changes occur, the Air Force and Navy Ranges must keep pace to ensure that they will be capable of handling the new aircraft and weapons requirements. The capability that each individual range provides will be insufficient to meet the training and testing demands of 5th and 6th Generation aircraft in the Joint Air Warfare force. The combined use of these ranges will be necessary to accommodate these increased acquisition and engagement distances and maintain the training and testing excellence of today’s forces.

There is also a growing need to utilize ranges that will allow for integration of Live, Virtual, and Constructive (LVC) capabilities to ensure the best training for the best cost. This combination of actual time on Range and LVC technologies would ensure exposure to threats scenarios otherwise not available on our current ranges. The “beauty” of LVC is that it will exercise the entire “go to war” apparatus – operations, maintenance, logistics, command and control, etc. Without access to train and test modern / emerging weapons systems and the aircrews that support them, Florida loses the primary reason to host these critical installations; namely access to the Gulf Ranges.



**Legislative Action** – As pressure to move drilling into the Gulf began in earnest, the Department of Defense noted that unchecked expansion of oil drilling platforms in the eastern Gulf could conflict with military missions in the Gulf Range Complex. By 2005 these pressures prompted Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld to send a memo to the US Senate Armed Services Committee that stated “offshore drilling is ‘incompatible’ with military training and weapons testing in the Gulf of Mexico off Florida’s shores”<sup>4</sup>. The memo continued that the “Department would evaluate its requirements and work with the Interior Department to ‘strike a proper balance between our nation's energy and national security goals.’”<sup>5</sup>

Oil exploration and/or platforms placed in the eastern Gulf could jeopardize military missions and severely reduce Florida’s appeal to keep military installations in the sunshine state. DoD conducts essential military testing and training in many of the 26 Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) planning areas (Department of Interior divides the U.S. offshore oil producing areas into 26 planning areas). Prior analysis and existing agreements with Department of Interior recognize that areas east of the 86° 41' line in the Gulf of Mexico (commonly known as the "Military Mission Line") are especially critical to DoD due to the number and diversity of military testing and training activities conducted there now, and those planned for the future. In those areas east of the Military Mission Line, drilling structures and associated development would be incompatible and pose hazards to military activities, such as missile flights, low-flying aircraft, weapons testing, and training and would compromise the military’s ability to test more sophisticated systems and long-reaching weapons critical to the future security of the country.

Secretary Rumsfeld’s memo led to legislation limiting oil production in the Gulf. The Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) of 2006 (Attachment 1) restricted oil exploration in the eastern Gulf of Mexico east of a newly defined “Military Mission Line” established at 86° 41’ West Latitude. According to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) website:

*On December 20, 2006, the President signed into law the **Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (Pub. Law 109-432)**. The Act significantly enhances OCS oil and gas leasing activities and revenue sharing in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM). The Act:*

- *shares leasing revenues with Gulf producing states and the Land & Water Conservation Fund for coastal restoration projects;*
- *bans oil and gas leasing within 125 miles off the Florida coastline in the Eastern Planning Area, and a portion of the Central Planning Area, until 2022; and,*
- *allows companies to exchange certain existing leases in moratorium areas for bonus and royalty credits to be used on other GOM leases.*

**Extended Moratorium**

*The **GOMESA Moratorium** covers a portion of the Central Gulf of Mexico Planning Area (CPA), and, until 2022, most of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico Planning Area (EPA). The specific locations restricted from leasing activities include that portion of the Eastern Planning Area within 125 miles of Florida, all areas in the Gulf of Mexico east of the Military Mission Line (86° 41’ west longitude), and the area within the Central Planning Area that is within 100 miles of Florida.<sup>6</sup>*

**Opposition to the Moratorium** – In January 2010 the GOMESA establishment of the Military Mission Line came under scrutiny in a report from “Securing America’s Future Energy” (SAFE, a traditionally pro-oil industry organization) project that advocated renewing oil exploration in the eastern Gulf. The report cited range utilization statistics and concluded that:

*Sustainable Range assessment data and environmental impact studies accomplished by the DoD agencies and the services, that previous assertions on the part of the Secretary of Defense and the services regarding civilian encroachment impinging on military ranges and readiness were, and continue to be, not credible, specifically in reference to the Eglin Water Test Areas and the Navy’s GOMEX and Key West Range Complexes.*

*We do not believe that current and future military testing requirements necessitate the maintenance of offshore areas in the Gulf of Mexico intended to exclude specific classes of commercial airborne, surface, or subsurface activities.*

Unfortunately, the report’s conclusions are largely focused on training data which is only part of the overall military mission in the eastern Gulf, especially the Eglin Overwater Test Areas. The SAFE report leveraged DoD’s Sustainable Range assessment, which assessed training ranges. Some of the conclusions were based on training and operational missile live fire training conducted primarily in the Warning Areas in the northern part of the range where the U.S. Air Force conducts “Combat Archer” missions that train operational aircrew on live missile tests against airborne target drones and full-scale unmanned aircraft such as remotely piloted fighter size (F-4 and F-16) targets. While it is true that most of those missions occur in the northern Warning Areas close to Eglin and Tyndall AFBs, it is not the totality of Gulf Range activity.

In the second paragraph above, the conclusion could be compared to the use of a football stadium: a football stadium may look empty most of the time, but if the team shows up and there is an oil platform in the middle of the field, it’s kind of tough to play the game. Finally, although they attempt to account for future requirements, the report is ten years old and does not fully grasp the scope of weapons development and range requirements. New fifth or sixth generation aircraft / weapons testing, although not as frequently conducted as aircrew operational and or live missile training, can require the entirety of the current range complex to be effectively and safely conducted. In fact, as we continue to expand the envelope of new long range or hypersonic weapons, range expansion may be necessary. Encroachment into the range space by oil exploration and development would make it impossible to conduct these vital testing missions.

**Support for the Moratorium** – At the same time efforts to downplay the real requirements for the range were occurring, Florida Panhandle area defense support organizations and county commissioners developed resolutions in support of maintaining the GOMESA limitations. One of the leaders in the advocacy was the tri-county Defense Support Initiative (DSI) comprised of five counties bordering the Gulf of Mexico who vocally supported the moratorium to ensure the Gulf Ranges would remain a viable asset for military test and training missions. In addition to letters written to Florida Senator Bill Nelson, an avid supporter of keeping drilling out of the eastern Gulf of Mexico for years, DSI engaged the region and provided 12 resolutions in support

of the moratorium to the Florida Legislature from county commissions, chambers of commerce, local economic development councils and military affairs committees (Attachment 2).

