

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

1053632

April 6, 2011

The Honorable Barack H. Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As rising gasoline prices threaten our nation's economic recovery, we welcome your acknowledgement of the positive impact which increased domestic supplies of oil and gas will have for American families and businesses. In your speech on March 30, you stated, "producing more oil in America can help lower oil prices, create jobs, and enhance our energy security."

We agree, and we also share the goal of reducing our dependence on foreign oil. It is an achievable goal, as we know we have the resources to control our energy future. A recent report from the Congressional Research Service detailed our vast energy resources, showing America's recoverable resources are far larger than those of Saudi Arabia, China, and Canada combined. America's combined recoverable oil, natural gas, and coal endowment is the largest on Earth – and this is without including America's immense oil shale and methane hydrates deposits.

However, it is not just rhetoric that is keeping us from achieving the goals you outlined of lowering energy prices, creating jobs, and reducing our reliance on foreign energy. Rather, we are concerned that these goals are in direct conflict with certain ongoing actions of your Administration. In particular, the policies being carried out by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of the Interior (DOI) directly and negatively impact oil and gas production and prices, as well as electricity prices for businesses and consumers. These policies hang heavy over the economy, with the promise of making our existing energy resources more expensive for Americans, and serve to inhibit future growth.

With consumers again facing \$4.00/gallon gasoline, the EPA is pursuing job-killing greenhouse gas regulations that, like the failed cap-and-trade legislation, will serve as an energy tax on every consumer. The Affordable Power Alliance recently studied the impacts of this action and found that the price of gasoline and electricity could increase as much as 50 percent. To make matters worse, the EPA acknowledges that unilateral action by the United States will have no impact on the world's climate, as China and India dramatically increase their emissions.

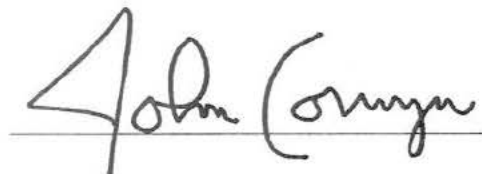
You also referenced efforts within the Administration to encourage domestic oil and gas production, yet since taking office, DOI has done exactly the opposite. In 2009, 77 oil and gas leases in Utah were cancelled, and the following year 61 additional leases were suspended in Montana. In December 2010, your Administration announced that its 2012-2017 lease plan would not include new areas in the eastern Gulf of Mexico or off the Atlantic coast – though these two areas hold commercial oil reserves of 28 billion barrels and up to 142 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. Delaying access to these areas not only hinders the production of domestic energy, but also means the loss of up to \$24 billion in federal revenue. In Alaska, the EPA has failed to issue valid air quality permits for offshore exploration after over 5 years of bureaucratic

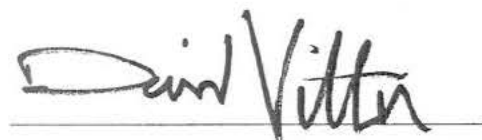
wrangling, although no human health risk is at issue and over 25 billion barrels of oil may be discovered. EPA has also contributed to the continuing delay of production from the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska – an area specifically designated by Congress for oil and gas development.

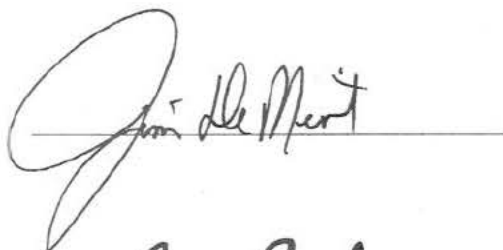
Last year, American oil production reached its highest level since 2003. The Energy Information Administrator (EIA) Richard Newell recently pointed out that the 2010 production numbers are likely the result of new leases issued during the previous administration that are just recently beginning to produce oil. Unfortunately, in the Gulf of Mexico, offshore energy production is expected to decrease by 13 percent in 2011. This decrease is cited as the result of the moratorium and the slow pace of permitting. EIA's most recent short-term energy outlook projects that domestic crude oil and liquid fuels production is expected to fall by 110,000 bbl/d in 2011, and by a further 130,000 bbl/d in 2012. To date, only 8 deepwater permits have been issued during the past 12 months, and most of these operations were started before the Macondo well blowout.

