

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Wilson Applauds Expiration of Moratoria  
on Domestic Energy Exploration**

*WASHINGTON – Congressman Joe Wilson (SC-02) issued the following statement today recognizing “Energy Freedom Day” upon the expiration of bans on energy exploration in the outer continental shelf and on-shore oil shale production.*

“Lifting the ban on off-shore deepwater drilling is an important first step in breaking our nation’s dependence on foreign oil. But, it is just a first step. Our nation’s short-term and long-term energy needs must be met with an all-of-the-above strategy which includes sound conservation incentives and alternative energy resources. Additionally, as a native of Charleston and someone who has the privilege to represent coastal communities in South Carolina, I am deeply aware of the importance of our world-class beaches to our state’s tourism industry. Any off-shore exploration should be deepwater and well beyond our shores, in the realm of 25 miles or more.”

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