While the local community engaged, so did the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD). OSD conducted a thorough review of realistic military munition and aircraft wreckage impact areas for weapons testing that was intended to accurately assess the footprint of the “incompatible” area due to unacceptable safety risk. The military missions require day and night access to the airspace from the surface up to 60,000 feet for high speed flying and maneuvering as well as the sea surface and subsurface areas for use by ships and submarines. In addition, the military uses live ammunition and missiles against remotely piloted full scale targets and drones that result in large debris fields of dangerous objects. Based on these missions and areas of heightened risk, the study concluded that there may be some areas east of the Military Mission Line that could be open to exploration. Analyses conducted in the 2010 timeframe resulted in DoD being able to divide the gulf (east of the MML) into four geographic areas with differing levels of potential exploration activity from open to completely restricted. The analysis found the following with respect to continuing current and future military mission capability:

- 1) Unrestricted oil/gas exploration access could occur in 4% of the area
- 2) Site specific exploration conditions exist in 36% of the area
- 3) No permanent oil/gas structures could occur in 49% of the area
- 4) No oil/gas activity in 11% of the total area east of the MML

Without unrestricted access to the most critical areas of the Gulf Test and Training Range, the military would be required to move its major missions at Tyndall AFB, Eglin AFB, and Panama City to other locations. Within the above limits, DoD assessed that they were not compromising their mission, but rather, setting the stage for win-win collaboration with the Department of the Interior and energy companies. However, no changes were pursued at the time since the GOMESA rules would remain in place until 2022.

**Recent Activity** – The topic of modifying GOMESA arose in 2013-2015 when the U.S. House and Senate developed and introduced companion bills to change GOMESA but did not necessarily incorporate the OSD evaluation noted above from 2010. The House effort called the “Offshore Energy and Jobs Act” (113<sup>th</sup> Congress - H.R. 2231) introduced by Representative Doc Hastings (R-Washington) on 06/04/2013 pushed to remove limits imposed by GOMESA, most notably, reducing the exclusion area east of the Military Mission Line from 125 miles to 50 miles off shore. In addition, it shortened the time limit of the moratorium from 2022 to 2017. The House bill passed with a vote of 235 - 186 on 06/28/2013. The Senate version of the Offshore Energy and Jobs Act of 2015 (114<sup>th</sup> Congress - S. 1276) was introduced by Senator Bill Cassidy (R-Louisiana). That bill called for changing where oil and natural gas drilling and exploration could take place and was vigorously opposed by Senator Bill Nelson from Florida and ultimately did not make it out of committee; killing the bill and leaving GOMESA 2006 intact.<sup>8</sup>

As of this writing, the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress has not taken a position on GOMESA, however, it is anticipated that the Trump administration will be as interested in domestic energy as they are in national security making a compromise “win – win” solution to accommodate drilling and military mission in the Gulf of Mexico east of the Military Mission Line and inside the boundary of the Gulf Range Complex a topic of further discussion in the coming months.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**Florida must maintain a united front in supporting an extension of the current moratorium on drilling in the Gulf of Mexico east of the Military Mission Line (MML). To allow drilling east of the MML would mean loss of range areas and possible relocation of aircraft/bases to other unrestricted range areas.**

The Ranges in Florida offer the best answer to a globally changing environment. First, they provide excellent opportunities for joint testing and training, year around good weather, and access to users close by (AF Test and Training, AF Munitions, AF Special Operations, F-35, F-22, A-10, F-16, HH-60, F-15, F-18 Test and Training) and nationally (many units travel to Florida in the winter for training). Second, Florida is the home to the LVC Center of Excellence at Orlando. And finally, Florida is a military friendly state that fully supports the military mission and works hard to ensure encroachment is not a factor.

**Point of Contact:** Terry McCaffrey, Deputy Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force. [tmccaffrey@eflorida.com](mailto:tmccaffrey@eflorida.com), (850)878-4578.

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<sup>1</sup> Joint Gulf Range Complex Strategic Plan, published in 2002.

<sup>2</sup> Oil Price History, available on line at <http://www.randomuseless.info/gasprice/gasprice.html>.

<sup>3</sup> See R.Q. Foote (1985) *Summary Report on the Regional Geology, Petroleum Geology, Environmental Geology, and Estimates of Undiscovered Recoverable Oil and Gas Resources in the Planning Area of Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Lease No. 94, Eastern Gulf of Mexico*, US Geological Survey, Open-File Report 85-669.

<sup>4</sup> Associated Press, available on line at

[www.gasandoil.com/news/n\\_america/1ba87d89edb5b69e03a91a33c52d079d](http://www.gasandoil.com/news/n_america/1ba87d89edb5b69e03a91a33c52d079d).

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) website, available on line at <https://www.boem.gov/revenue-sharing/>.

<sup>7</sup> *Eastern Gulf of Mexico Oil and Gas Exploration and Military Readiness*, Securing Americas Future Energy, Jan 2010, available on line at <http://thehill.com/images/stories/blogs/gulfdrilling.pdf>.

<sup>8</sup> *Bill opening Gulf waters to oil drilling advances in Senate*, "The Tampa Tribune", 7/31/2015, available on line at <http://tbo.com/list/militarynews/billopeninggulfwatertoilddrillingadvancesinsenate20150730>.

# Attachment 1

# DIVISION C—OTHER PROVISIONS

## TITLE I—GULF OF MEXICO ENERGY SECURITY

Gulf of Mexico  
Energy Security  
Act of 2006.

43 USC 1331  
note.

### SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006”.

43 USC 1331  
note.

### SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) 181 AREA.—The term “181 Area” means the area identified in map 15, page 58, of the Proposed Final Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 1997–2002, dated August 1996, of the Minerals Management Service, available in the Office of the Director of the Minerals Management Service, excluding the area offered in OCS Lease Sale 181, held on December 5, 2001.

(2) 181 SOUTH AREA.—The term “181 South Area” means any area—

(A) located—

- (i) south of the 181 Area;
- (ii) west of the Military Mission Line; and
- (iii) in the Central Planning Area;

(B) excluded from the Proposed Final Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 1997–2002, dated August 1996, of the Minerals Management Service; and

(C) included in the areas considered for oil and gas leasing, as identified in map 8, page 37 of the document entitled “Draft Proposed Program Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program 2007–2012”, dated February 2006.

(3) **BONUS OR ROYALTY CREDIT.**—The term “bonus or royalty credit” means a legal instrument or other written documentation, or an entry in an account managed by the Secretary, that may be used in lieu of any other monetary payment for—

(A) a bonus bid for a lease on the outer Continental Shelf; or

(B) a royalty due on oil or gas production from any lease located on the outer Continental Shelf.

(4) **CENTRAL PLANNING AREA.**—The term “Central Planning Area” means the Central Gulf of Mexico Planning Area of the outer Continental Shelf, as designated in the document entitled “Draft Proposed Program Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program 2007–2012”, dated February 2006.

(5) **EASTERN PLANNING AREA.**—The term “Eastern Planning Area” means the Eastern Gulf of Mexico Planning Area of the outer Continental Shelf, as designated in the document entitled “Draft Proposed Program Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program 2007–2012”, dated February 2006.

(6) **2002–2007 PLANNING AREA.**—The term “2002–2007 planning area” means any area—

(A) located in—

(i) the Eastern Planning Area, as designated in the Proposed Final Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program 2002–2007, dated April 2002, of the Minerals Management Service;

(ii) the Central Planning Area, as designated in the Proposed Final Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program 2002–2007, dated April 2002, of the Minerals Management Service; or

(iii) the Western Planning Area, as designated in the Proposed Final Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program 2002–2007, dated April 2002, of the Minerals Management Service; and

(B) not located in—

(i) an area in which no funds may be expended to conduct offshore preleasing, leasing, and related activities under sections 104 through 106 of the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–54; 119 Stat. 521) (as in effect on August 2, 2005);

(ii) an area withdrawn from leasing under the “Memorandum on Withdrawal of Certain Areas of the United States Outer Continental Shelf from Leasing Disposition”, from 34 Weekly Comp. Pres. Doc. 1111, dated June 12, 1998; or

(iii) the 181 Area or 181 South Area.