At your State of the Union Address, you called for a review of job-killing regulations within your Administration. We believe the Administration hereby has the keys to unlock our domestic energy potential today. As this review is underway, and with recognition of the toll higher energy prices are taking on Americans, we respectfully encourage you to examine the damage these current policies are having on the economy, and to work to reconcile these contradictions.

Respectfully,


John Cornyn

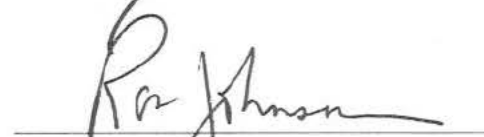

Dan Vitter


Jim DeMint


Rand Paul


Rick Warren


John Stuenkel


Ray Johnson


Kelly Ayotte

Jeff Sessions

John Kasich

Paul Corkran

Kevin Hatch

Richard Shelby

Lankford

Clare Kin

W. B. Linn

John Berman

Paul Corkran

John H. Roy

Jerry Moran

John Boozman

Kay Bailey Hutchison

Rayburn

McNitt

James Smith

Michael B. Eiji

Sayby Chaublin

Ray Winter

Pat Roberts

The Honorable Barack H. Obama
Page Five

Signers in order of signature (left to right):

John Cornyn, United States Senator
James Inhofe, United States Senator
David Vitter, United States Senator
John Thune, United States Senator
Jim DeMint, United States Senator
Ron Johnson, United States Senator
Rand Paul, United States Senator
Kelly Ayotte, United States Senator
Jeff Sessions, United States Senator
James E. Risch, United States Senator
Thad Cochran, United States Senator
Orrin Hatch, United States Senator
Richard Shelby, United States Senator
Jon Kyl, United States Senator
Mark Kirk, United States Senator
Richard Burr, United States Senator
John Barrasso, United States Senator
(duplicate)
Lindsey Graham, United States Senator
Jerry Moran, United States Senator
John Boozman, United States Senator
Kay Bailey Hutchison, United States Senator
Roy Blunt, United States Senator
Marco Rubio, United States Senator
Johnny Isakson, United States Senator
Mike Enzi, United States Senator
Saxby Chambliss, United States Senator
Roger Wicker, United States Senator
Pat Roberts, United States Senator



THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

SEP 13 2011

The Honorable Marco Rubio
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Rubio:

Thank you for your letter of April 6, 2011, to President Barack Obama on domestic oil and gas energy regulatory concerns. The White House has referred your letter to the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for review, and I am pleased to respond. The EPA will respond under separate cover.

The DOI remains committed to facilitating the safe and responsible development of our Nation's oil and gas resources, as part of President Obama's comprehensive energy strategy aimed at protecting consumers and reducing our dependence on foreign oil. As your letter acknowledges, President Obama has set an ambitious but achievable goal of cutting our oil imports by two-thirds by 2025 in part to alleviate the rising gas prices that continue to put added strain on American families. The DOI is committed to working toward securing our Nation's energy future and continues to identify additional ways, such as legislative reforms, that can help create jobs and enhance our energy security.

The tragic Deepwater Horizon explosion and oil spill – which killed 11 men, is estimated to have spilled close to 5 million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico, and caused unprecedented environmental and economic damage to Gulf Coast communities – reminds us that we have a responsibility to ensure that development of Federal energy resources is done in the right way and in the right places. Sustainable energy development is only possible if we hold the industry and ourselves as regulators to effective standards of safety and environmental responsibility. Over the course of the past year, DOI has devoted considerable effort to implementing those needed standards and creating a new oversight regime that will help minimize the possibility that a tragedy similar to the Deepwater Horizon explosion and oil spill will be repeated.

Throughout this offshore reform effort and despite claims to the contrary, the Department has continued to facilitate domestic production by issuing permits. We have continued to issue shallow water permits in every case where the application complies with our reasonable standards for shallow water operations – standards that protect not only the environment, but the communities who live closest to these operations. As of September 12, 2011, 74 new shallow water wells have been permitted since the implementation of new safety and environmental standards on June 8, 2010.

