From: ashlee.monju@exxonmobil.com
To: MVN Environmental;
Subject: COCONUT BEACH
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2009 9:50:14 AM

Mr. Gib,

I am writing in concern for COCONUT BEACH. I have been going to Coconut Beach since 1997. I have met alot of great friends and co-workers there. This is not only a place where adults come to laugh, play and mingle; but FAMILIES also go there to have fun. Families can go there and not worry about their child getting kidnapped. It is one of the safest areas in the city. To me its the only place I do not have to worry about something awful happening to my child or other children. Coconut Beach also does fund-raisers for the community and puts money back into the city. A city that still needs rebuilding. A city that still needs money in these struggling times.

My happiest time after Katrina was when I found out that Coconut Beach was opening up again. That made me feel like I was home. I remember the first night out there, it was like a breath of fresh air outside of the stress of post-Katrina. Even though there was only 6 nets, I made sure that myself and my team were one of the first ones back. We ended up winning best of net. My 6 year old son absolutely loves it out there. He was only 3 years old when Coconut Beach reopened. When I took him out there for his first time, he took to the other children out there like they were his family. After that and still to this day he always ask, "Mom, can we go play volleyball tonight?" To take that away from the children out there is what upsets me the most. Not only are you trying to take a second home; but, my child and other children's play ground.

Myself along with hundreds of people are going to try and make sure that you understand how much we love this place. How we will stand up for Coconut Beach. Coconut Beach is a GREAT place. It completes West End/Lakefront like the French Quarter completes New Orleans. You should come out to Coconut Beach. Look for yourself with your own eyes. The weekend of May 30; is the annual fund-raiser for Childrens Hospital. Look and see how much money Coconut Beach raises for that NON PROFIT HOSPITAL THAT HELPS CHILDREN. See how it affects your heart and soul. I do not see any other sport complex doing that. Do you?? Childrens Hospital needs every penny that it gets to maintain their equipment; staffing of nurses, doctors and admitting staff; getting new and improved equipment; but most of all, to keep it a heart warming place so children are not afraid to go there.

YOU ARE DOING A GREAT INJUSTICE TO THE CITY AND THE PEOPLE BY

TAKING
THAT PLACE!!! You have other options. Take the parking lot. I'll walk 4 blocks to go to Coconut Beach and so will everyone else. As long has you don't take Coconut Beach from us. If not for the adults, do it for our children and future generations.

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' Do not ask the Lord to Guide your Footsteps if you are not willing to move your Feet'