(7) **GULF PRODUCING STATE.**—The term “Gulf producing State” means each of the States of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas.

(8) **MILITARY MISSION LINE.**—The term “Military Mission Line” means the north-south line at 86°41′ W. longitude.

(9) **QUALIFIED OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF REVENUES.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “qualified outer Continental Shelf revenues” means—

(i) in the case of each of fiscal years 2007 through 2016, all rentals, royalties, bonus bids, and other sums

due and payable to the United States from leases entered into on or after the date of enactment of this Act for—

(I) areas in the 181 Area located in the Eastern Planning Area; and

(II) the 181 South Area; and

(ii) in the case of fiscal year 2017 and each fiscal year thereafter, all rentals, royalties, bonus bids, and other sums due and payable to the United States received on or after October 1, 2016, from leases entered into on or after the date of enactment of this Act for—

(I) the 181 Area;

(II) the 181 South Area; and

(III) the 2002–2007 planning area.

(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term “qualified outer Continental Shelf revenues” does not include—

(i) revenues from the forfeiture of a bond or other surety securing obligations other than royalties, civil penalties, or royalties taken by the Secretary in-kind and not sold; or

(ii) revenues generated from leases subject to section 8(g) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1337(g)).

(10) COASTAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISION.—The term “coastal political subdivision” means a political subdivision of a Gulf producing State any part of which political subdivision is—

(A) within the coastal zone (as defined in section 304 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1453)) of the Gulf producing State as of the date of enactment of this Act; and

(B) not more than 200 nautical miles from the geographic center of any leased tract.

(11) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

43 USC 1331  
note.

**SEC. 103. OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS LEASING IN 181 AREA AND 181 SOUTH AREA OF GULF OF MEXICO.**

(a) 181 AREA LEASE SALE.—Except as provided in section 104, the Secretary shall offer the 181 Area for oil and gas leasing pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) as soon as practicable, but not later than 1 year, after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) 181 SOUTH AREA LEASE SALE.—The Secretary shall offer the 181 South Area for oil and gas leasing pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) LEASING PROGRAM.—The 181 Area and 181 South Area shall be offered for lease under this section notwithstanding the omission of the 181 Area or the 181 South Area from any outer Continental Shelf leasing program under section 18 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1344).

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 105 of the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109-54; 119 Stat. 522) is amended by inserting “(other than the 181 South Area (as defined in section

102 of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006))” after “lands located outside Sale 181”.

**SEC. 104. MORATORIUM ON OIL AND GAS LEASING IN CERTAIN AREAS OF GULF OF MEXICO.**

43 USC 1331  
note.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Effective during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending on June 30, 2022, the Secretary shall not offer for leasing, preleasing, or any related activity—

Effective date.  
Termination  
date.

(1) any area east of the Military Mission Line in the Gulf of Mexico;

(2) any area in the Eastern Planning Area that is within 125 miles of the coastline of the State of Florida; or

(3) any area in the Central Planning Area that is—

(A) within—

(i) the 181 Area; and

(ii) 100 miles of the coastline of the State of Florida; or

(B)(i) outside the 181 Area;

(ii) east of the western edge of the Pensacola Official Protraction Diagram (UTM X coordinate 1,393,920 (NAD 27 feet)); and

(iii) within 100 miles of the coastline of the State of Florida.

(b) **MILITARY MISSION LINE.**—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the United States reserves the right to designate by and through the Secretary of Defense, with the approval of the President, national defense areas on the outer Continental Shelf pursuant to section 12(d) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1341(d)).

(c) **EXCHANGE OF CERTAIN LEASES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall permit any person that, as of the date of enactment of this Act, has entered into an oil or gas lease with the Secretary in any area described in paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a) to exchange the lease for a bonus or royalty credit that may only be used in the Gulf of Mexico.

(2) **VALUATION OF EXISTING LEASE.**—The amount of the bonus or royalty credit for a lease to be exchanged shall be equal to—

(A) the amount of the bonus bid; and

(B) any rental paid for the lease as of the date the lessee notifies the Secretary of the decision to exchange the lease.

(3) **REVENUE DISTRIBUTION.**—No bonus or royalty credit may be used under this subsection in lieu of any payment due under, or to acquire any interest in, a lease subject to the revenue distribution provisions of section 8(g) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1337(g)).

(4) **REGULATIONS.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations that shall provide a process for—

Deadline.

(A) notification to the Secretary of a decision to exchange an eligible lease;

(B) issuance of bonus or royalty credits in exchange for relinquishment of the existing lease;

(C) transfer of the bonus or royalty credit to any other person; and

(D) determining the proper allocation of bonus or royalty credits to each lease interest owner.

43 USC 1331 note.

**SEC. 105. DISPOSITION OF QUALIFIED OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF REVENUES FROM 181 AREA, 181 SOUTH AREA, AND 2002-2007 PLANNING AREAS OF GULF OF MEXICO.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding section 9 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1338) and subject to the other provisions of this section, for each applicable fiscal year, the Secretary of the Treasury shall deposit—

(1) 50 percent of qualified outer Continental Shelf revenues in the general fund of the Treasury; and

(2) 50 percent of qualified outer Continental Shelf revenues in a special account in the Treasury from which the Secretary shall disburse—

(A) 75 percent to Gulf producing States in accordance with subsection (b); and

(B) 25 percent to provide financial assistance to States in accordance with section 6 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-8), which shall be considered income to the Land and Water Conservation Fund for purposes of section 2 of that Act (16 U.S.C. 4601-5).

(b) **ALLOCATION AMONG GULF PRODUCING STATES AND COASTAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS.**—

(1) **ALLOCATION AMONG GULF PRODUCING STATES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2007 THROUGH 2016.**—

Regulations.  
Effective dates.

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subparagraph (B), effective for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2016, the amount made available under subsection (a)(2)(A) shall be allocated to each Gulf producing State in amounts (based on a formula established by the Secretary by regulation) that are inversely proportional to the respective distances between the point on the coastline of each Gulf producing State that is closest to the geographic center of the applicable leased tract and the geographic center of the leased tract.

(B) **MINIMUM ALLOCATION.**—The amount allocated to a Gulf producing State each fiscal year under subparagraph (A) shall be at least 10 percent of the amounts available under subsection (a)(2)(A).

(2) **ALLOCATION AMONG GULF PRODUCING STATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 AND THEREAFTER.**—

Effective dates.  
Regulations.

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), effective for fiscal year 2017 and each fiscal year thereafter—

(i) the amount made available under subsection (a)(2)(A) from any lease entered into within the 181 Area or the 181 South Area shall be allocated to each Gulf producing State in amounts (based on a formula established by the Secretary by regulation) that are inversely proportional to the respective distances between the point on the coastline of each Gulf producing State that is closest to the geographic center of the applicable leased tract and the geographic center of the leased tract; and

(ii) the amount made available under subsection (a)(2)(A) from any lease entered into within the 2002–2007 planning area shall be allocated to each Gulf producing State in amounts that are inversely proportional to the respective distances between the point on the coastline of each Gulf producing State that is closest to the geographic center of each historical lease site and the geographic center of the historical lease site, as determined by the Secretary.

