



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

JUN 23 2010

To: All Employees of the Department of the Interior
From: Secretary *Ken Salazar*
Subject: Immediate Prohibition from Enforcing the Moratorium on Drilling New Deepwater Wells

On June 22, 2010, the District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana in *Hornbeck Offshore Services, L.L.C. v. Salazar*, Case No. 10-1663, issued its Order granting the plaintiffs' motion for a preliminary injunction prohibiting the Department of the Interior from enforcing its drilling moratorium entitled "Suspension of Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Drilling of New Deepwater Wells" in the outer continental shelf at depths greater than 500 feet. The Order specifically states:

that Honorable Kenneth Lee "Ken" Salazar, in his official capacity as Secretary, United States Department of the Interior; United States Department of the Interior; Honorable Robert "Bob" Abbey, in his official capacity as Acting Director, Minerals Management Service; and the Minerals Management Service, their servants, agents, successor agencies, and employees, and all persons in active concert or participation with them, who receive actual Notice of this Preliminary Injunction (collectively "defendants"), and until a full trial on the merits is had, *are hereby immediately prohibited from enforcing the Moratorium, entitled "Suspension of Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Drilling of New Deepwater Wells," dated May 28, 2010, and NTL No. 2010-N04 seeking implementation of the Moratorium, as applied to all drilling on the OCS in water at depths greater than 500 feet.* (Order at 2-3)

This Order shall be interpreted to apply to the newly renamed Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement. *See* Secretarial Order No. 3302, dated June 18, 2010.

In accordance with the Court's Order, Department of the Interior employees are hereby notified that they are not to take any action to enforce the Moratorium issued on May 28, 2010, or to enforce NTL No. 2010-NO4 until additional orders are received from me.

Defendants' Response to Plaintiffs' Motion
to Enforce Preliminary Injunction Order

Exhibit A