With respect to deepwater development, following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, we took the responsible step of requiring that all developers demonstrate that they are capable of containing large spills. Since mid-February 2011, when the first applicant successfully demonstrated

containment capabilities under our new safety regulations, we have approved 129 permits for 40 unique wells as of September 12, 2011.

The DOI has implemented important and much needed reforms and is now moving forward to facilitate responsible offshore development. For example, the Western and Central Gulf lease sales that were postponed following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill last year are on track to take place by December 2011 and mid-2012, respectively. We have extended deepwater drilling leases in the Gulf of Mexico that were affected by the temporary deepwater moratorium, as well as certain leases off the coast of Alaska, allowing companies more time to meet the standards that we have set in place for safe and responsible exploration and development. In the mid- and south Atlantic, we are taking steps to ensure that any conventional development that takes place in those areas is in the right places by speeding up our evaluation of available resources through seismic surveys.

In addition to the many efforts to facilitate domestic oil and gas production offshore, we are also taking a number of steps to ensure the safe and responsible development of our Nation's conventional energy resources onshore. We have initiated oil and gas leasing reforms to improve certainty and order in the onshore leasing process. These reforms include providing more opportunities for public participation in identifying locations for potential development and more thorough up-front environmental reviews to help reduce the conflicts that can lead to costly and time-consuming protests and litigation. The consequence of not instituting these reforms in the past has been an exponential increase in significant protests and litigation, with associated judicial restraints on development, job loss, and diminished access to energy resources.

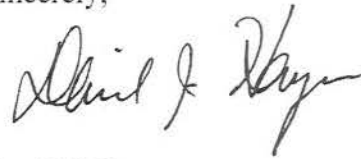
Our efforts are already starting to bear fruit. Current and future lease sales are benefitting from much-needed reforms that the BLM put in place in May of 2010. With the reforms put in place, the number of protests of parcels offered in lease auctions has declined dramatically from 1,475 of 3,127 parcels offered in fiscal year 2009 to 101 of 841 parcels offered so far in calendar year 2011. This marks a drop from over 47 percent of parcels protested in 2009 to approximately 12 percent this year. Furthermore, revenues from lease sales have increased from approximately \$165 million dollars in Fiscal Year 2009 to nearly \$235 million dollars so far in FY 2011. A recent oil and gas lease sale in Montana that incorporated our new reforms resulted in over \$66 million in receipts with over 32,000 acres offered for lease, and not a single protest filed. Another sale in Wyoming resulted in over \$49 million in receipts with over 83,000 acres offered for sale. Sixteen more oil and gas lease sales are scheduled for the remainder of the year, which will offer thousands more acres for potential development across the Country. Each day, Bureau of Land Management staff are working diligently to process thousands of applications for permits to drill on already-leased lands.

For both onshore and offshore development, we are also identifying ways to facilitate development on the tens of millions of acres of unused leased areas. Today, more than 70 percent of offshore acres under lease are inactive, including almost 24 million inactive leased acres in the Gulf of Mexico, where an estimated 11 billion barrels of oil and 59 trillion cubic feet of natural gas are going unused. Onshore, as of June 2011, about 50 percent of leased acres – over 18 million acres in total – are neither being explored nor developed. These resources belong to the American people, who expect those supplies to be developed in a timely and responsible manner with a fair

return to taxpayers. As we continue to offer new areas onshore and offshore for leasing, as we have done over the last 2 years, we are also exploring ways to provide incentives to companies to bring production online quickly and safely. The incentives we have identified include a number of legislative proposals, such as requiring prompt investment in domestic oil and gas development by issuing leases with shorter terms, as well as providing incentives to encourage companies to get their offshore leases into production in a timely manner through reformed royalty and fee structures.

We look forward to continuing to work with all members of Congress to ensure that our Nation meets the gold standard for safe and environmentally responsible oil and gas development. A similar response has been sent to the cosigners of your letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Hayes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "D".

David J. Hayes



Office of U.S. Senator Marco Rubio

201 S. Orange Ave., Suite 350
Orlando, FL 32801
Phone 407-254-2573
Fax 407-423-0941

To: Dept. of the Interior
Congressional Affairs From: Zach Zampella

Pages: 2 (Including cover) Date: 11/29/2011

Fax: 202-208-5533

Re: (b) (6)

Comments:

I would greatly appreciate it if you could review this matter and provide a response. Please address your response to Senator Marco Rubio c/o Zach Zampella at 201 S. Orange Ave., Suite 350, Orlando, FL 32801.