(B) MINIMUM ALLOCATION.—The amount allocated to a Gulf producing State each fiscal year under subparagraph (A) shall be at least 10 percent of the amounts available under subsection (a)(2)(A).

(C) HISTORICAL LEASE SITES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), for purposes of subparagraph (A)(ii), the historical lease sites in the 2002–2007 planning area shall include all leases entered into by the Secretary for an area in the Gulf of Mexico during the period beginning on October 1, 1982 (or an earlier date if practicable, as determined by the Secretary), and ending on December 31, 2015.

(ii) ADJUSTMENT.—Effective January 1, 2022, and every 5 years thereafter, the ending date described in clause (i) shall be extended for an additional 5 calendar years.

(3) PAYMENTS TO COASTAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall pay 20 percent of the allocable share of each Gulf producing State, as determined under paragraphs (1) and (2), to the coastal political subdivisions of the Gulf producing State.

(B) ALLOCATION.—The amount paid by the Secretary to coastal political subdivisions shall be allocated to each coastal political subdivision in accordance with subparagraphs (B), (C), and (E) of section 31(b)(4) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1356a(b)(4)).

(c) TIMING.—The amounts required to be deposited under paragraph (2) of subsection (a) for the applicable fiscal year shall be made available in accordance with that paragraph during the fiscal year immediately following the applicable fiscal year.

(d) AUTHORIZED USES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), each Gulf producing State and coastal political subdivision shall use all amounts received under subsection (b) in accordance with all applicable Federal and State laws, only for 1 or more of the following purposes:

(A) Projects and activities for the purposes of coastal protection, including conservation, coastal restoration, hurricane protection, and infrastructure directly affected by coastal wetland losses.

(B) Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, or natural resources.

(C) Implementation of a federally-approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.

(D) Mitigation of the impact of outer Continental Shelf activities through the funding of onshore infrastructure projects.

Effective dates.  
Termination  
dates.

(E) Planning assistance and the administrative costs of complying with this section.

(2) LIMITATION.—Not more than 3 percent of amounts received by a Gulf producing State or coastal political subdivision under subsection (b) may be used for the purposes described in paragraph (1)(E).

(e) ADMINISTRATION.—Amounts made available under subsection (a)(2) shall—

(1) be made available, without further appropriation, in accordance with this section;

(2) remain available until expended; and

(3) be in addition to any amounts appropriated under—

(A) the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.);

(B) the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-4 et seq.); or

(C) any other provision of law.

(f) LIMITATIONS ON AMOUNT OF DISTRIBUTED QUALIFIED OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF REVENUES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the total amount of qualified outer Continental Shelf revenues made available under subsection (a)(2) shall not exceed \$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2055.

(2) EXPENDITURES.—For the purpose of paragraph (1), for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2055, expenditures under subsection (a)(2) shall be net of receipts from that fiscal year from any area in the 181 Area in the Eastern Planning Area and the 181 South Area.

(3) PRO RATA REDUCTIONS.—If paragraph (1) limits the amount of qualified outer Continental Shelf revenue that would be paid under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection (a)(2)—

(A) the Secretary shall reduce the amount of qualified outer Continental Shelf revenue provided to each recipient on a pro rata basis; and

(B) any remainder of the qualified outer Continental Shelf revenues shall revert to the general fund of the Treasury.

## Attachment 2

**State of Florida  
Legislators**

**Northwest Florida  
Gulf of Mexico Oil Drilling  
Regional Position Package**

March 2010

*Presented by*



**THE DEFENSE SUPPORT INITIATIVE**

For

**Okaloosa – Santa Rosa – Walton Counties**

c/o The Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County, Florida  
Post Office Box 4097, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549  
850-362-6467 [www.florida-edc.org/defense/htm](http://www.florida-edc.org/defense/htm)



**THE DEFENSE SUPPORT INITIATIVE**  
of Okaloosa, Santa Rosa and Walton Counties

March 1, 2010

Dear Sir or Madam:

The **Defense Support Initiative** (DSI), sponsored by the Economic Development Council servicing Okaloosa County, Florida is comprised of 25 community leaders representing the community-based military and defense support organizations from Santa Rosa, Okaloosa and Walton Counties. These three counties serve as home for NAS Whiting Field, Eglin AFB, Hurlburt Field, Duke Field and, beginning in 2011, the US Army 7<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne). The DSI joined forces with Escambia and Bay Counties in 2006 to form a separate five-county **Northwest Florida Defense Coalition** to support and enhance Northwest Florida's military installations, missions and national security strategies. This merger extended the support umbrella to include NAS Pensacola, Tyndall AFB and Naval Support Activity Panama City.

The Gulf of Mexico and the Eglin Gulf Range Complex is, by any measure or standard, a national test and training treasure and asset. As weapon systems and aircraft become more sophisticated and long-reaching, this test and training range takes on even greater importance in the national security of the United States. It is a unique feature possessing unique test and training capabilities and is highly regarded by the Department of Defense and all the military services.

Many organizations in Northwest Florida have consistently fought to keep offshore or near-shore drilling from the Eastern military mission line waters of the Gulf. The Military Mission Line defines a testing and training range that is crucial to the operation of the military in Northwest Florida and is a critical national asset. The military installations in Northwest Florida provide a yearly economic impact of over \$17.5 billion and with 220,000 direct and indirect jobs. The offshore drilling proponents argue that only \$2.2 billion may be generated from the awarding of offshore drilling leases in state waters. As you can see, this proposition does not make fiscal sense; much less military, tourism or environmental health sense.

Past federal policies are in place protecting a Military Mission Line running from Hurlburt Field south into the Gulf, with oil and natural gas drilling restricted to the west of the line. This packet provides 12 resolutions and proclamations from the Northwest Florida region supporting these protective policies and opposing activity in the Gulf of Mexico that would adversely affect the military missions and economic health of the region. Thank you for your consideration.

