From: Kelly.Lambert@shell.com
To: MVN Environmental;
Subject: Coconut Beach
Date: Monday, May 18, 2009 5:31:14 PM

Mr. Owen,

Please consider minimizing the impact to Coconut Beach volleyball complex. It is one of the few outdoor athletic activities available in New Orleans, especially once the softball fields in City Park did not reopen after Katrina.

I moved here 19 years ago and played leagues and tournaments at Coconut Beach when there were only three nets. I have watched Bruce build the complex into a thriving business which is very important to the city of New Orleans! I've seen pro tournaments come through and have taken home more sand than I care to admit in places we can't talk about. My core friends outside of the office in New Orleans are my volleyball friends. This was especially important to me when I moved here from college, and even more important to me after rebuilding my house Uptown. We need to have fun. It's obvious people use the space, since I have to search for parking to play on Thursday nights. It is great to see the place so alive.

I recruit for Shell on college campuses. Many times it is difficult to attract young professionals to post-Katrina New Orleans over a city like Houston. A HUGE selling point for New Orleans is Coconut Beach. Many of our new hires play out there and would not enjoy the city nearly as much if New Orleans didn't have that complex. These are great additions to the city's tax base I fear we might lose if we don't have any fun "after work" activities to help keep them here.

If there is any way to accomplish your project while mitigating your impact to Coconut Beach, I request you go to great lengths to preserve our Beach.

Thank you for your consideration.

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