Best Regards,

Zach Zampella
Senior Constituent Services Representative
Zachary.Zampella@rubio.senate.gov

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Office of U.S. Senator Marco Rubio Privacy Act Consent Form

In accordance with the provisions of The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579), your expressed written consent is required prior to contacting a federal agency on your behalf. Since e-mails do not contain a valid signature, they do not fulfill the requirements of the Privacy Act. If you are inquiring on behalf of another person age 18 or older, it is necessary that he or she sign this document. All information must be written in English. Items marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Title: (select one) Mr. Ms. Mx. Dr. Rev. Doctor Other: _____

Name: (b)(6) Date of Birth: (b)(6)

Address: (b)(6) City: (b)(6) FL

County: US Zip code: (b)(6) Home Phone: (b)(6)

Work Phone: () Mobile Phone: (b)(6) (b)(6)

E-mail Address: (b)(6)

Issue: (select one) Immigration Veterans Social Security Other: _____

If you have contacted another congressional office to assist you, please list the office:

Name of Office Contacted: _____

Please Complete the Sections That Apply to Your Case:

Alien Number: _____ Military Rank and Unit: _____

Type of Application Filed: _____ Claim/Receipt Number: _____
(E: N-400, I-130, SSL, SSD, EEOC, CMS-835)

Social Security Number: _____

Briefly describe the nature of your problem and what outcome would you like from this inquiry.

I am an eye witness to illegal sea turtle take occurring on Department of Interior property occupied by a historic lightland. U.S. Government has consistently failed to mitigate the damage.

I have discussed my concerns with Senator Marco Rubio and/or his representative(s), and request that any relevant information that is required to assist in responding to my inquiry may be furnished upon request!

Yes, I would like to provide my contact information to the U.S. Government. No, I would not like to provide my contact information to the U.S. Government.

Signature: (b)(6) Date: 11-10-2011

Please mail or fax completed form to:
U.S. Senator Marco Rubio
8669 NW 36th Street, Suite 110
Miami, Florida 33166
Fax: (305) 594-4014

If you have any questions or comments, please call us at (305) 418-8533 or toll-free in Florida (866) 630-7106



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

1875 Century Boulevard
Atlanta, Georgia 30345

DEC 21 2011

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/R4/ES/050168

The Honorable Marco Rubio
United States Senator
201 South Orange Avenue, Suite 350
Orlando, Florida 32801

Dear Senator Rubio:

Thank you for your letter of November 29, 2011, on behalf of [REDACTED], regarding impacts from lighting on nesting sea turtles near the Hillsboro Beach Lighthouse in Broward County, Florida.

On November 14, 2011, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received a letter from the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) requesting informal consultation with the Service on this issue in accordance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (enclosure). The USCG determined the operation of the lighthouse "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" the threatened loggerhead sea turtle, endangered leatherback sea turtle, endangered green sea turtle, endangered hawksbill sea turtle, and endangered Kemp's ridley sea turtle.

On December 7, 2011, the Service met with the USCG and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to observe the lighthouse operating at night and to discuss measures commonly used to reduce lighting effects to nesting and hatchling sea turtles. On December 15, 2011, the Service requested additional information from the USCG. The Service will continue working with the USCG to finalize this consultation as expeditiously as possible.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (404) 679-4000, or Mr. Larry Williams, Field Supervisor, South Florida Ecological Services Office at (772) 469-4285.

Sincerely yours,

Cynthia K. Dohner
Regional Director

Enclosure

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

1074755

January 25, 2012

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

We write to convey our concern with the management of our nation's abundant energy resources, particularly those located on federal lands and waters.