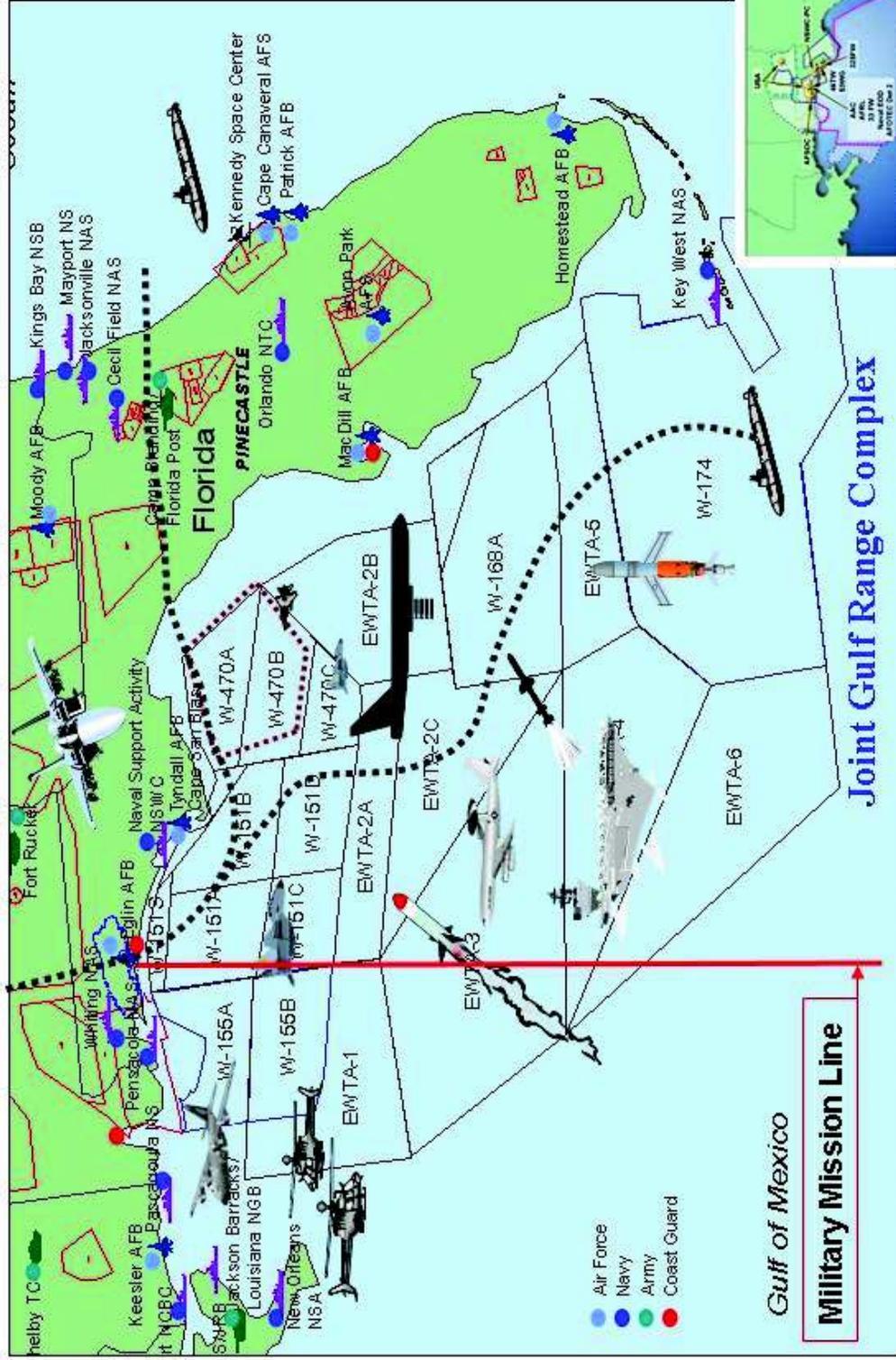
Respectfully Submitted,

  
Sam Burkett  
DSI Chairman

  
Kay Rasmussen  
Director of Defense & Economic Initiatives

Enclosure

# Military Operations in the Gulf



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**Bay Defense Alliance, Inc.**  
**Resolution Against Offshore Drilling in the Gulf of Mexico**  
**East of the Military Mission Line**

**Whereas** the Bay Defense Alliance is a community organization dedicated to the preservation and promotion of Bay County, Florida military installations and their missions in an era of military downsizing; and

**Whereas** a Florida Defense Industry Economic Impact Analysis completed in January 2008 by the University of West Florida Haas Center for Business Research and Economic Development determined Department of Defense spending in the State of Florida directly and indirectly accounts for an estimated 732,300 jobs and over \$57 billion in estimated economic impact in 2007; and

**Whereas** the same Florida Defense Industry Economic Impact Analysis completed in January 2008 by the University of West Florida Haas Center for Business Research and Economic Development determined Department of Defense spending in Bay County directly and indirectly accounts for an estimated 32,600 jobs and over \$2.4 billion in estimated economic impact in 2007; and

**Whereas** former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, in response to inquiries from the Senate Armed Services Committee, stated that prior analysis and existing agreements with the Department of the Interior recognize that areas east of the 86° 41' line in the Gulf of Mexico (commonly known as the "Military Mission Line") are especially critical to the Department of Defense due to the number of and diversity of military testing and training activities conducted there now and those planned for the future; and in those areas east of the Military Mission Line, drilling structures and associated development would be incompatible with military activities such as missile flights, low flying aircraft, weapons testing, and training;

**Now, therefore** be it resolved, that the Bay Defense Alliance strongly opposes the idea of offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico east of the Military Mission Line, in that it will disrupt the planning area established by the Department of the Interior's Mineral Management Services and the Department of Defense for use by the United States Armed Services for military training and testing purposes.

BAY DEFENSE ALLIANCE



Tom Neubauer, President  
September 5, 2008



**RESOLUTION 2010-1**

***A RESOLUTION OF  
THE CRESTVIEW AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
in opposition of any activity in the Gulf of Mexico, State or Federal waters that would  
negatively impact local military missions, tourism or coastal environmental  
health east of the Military Mission Line.***

**WHEREAS**, the Crestview Area Chamber of Commerce serves to represent the interests of businesses in our area protecting and expanding the economic viability of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Crestview Area Chamber of Commerce represents businesses of North Okaloosa County Area with a large unincorporated area in proximity to Eglin Air Force Base, Duke Field, Hurlburt Field, and the surrounding ranges which make up the largest military installation in the world and recognized as a national security treasure; and

**WHEREAS**, the Gulf of Mexico and the Eglin Gulf Range Complex are considered national test and training treasures, as well as tourism and environmental assets. As weapon systems and aircraft become more sophisticated and long-reaching, this test and training range takes on even greater importance in U.S. national security; it cannot be replicated anywhere in the United States. Likewise, the health of the Florida coast is essential to the tourism industry; and

**WHEREAS**, the Crestview Area Chamber of Commerce understands and supports the drive for U.S. energy independence and supports a broad, multifaceted approach that utilizes the most current technologies and conservation measures without endangering our national security or local economic drivers.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CRESTVIEW AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS THAT WE:**

**OPPOSE ANY FEDERAL OR STATE PROPOSALS THAT WOULD ENCROACH UPON THE GULF SHOULD THEY HAVE ANY POTENTIAL NEGATIVE IMPACT ON TEST AND TRAINING CAPABILITIES, TOURISM OR COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH. THE CRESTVIEW AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IS RESPECTFUL OF PAST FEDERAL POLICIES THAT HAVE SUPPORTED A MILITARY MISSION LINE RUNNING SOUTH INTO THE GULF, WITH OIL AND NATURAL GAS DRILLING RESTRICTED TO THE WEST OF THIS LINE.**

**Adopted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2010**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Jones, President of the Board  
ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wayne Harris  
Executive Director



**RESOLUTION 2009 – 5**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE DESTIN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE DRILLING IN STATE WATERS OFF THE COAST OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA.**

**WHEREAS**, the Destin Area Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) is a business organization representing 1,000 businesses in southern Okaloosa and Walton Counties, and

**WHEREAS**, the Chamber supports the missions of all military bases in the state of Florida, and

**WHEREAS**, the Chamber promotes tourism for its members in the Destin Area, and

**WHEREAS**, military related business, industry and missions represent nearly \$5 billion in economic impact and nearly 19,000 jobs in our community and those missions would be greatly jeopardized by offshore drilling in state waters, and

**WHEREAS**, tourism is a \$60 billion industry in the state of Florida and would be jeopardized by offshore drilling in state waters, and

**WHEREAS**, the military has a \$60 billion economic impact in the state of Florida and would be jeopardized by offshore drilling in state waters, and

**WHEREAS**, the Chamber previously passed Resolution 2009 – 3 on June 30, 2009, opposing offshore drilling as it relates to the federal American Clean Energy Act of 2009 and any drilling within forty miles of the Northwest Florida Coast including the Destin Dome,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Destin Area Chamber of Commerce adamantly opposes Florida House Bill 1219 passed at the end of the 2009 Legislative Session, and opposes any offshore drilling in state waters.

