

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

Washington, DC 20515-1803

February 18, 2011

The Honorable Barack H. Obama  
President of the United States of America  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Obama:

In light of this week's announcement that Marine Well Containment Company (MWCC) has completed the initial well containment system, we again request an end to the *de facto* moratorium and a return to the timely and responsible issuance of offshore drilling permits.

This announcement by MWCC is welcome news for countless families in the Gulf region who so heavily rely on energy production for their livelihoods, many of who have been out of work since the Macondo tragedy. On January 25, 2011 the Department of Interior again refused to lift the *de facto* moratorium, preventing these men and women from returning to work because energy companies had not shown a capability to respond to a massive oil spill.

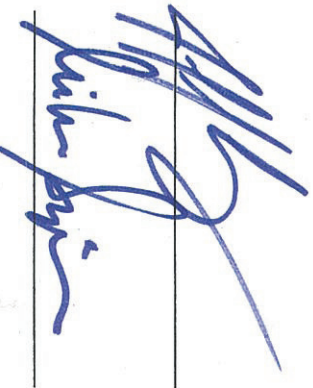
The MWCC's work on improving underwater well control capabilities in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico is demonstrative of the industry's commitment to abide by the Administration's instructions to return to safety and responsibly utilizing our domestic energy resources. Moreover, the MWCC is committed to rolling out additional system components to further expand these initial capabilities next year.

It is our understanding that the MWCC has held multiple meetings with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) to ensure the initial system and follow-on technologies meet and exceed every requirement set by BOEMRE. Again, these meetings are proof that the industry is doing everything it can to quickly and efficiently meet your requirements.

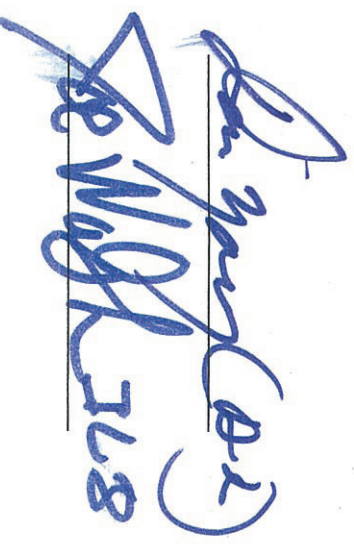
Considering these facts, we respectfully request that you end your *de facto* moratorium and return to approving the full slate of permit applicants that have been submitted and allow this industry to return to work.

We thank you for your time and attention to this matter and look forward to your timely response.

Respectfully,



Mike Pyrie



Dan Young (AR)  
Joe Miller (LRS)

Rob Ross

Donald Dyer KS-3

Bill Fung MO-7

Tom Jones TX-23

Tom Dwyer

Paul Stinson

Austin Scott GA-8

John Burns KS-3

Michael

Steve Thompson

Raymond P. Spurrins Okla.

John Kelly LA-04

John Sullivan OR

Robert M. Allen KY-2

Joe Barton TX-6

Tommy

Paul

John Trotter

Richard H. I.

Jack S. Evans OR-18

Robert M. F.

Bob F.

Paul Kelly NC-2



Gene Black TN-6

Norman Smith NY-25

~~Michael Kelly~~ 3

~~John~~ MO-6

Al T. Sweeney VA-7

Robyn Appleby

Rick Sluiter

Donna TN-03

Bob King MI-2

~~John~~ TX-1

Angela

Stan Seal, VA-1

Ken Hickey AZ-3

Gene Schuchert AZ-2

John M. Pappas MS-4

Bill Nemrod

Edna  
~~Edna~~ ND-1

Jack

Donald Mervilles

~~Bill~~

Bill Stone

Tom Stephens