There is a growing threat to consumers and our economy from the potential disruption in energy supplies stemming from the instability in the Middle East, particularly Iran. We believe the federal government should take commonsense steps here at home to safeguard Americans by removing the unnecessary obstacles placed in the way of energy development on lands and waters owned by taxpayers. Especially during a time of increasing volatility overseas and rising fuel prices, the single greatest impact the federal government can have on our nation's energy security is to expand access to its vast energy resources—both traditional and alternative—available on federal lands and waters. While proven reserves have increased dramatically in recent years due to improvements in technology, *energy production from federal resources has fallen.*

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), the United States relies on foreign countries for almost half of our petroleum resources, with a significant portion of that coming from unstable regimes. Additional analysis shows our economy will rely on fossil fuels for nearly 70 percent of its energy needs through 2035. While these facts are not disputed, the course of action to address it often is. Seeking to develop alternative energy technologies is a necessary goal in the long-term, but it is not sufficient for our nation's current and foreseeable needs.

Fortunately, our country holds within its borders extensive traditional energy resources that could sustain our energy needs for decades to come. According to a recent Congressional Research Service report, the United States' combined recoverable oil, natural gas, and coal resources is the largest in the world. However, much of this is restricted from exploration and production. Hundreds of thousands of jobs and trillions of dollars in economic activity may be foregone if current policies remain in place.

The 1.76 billion acre endowment of our Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) is a good example. Of those 1.76 billion acres, only 38 million acres are actually leased to energy companies, meaning the federal government has provided access to a mere 2.16 percent of our

total potential resources. Yet, while the federal government has provided financing for other countries, such as Brazil, to develop offshore resources, it has consistently restricted companies from doing the same within U.S. waters.

Moreover, as a result of the 2010 moratorium and uncertainty about future permitting, 11 drilling rigs representing 14 projects have left the Gulf of Mexico since April 2010. These rigs have gone to countries such as Brazil, Egypt and Angola with some rigs later relocating to the North Sea—taking a cumulative \$21.4 billion of associated lost U.S. capital and operating investment with them.¹ In addition, the EIA projects that Gulf oil production will be down more than 12 percent in 2012 over 2010.

In 2007, the EIA projected total 2010 U.S. oil production on federal lands to be 850 million barrels. Today's actual production on federal lands is 714 million barrels, a 16 percent decline from what was projected. Arbitrary federal land restrictions now serve as a primary roadblock to domestic energy production. Federal land designations now exceed the total amount of developed lands in the United States. Wilderness areas, the most restrictive of land designations, total over 100 million acres. In many cases, wilderness areas are now used for purposes beyond their original intent on lands clearly unsuitable for the designation rather than maintaining the integrity of our most sensitive public lands. These restrictions, which are rich in resources, prevent the responsible development of natural resources.

Information developed by the Western Energy Alliance shows an unfortunate regression in federal policy, specifically at the Department of Interior. Their analysis shows that the ratio of revenue returned per dollar spent by the federal government has fallen from \$46.07 to \$40.12 for onshore energy production, and an unprecedented falloff of \$118.54 to \$30.08 for offshore energy production over the last three years.

This is in sharp contrast to production occurring on non-federal lands. For example, since 2005 oil production in North Dakota has been growing at a rate of 26 percent a year. Thus it is increasingly clear our nation is reliant on foreign sources of oil, largely because we do not first access our own. Utilizing our nation's natural resources located on federal lands could create American jobs, produce American energy resources, reduce our foreign imports and trade deficit, keep more of our nation's wealth at home, and protect our national security interests.

Needless to say, reducing restrictions to access our federally managed lands would allow American industry the freedom to develop abundant traditional energy reserves. Additionally, it would provide a more realistic economic environment for emerging alternative energy technologies, allowing them to be developed according to true market conditions. This approach could weed out faltering technologies and spare taxpayers the risk of subsidizing wasteful projects, as we experienced with Solyndra.

Finally, let us be clear in our disappointment in the recent decision to not approve the Keystone XL pipeline project, which is clearly in our national interest. Considering the potential for supply disruptions in the coming year, the federal government could well be facing price constraints that are a result of international conflicts, for example, in the Strait of Hormuz. It

¹ http://www.api.org/policy/exploration/upload/Quest_2011_December_29_Final.pdf

would be unfortunate if the only tool available to calm markets is further sales from our strategic reserves. Providing more access to both onshore and offshore resources and construction of a strategic pipeline from Canada are clear ways forward. We urge you to re-consider this decision and provide a clear path forward for increasing domestic production and transporting new energy supplies.