**SO RESOLVED THIS 28<sup>th</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2009.**

Karen McCarthy  
Chairman of the Board

**ATTEST:**

Shane A. Moody, IOM, CCE  
President and CEO

*Building a World-Class Community One Business at a Time*

4484 Legendary Drive, Suite A | Destin, FL 32541  
(850) 837-6241 | Fax (850) 654-5612 | [www.DestinChamber.com](http://www.DestinChamber.com)



**RESOLUTION 2009 – 3**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE DESTIN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN OPPOSITION OF OFFSHORE DRILLING AS IT RELATES TO THE DESTIN DOME AND THE AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY LEADERSHIP ACT OF 2009.**

**WHEREAS**, the Destin Area Chamber of Commerce is a business organization representing nearly 1,000 members in the Destin area; and

**WHEREAS**, the Destin Area Chamber of Commerce is fully cognizant of the need to explore for new energy sources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Destin Area Chamber of Commerce understands the need to search for newer, cleaner alternative forms of energy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Destin Area Chamber of Commerce supports becoming less dependent on foreign oil; and

**WHEREAS**, the preservation and conservation of its natural resources is critical to Northwest Florida's environment and economic future; and

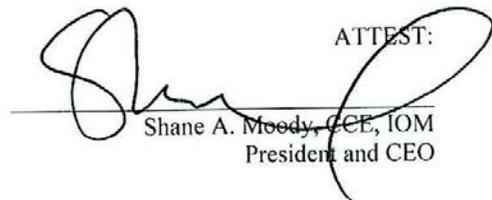
**WHEREAS**, the Destin area is largely dependent upon the tourism industry, making our natural resources, our beaches and the Gulf of Mexico vital to our economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the construction of oil wells within the Destin Dome or within forty miles of our pristine coastline would be detrimental to tourism in our area, and therefore detrimental to our economy;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Destin Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors opposes any oil well construction and off-shore drilling within forty miles of the Northwest Florida coast, including the Destin Dome.

**SO RESOLVED THIS 30th DAY OF JUNE 2009.**

  
Karen McCarthy, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:  
  
Shane A. Moody, CCE, IOM  
President and CEO

*Building a World-Class Community One Business at a Time*  
4484 Legendary Drive, Suite A | Destin, FL 32541  
(850) 837-6241 | Fax (850) 654-5612 | [www.DestinChamber.com](http://www.DestinChamber.com)



**The Defense Support Initiative**  
of Okaloosa, Santa Rosa and Walton Counties

***A resolution of the tri-county Defense Support Initiative opposing any federal or state proposals that would negatively impact military missions conducted in the Gulf of Mexico.***

**WHEREAS**, the Defense Support Initiative (DSI) sponsored by the Economic Development Council servicing Okaloosa County, Florida represents the community-based military and defense support organizations from Santa Rosa County, Okaloosa County and Walton County. These three counties serve as home for NAS Pensacola, Naval Education and Training Command, NAS Whiting Field, Eglin AFB, Hurlburt Field, Duke Field and, beginning in 2011, the US Army 7<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne). In addition, immediately to the east of Walton County sits Bay County, host community for Tyndall AFB and Naval Support Activity Panama City.

**WHEREAS**, the Gulf of Mexico and the Eglin Gulf Range Complex is, by any measure or standard, regarded as a national test and training treasure and asset. As weapon systems and aircraft become more sophisticated and long-reaching, this test and training range takes on even greater importance in the national security of the United States. It is a unique feature possessing unique test and training capabilities and is highly regarded by the Department of Defense and all the military services. It cannot be replicated anywhere in the United States.

**WHEREAS**, the DSI understands and supports the drive for U.S. energy independence and supports a broad, multi-faceted approach that utilizes the most current technologies and conservation measures. However, sacrificing a key lynchpin in our national security cannot be a part of the effort.

**NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Defense Support Initiative that:**

The DSI strongly rejects any federal or state proposals that would encroach upon the Gulf should they have any negative impact on these test and training capabilities.

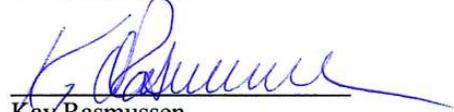
The DSI urges all federal and state policy makers to be mindful of the need for a strong national defense whenever considering expansion of allowable activity in the Gulf of Mexico. The DSI is respectful of past federal policies that have supported a Military Mission Line running from Hurlburt Field south into the Gulf, with oil and natural gas drilling restricted to the west of this line.

**ADOPTED on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2009.**

**APPROVED BY:**

  
Sam Burkett  
DSI Chairman

**WITNESSED BY:**

  
Kay Rasmussen  
DSI Director

---

Sponsored by The Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County, Florida  
Post Office Box 4097, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549 ~ 850-362-6467  
[www.florida-edc.org/defense.htm](http://www.florida-edc.org/defense.htm)



Economic Development Council  
of Okaloosa County, Florida

## RESOLUTION

***A resolution of the Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County, Florida in opposition of any activity in the Gulf of Mexico, State or Federal waters, that would negatively impact local military missions, tourism or coastal environmental health.***

**WHEREAS**, the Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County, serves as Okaloosa County's primary economic development and business advocacy organization committed to the continual growth and diversification of its economy. The EDC's primary objectives are 1) existing industry diversification, retention and expansion, 2) development of a technically skilled and available workforce, and 3) recruitment of targeted industries all supporting the continual development of quality of place.

**WHEREAS**, the Economic Development Council represents all of Okaloosa County and its nine municipalities which are host communities for Eglin Air Force Base, Hurlburt Field and Duke Field collectively housed on the largest military installation in the world and known as the Department of Defense's national security treasure.

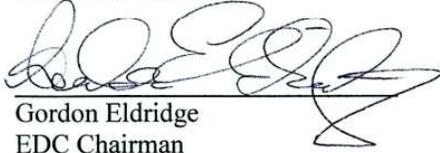
**WHEREAS**, the Gulf of Mexico and the Eglin Gulf Range Complex are considered national test and training treasures, and tourism and environmental assets. As weapon systems and aircraft become more sophisticated and long-reaching, this test and training range takes on even greater importance in U.S. national security; it cannot be replicated anywhere in the United States. Likewise, the health of the Florida coast is essential to the tourism industry, and the availability of sand renourishment from the continental shelf.

