



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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BILL ANOATUBBY
GOVERNOR

May 18, 2004

U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy
1120 20th Street, Northwest
Suite 200 North
Washington, DC 20036

Greetings:

We appreciated the opportunity to comment on the preliminary report of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy. Our comments are outlined below:

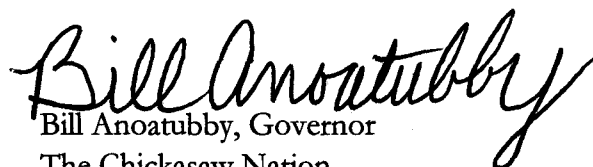
- The current commission does not have any American Indian or Alaska Native representatives. Such representation is important since the commission has a plan to improve, coordinate and consolidate the federal programs that have a role in managing coastal areas to address problems of overdevelopment.

- Will tribes be allowed direct access to the information generated by IOOS for their benefit and/or studies the same as state, education and environmental groups?

- "...the report concludes a proposal for funding additional federal and state activities required to implement the Commission's recommendations." Tribes need to have access to this funding also to allow them to also implement the commission's recommendations within their own jurisdictions.

Again, thank you for this opportunity.

Sincerely,


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation



God Bless America!