Sincerely,

Bill Hatten

Tom Cohen

Jeri DeMart

Ray Bend

John McAni

[Signature]

David Paul

Ran Johnson

Jim [Signature]

Dean Heller

[Signature]

Sally Chaublin

William G. E. [Signature]

John G. Hatch

Mark
Richard Shelby
John Stuenkel
John Cornyn
Kay Bailey Hutchison
Liz Cheney
Paul Cohen
Tommy Tuberville

Cc: Secretary Clinton, Secretary Salazar, Secretary Chu

David Vitter (LA)

Tom Coburn (OK)

Jim DeMint (SC)

Roy Blunt (MO)

John McCain (AZ)

Richard Burr (NC)

Rand Paul (KY)

Ron Johnson (WI)

James Inhofe (OK)

Dean Heller (NV)

Jeff Sessions (AL)

Saxby Chambliss (GA)

Michael S. Lee (UT)

Orrin G. Hatch (UT)

Marco Rubio (FL)

Kay Bailey Hutchison (TX)

Richard Shelby (AL)

Roger F. Wicker (MS)

John Thune (SD)

Thad Cochran (MS)

John Cornyn (TX)

Jon Kyl (AZ)



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

FEB 29 2012

The Honorable Marco M. Rubio
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Rubio:

Thank you for your letter dated January 25, 2012, to President Barack Obama regarding management of our Nation's energy resources on Federal lands and waters. Your letter included discussion of Federal onshore and offshore acreage, both of which fall within the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior (Department). President Obama has asked me to respond to your letter.

This Administration is advancing safe and responsible domestic oil and gas production as part of an "all of the above" energy strategy that is focused on improving our energy security and reducing dependence on foreign oil. When President Obama took office, the United States imported 11 million barrels of oil a day. President Obama put forward a plan to cut that by one-third by the Year 2025, and we are already making progress toward that goal. Since 2008, U.S. oil and natural gas production has *increased*, while imports of foreign oil have *decreased*.

In 2011, U.S. crude oil production reached its highest level since 2003, increasing by an estimated 90,000 barrels per day (bbl/day) over 2010 levels to 5.57 million bbl/day. America's natural gas production grew by an estimated 7.4 percent in 2011—the largest year-over-year volumetric increase, easily eclipsing the previous all time production record set in 1973. Overall, oil imports have been falling since 2008, and net imports as a share of total consumption declined from 57 percent in 2008 to 45 percent in 2011—the lowest level since 1995. The public lands and the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) have contributed to this increase in domestic production.

Onshore

Last year, onshore oil production in the lower 48 states increased by 370,000 bbl/day over 2010 levels. Independent analysis shows that the number of onshore oil-directed drilling rigs increased from 777 at the beginning of 2011 to 1,193 on December 29, 2011. On public lands, the amount of oil produced in 2010 was the highest since 1997, and the amount of natural gas produced in 2011 from public lands was the second highest since 2004.

Industry has approximately 37 million acres under lease, and is actively producing from or exploring 16 million of those acres. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 authorized the Bureau of

Land Management (BLM) to retain the nonproducing lease rentals funds in the onshore oil and gas program. These important funds from rentals support seven pilot offices that contribute significantly in processing permits for industry in some of the most active offices. Companies have an inventory of approximately 7,000 applications for permits to drill that have been approved by BLM, but that have not yet been exercised. This figure represents leases where drilling operations are approved by the BLM and available to drill by industry. In both acres leased and permits issued but not yet acted upon, industry has a healthy inventory of opportunities to move ahead with energy production.

The BLM is offering onshore lease sales that continue to put even more lands under oil and gas leases, and industry response indicates that these are lands with significant potential. In 2011, the BLM held 32 oil and gas lease sales covering nearly 4.4 million acres and generating \$256 million in revenue for American taxpayers and shared disbursements to the states. This reflects a 20 percent increase in lease sale revenues from 2010. The largest sale in 2011 was the BLM's July 12 auction in Billings, Montana, where 111 parcels covering 32,180 acres of public land (19,392 acres in North Dakota; 12,788 acres in South Dakota) brought in more than \$66 million. Bonus bids in this sale were the second-highest received by the BLM since the Leasing Reform Act of 1987. The December 2011 sale in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A) attracted significantly more industry bids than the August 2010 sale. In the 2011 NPR-A sale, the BLM sold 17 tracts for \$3.6 million, as compared to the sale of five tracts for \$799,995 in the 2010 sale. Indicating the Department's commitment to responsibly expanding exploration and development activities on the public lands, this increased response in the NPR-A resulted partly from the Department's effort to resolve interagency issues with crossing the Colville River to serve development in the NPR-A.