**WHEREAS**, the EDC understands and supports the drive for U.S. energy independence and supports a broad, multi-faceted approach that utilizes the most current technologies and conservation measures without endangering our national security or local economic drivers.

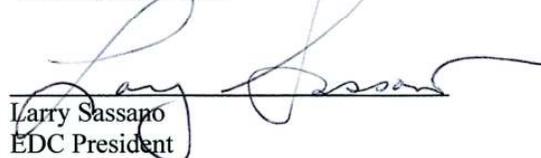
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the EDC opposes any federal or state proposals that would encroach upon the Gulf should they have any negative impact on test and training capabilities, tourism or coastal environmental health. The EDC is respectful of past federal policies that have supported a Military Mission Line running from Hurlburt Field south into the Gulf, with oil and natural gas drilling restricted to the west of this line.

**ADOPTED on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2009, by the Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County Board of Directors.**

**APPROVED BY:**

  
Gordon Eldridge  
EDC Chairman

**WITNESSED BY:**

  
Larry Sassano  
EDC President

P.O. Box 4097, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547  
850-362-6467 ~ [www.florida-edc.org](http://www.florida-edc.org)



**EMERALD COAST MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL**  
**P.O. Box 116, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-0116**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE MILITARY MISSION OVER DRILLING IN THE GULF OF MEXICO**

**WHEREAS, the test and training ranges of the eastern Gulf of Mexico are a unique and irreplaceable national security asset providing critical airspace for the research, development, acquisition, test and evaluation mission at Eglin Air Force Base; and**

**WHEREAS, the test and training ranges of the eastern Gulf of Mexico also provide critical training airspace for Tyndall Air Force Base, Naval Air Station Whiting Field, and Naval Air Station Pensacola; and**

**WHEREAS, the military sector is the key economic driver in Northwest Florida; and**

**WHEREAS, current proposals to drill for oil and natural gas in the Gulf of Mexico may threaten these critical national security components; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Emerald Coast Military Affairs Council is opposed to any offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico that may in any way endanger the ability of the military installations in Northwest Florida to execute their current missions or expand their missions as necessary for our national security.**

**DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2010.**

**EMERALD COAST MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**CLIFF LONG, CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**SHIRLEY PIGOTT, SECRETARY**



RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE OFFSHORE DRILLING IN THE  
GULF OF MEXICO EAST OF THE MILITARY MISSION LINE

WHEREAS, Northwest Florida is home to seven military installations, including Naval Air Station Pensacola, Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Duke Field, Hurlburt Field, Eglin Air Force Base, Naval Support Activity Panama City and Tyndall Air Force Base; and

WHEREAS, the defense industry has a \$15 billion annual economic impact on Northwest Florida and employs more than 70,000 employees in the region; and

WHEREAS, former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, in response to inquiries from the Senate Armed Services Committee, stated that prior analysis and existing agreements with the Department of the Interior recognize that areas east of the 86° 41' line in the Gulf of Mexico (commonly known as the Military Mission Line) are especially critical to the Department of Defense due to the number of and diversity of military testing and training activities conducted there now and those planned for the future; and in those areas east of the Military Mission Line, drilling structures and associated development would be incompatible with military activities such as missile flights, low flying aircraft, weapons testing and training; and

WHEREAS, Northwest Florida's military installations all conduct training missions in this vast test range and protecting this significant air and sea space is vital to the region's present and future economic success;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Florida's Great Northwest, as follows:

1. Florida's Great Northwest, while not opposed to the exploration of alternative energy resources, strongly opposes offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico east of the Military Mission Line in that it will disrupt the planning area established by the Department of Defense for use by the United States Armed Services for military training and testing.
2. That a copy of this Resolution be provided to all elected officials representing Northwest Florida within the Florida Executive and Legislative branches and the United States Congress.

THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2009.

Fred Leopold, Chairman

Kim Bodine, Secretary



## GREATER FORT WALTON BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

...helping businesses help themselves

### A Resolution of the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce Opposing Offshore Drilling in the Gulf of Mexico

**Kathy Houchins**  
2008 Chair of the Board  
Breakers on Okaloosa Island

**Alan Gieseman**  
Chair-Elect  
White Wilson Medical Center

**Peggy Brockman**  
Immediate Past Chair  
Ideal Health For You

**Chad Hamilton**  
Treasurer  
O'Sullivan Creel

**Jackie Pilcher**  
Vice Chair - Community  
Rosewood Realty

**David Braithwaite**  
Vice Chair - Government  
Compass Bank

**Chris Sehman**  
Vice Chair - Membership  
Helen Back

**Bill Bubel**  
Vice Chair - Business  
Development  
Santa Rosa Mall

**Ginger Walker**  
Vice Chair - Special Events

Board of Directors:  
Clarke Bell  
Bobby Bess  
James Breitenfeld  
Lynn Dominique  
Diana Duffey  
Dr. David Goetsch  
Dick Marks  
Tammy McDaniel  
Jan Pooley  
Catherine Rodriguez  
Sandy Sims  
Vicki Story  
Vickie Warner  
Sabu Williams

**WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of the 1,500 members and 1,260 businesses, requests of our elected officials specific actions and public statements to block further attempts to open the eastern Gulf of Mexico to offshore drilling.**

**WHEREAS, we oppose legislative attempts to enable oil drilling for the following reasons:**

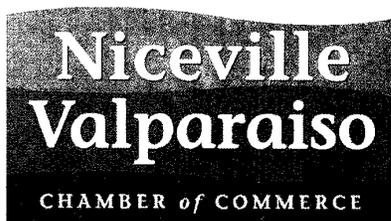
1. Drilling will produce no oil for a decade or more and then in insufficient quantities to impact supply/demand metrics that drive the cost of energy or impact domestic security.
2. Drilling in the eastern Gulf of Mexico will impair the military mission of bases in the region or will at the very least encourage review of alternative basing of certain military functions.
3. Alternative, sustainable and clean energy sources are the cure to the addiction to oil and the only environmentally healthy solution to issues facing the region and nation.
4. Tourism and the beauty of our coastline must be protected and preserved.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce asks our elected Congressmen, Senators, and the Governor of the State of Florida to take action to block drilling in the Gulf of Mexico.**

**Adopted on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2008 by the Board of Directors of the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce in Fort Walton Beach, Okaloosa County, Florida.**

  
Kathy Houchins  
2008 Chair of the Board

  
David M. Braithwaite  
Vice Chair – Government Division



*The Center of Business*

**RESOLUTION 2010-1**

***A RESOLUTION OF  
THE NICEVILLE VALPARAISO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
in opposition of any activity in the Gulf of Mexico, State or Federal waters that would  
negatively impact local military missions, tourism or coastal environmental  
health east of the Military Mission Line.***

**WHEREAS**, the Niceville Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce serves to represent the interests of businesses in our area protecting and expanding the economic viability of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Niceville Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce represents businesses in two municipalities along with a large unincorporated area in proximity to Eglin Air Force Base, Duke Field, Hurlburt Field, and the surrounding ranges which make up the largest military installation in the world and recognized as a national security treasure; and

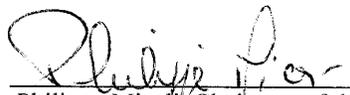
**WHEREAS**, the Gulf of Mexico and the Eglin Gulf Range Complex are considered national test and training treasures, as well as tourism and environmental assets. As weapon systems and aircraft become more sophisticated and long-reaching, this test and training range takes on even greater importance in U.S. national security; it cannot be replicated anywhere in the United States. Likewise, the health of the Florida coast is essential to the tourism industry; and

**WHEREAS**, the Niceville Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce understands and supports the drive for U.S. energy independence and supports a broad, multifaceted approach that utilizes the most current technologies and conservation measures without endangering our national security or local economic drivers.

