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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

June 29, 2010

Honorable Ken Salazar
U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

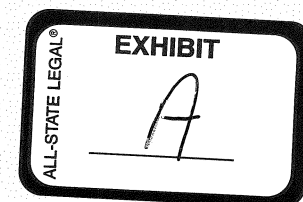
Re: Restructured OCS Deepwater Drilling Moratorium

Dear Secretary Salazar:

Thank you for your request for comment on the Department of Interior's concept to restructure the deepwater drilling moratorium. The State of Louisiana's priority is both to ensure that offshore drilling is conducted with the utmost safety and regulatory oversight and to ensure the environment and natural resources of the State are protected. Unfortunately, your request for comments by today on a concept without the ability to review and comment on a specific proposal does not comply with the Department's obligation, as required by 43 U.S.C. § 1331, *et seq.*, and 43 U.S.C. § 1334(a), in particular.

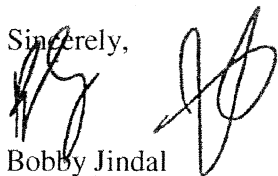
The State has not been provided any documents. Not only should a draft of the proposed moratorium be submitted, but also all documents supporting the proposal. Without these documents, the State cannot undertake a meaningful review and therefore a meaningful consultation cannot take place. Moreover, such a short time frame to receive comments is insufficient for the State to analyze the proposed moratorium, especially when the State has not been given any documents to analyze.

As I noted in my letter to you dated June 2, 2010, and as we stated in the attached amicus curiae brief to the U.S. District Court, a six-month deepwater moratorium will have a devastating effect on Louisiana's economy as the rigs may move to other countries for several years to come. The Louisiana Department of Economic Development estimated the loss of over 10,000 Louisiana jobs within just a few months. In addition, Louisiana stands to lose substantial tax revenues as result of six month moratorium due to a significant decline in income and sales taxes. It is critical that a six-month blanket moratorium *not* be imposed on our deepwater activity and that options are considered that allow for the continued drilling activity in the Gulf of Mexico



The State is prepared to provide meaningful and timely feedback on any specific proposal, which ideally would propose to safely and promptly resume operations in the Gulf in a manner that protects the workers and the citizens of this State and the Gulf region, as well as provides the energy this country so desperately needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'BJ', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Bobby Jindal
Governor

Attachment : Amicus Curiae Brief