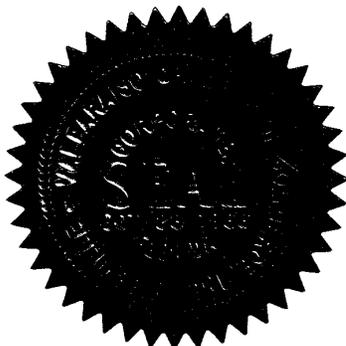
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NICEVILLE VALPARAISO  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS THAT WE:**

**OPPOSE ANY FEDERAL OR STATE PROPOSALS THAT WOULD ENCROACH UPON THE GULF SHOULD THEY HAVE ANY POTENTIAL NEGATIVE IMPACT ON TEST AND TRAINING CAPABILITIES, TOURISM OR COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH. THE NICEVILLE VALPARAISO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IS RESPECTFUL OF PAST FEDERAL POLICIES THAT HAVE SUPPORTED A MILITARY MISSION LINE RUNNING SOUTH INTO THE GULF, WITH OIL AND NATURAL GAS DRILLING RESTRICTED TO THE WEST OF THIS LINE.**

**Adopted this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2010**

  
Philippe Miceli, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:  
  
Tricia Brunson  
President & CEO



## A Resolution Opposing Offshore Mineral Exploration

**WHEREAS**, the test and training ranges of the eastern Gulf of Mexico are a unique and irreplaceable national security asset providing critical airspace for high priority missions for joint Department of Defense military installations and units located in Northwest Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, critical live-fire test and training opportunities take place in the eastern Gulf of Mexico that are incompatible with current mineral exploration and extraction processes and techniques; and

**WHEREAS**, waters along the Northwest Florida shoreline contain significant marine ecosystems that support both tourism and the fishing industries and are responsible for billions of dollars a year in local and state revenue while providing both an environmental and aesthetic value; and

**WHEREAS**, the emerald green waters and pristine white beaches are the main attractions for visitors coming to Okaloosa County; and

**WHEREAS**, tourism, hospitality and the defense industry are the largest employers in Okaloosa County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners of Okaloosa County, Florida is opposed to offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico east of the Military Mission Line.

**DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2009.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

*Bill Roberts*

**BILL ROBERTS, CHAIRMAN**



**ATTEST:**

*Don W. Howard*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**DON W. HOWARD  
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT**





## POLICY POSITION REGARDING GULF OF MEXICO OIL DRILLING

The Gulf of Mexico and the Eglin Gulf Range Complex is a national Test and Training asset. As weapons systems and aircraft become more sophisticated and long-reaching, this Test and Training Range becomes increasingly important to the national security of the United States. Its unique features cannot be replicated anywhere in the United States.

With this fact in mind, the TEAM Santa Rosa Economic Development Council, Inc. opposes any federal or state proposals that would encroach upon the Gulf should they have any negative impact on military Test and Training capabilities. TEAM Santa Rosa EDC Inc. is respectful of past federal policies that have supported a Military Mission Line running from Hurlburt Field south into the Gulf, with oil and gas drilling restricted to the west of this line.

TEAM Santa Rosa EDC Inc. understands and supports the drive for U.S. energy independence and supports a broad, multi-faceted approach that utilizes the most current technologies and conservation measures. However, sacrificing a key component of our national security must not be a part of the effort.

TEAM Santa Rosa EDC Inc. urges all federal and state policy makers to be mindful of the need for a strong national defense whenever considering expansion of allowable activity in the Gulf of Mexico.

ESTABLISHED THIS 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER 2009.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ferd Salomon", is written over the text "ESTABLISHED THIS 16th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2009." and extends below it.

Ferd Salomon, Chairman  
TEAM Santa Rosa Economic Development Council, Inc.

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6491 Caroline Street • Ste. 4 • Milton, FL 32570-4592  
(850) 623-0174 • Fax (850) 623-5932  
[www.teamsantarosa.com](http://www.teamsantarosa.com)



**WALTON AREA  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
Guiding the power of business.  
Strengthening community.

63 South Centre Trail  
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459  
PHONE (850) 267-0683  
FAX (850) 267-0603

95 Circle Drive  
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435  
PHONE (850) 892-3191  
FAX (850) 892-9688

**Walton Area Chamber of Commerce  
Resolution against Offshore Drilling in the Gulf of Mexico  
East of the Military Mission Line**

**WHEREAS** the Walton Area Chamber is a membership organization of nearly 1,300 comprised of members representing businesses, industry and local governments; and

**WHEREAS** all military installations in the Northwest Florida, including Tyndall Air Force Base, Naval Support Activity Panama City, Eglin Air Force Base, Hurlbut Field, Pensacola Naval Air Station and NAS Whiting Field, conduct training missions in this vast test range; and

**WHEREAS** former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, in response to inquiries from the Senate Armed Services Committee, stated that prior analysis and existing agreements with the Department of the Interior recognize that areas east of the 86" 41' line in the Gulf of Mexico (commonly known as the "Military Mission Line") are especially critical to the Department of Defense due to the number of and diversity of military testing and training activities conducted there now and those planned for the future; and in those areas east of the Military Mission Line, drilling structures and associated development would be incompatible with military activities such as missile nights, low flying aircraft, weapons testing, and training; and

**WHEREAS** the hospitality industry in Walton County is the largest sector of the local economy and relies on the pristine quality of the area beaches to attract tourists from all over the world and drilling in close proximity will threaten the sustainability of Walton County's primary attraction; and

**WHEREAS** protecting Walton County's beaches and waters from the threat of environmental impacts attributable to offshore activities, including physical disturbances caused by anchoring, pipeline placement and rig construction, the resuspension of bottom sediments and pollution from drilling and production discharges, preserves Walton County's economic and environmental interests.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Walton Area Chamber of Commerce strongly opposes the idea of offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico east of the Military Mission Line, in that it will disrupt the planning area established by the Department of the Interior's Mineral Management Services and the Department of Defense for use by the United States Armed Services for military training and testing purposes.

WALTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Chair, John Forrester

Date: June 15, 2009

WEB [www.waltonareachamber.com](http://www.waltonareachamber.com) • EMAIL [info@waltonareachamber.com](mailto:info@waltonareachamber.com)



### **Mission Statement**

To support and maintain the local military installations and their positive economic contributions to the tri-county area while maintaining and nurturing the relationships with the civilian communities that house them.

[www.florida-edc.org/defense.htm](http://www.florida-edc.org/defense.htm)