The BLM continues to make new acres available for lease in 2012. Thus far, four lease sales have been held, and the BLM expects to hold an additional 32 lease sales over the course of the year.

Our leasing reforms have also allowed the Department to offer leases with fewer impediments to leasing as we fully address the issues that would otherwise lead to sale protests, appeals, and litigation as we clear parcels for the final sale list. In Wyoming, where 100 percent of lease sale parcels were protested in 2008, the BLM held a lease sale this month on which three protests were filed against seven of the 204 parcels in the sale. The sale went forward and produced nearly \$22 million in bonus bids, after all protests had been addressed. In 2009, nearly 50 percent of all new oil and gas parcels were being protested. Today, since the implementation of leasing reforms in early 2011, the number has declined to 36 percent.

We will continue to promote exploration and development of important domestic onshore resources with an approach that appropriately balances development with the Department's other responsibilities, as well as fair financial return to the U.S. citizens who own these precious resources under the Department's management. The BLM is implementing leasing reforms so that future lease sales will offer parcels in appropriate locations and reduce the contention and litigation that have characterized many development proposals in the past decade. Our goal is to work with local communities and address conflicts prior to lease sales, so that leasing activities—and the jobs that they generate—can move forward without being held up by protests or potential litigation.

Offshore

Offshore, the Administration is committed to making the areas with the most substantial resources available to companies, and to incentivizing diligent development of leases. The *Deepwater Horizon* uncontrolled blowout and oil spill made all too clear the tremendous human and environmental costs that can come from deepwater oil and gas drilling without proper safeguards. I am proud of the efforts the Department has taken to reform and strengthen our offshore drilling safety regime. I believe that the temporary pause in deepwater drilling activity following the oil spill was necessary to protect the human, marine, and coastal environments while we heightened standards, gained control of the Macondo well, and responded to the spill. The largest oil spill in American history demanded that strong action be taken. I am pleased that our reforms have increased safety and preparedness, including the development of readily available subsea containment systems, and restored public confidence in the industry and regulatory oversight. Offshore oil and gas exploration and development under these heightened standards is moving forward, and industry is continuing to invest in the Gulf of Mexico.

On December 14, the Department's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) held Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 218, which attracted over 240 bids on 191 tracts, with nearly \$338 million in total high bonus bids—about \$100 million more than the average for Western Gulf sales over the previous decade. The Administration has announced that BOEM will hold Consolidated Central Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 216/222 on June 20, 2012. The Lease Sale 216/222 will make available all unleased areas in the Central Gulf of Mexico, a region that BOEM estimates contains close to 31 billion barrels of oil and 134 trillion cubic feet of natural gas that are currently undiscovered and technically recoverable. The Central Gulf alone is estimated to hold about one-third of the OCS's undiscovered resources.

The Lease Sale 216/222 is the last remaining sale scheduled in the 2007–2012 OCS Oil and Natural Gas Leasing Program. As the President discussed in his State of the Union, we are finalizing the next Five Year Program for 2012-2017, which **will make more than 75 percent of estimated undiscovered technically recoverable oil and gas resources on the OCS available for development.** The Proposed 2012-2017 OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program schedules 12 potential lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as three potential sales off the coast of Alaska.

In addition to holding lease sales, BOEM has implemented administrative reforms to ensure fair return to taxpayers and encourage diligent development. These include escalating rental rates to encourage prompt exploration and development of leases, as well as extensions built into the terms of the lease if the operator demonstrates a commitment to exploration by drilling a well during the base period. The length of lease terms is graduated by water depth to account for differences in operating at various water depths. The BOEM recently increased the minimum bid for deepwater to \$100 per acre, up from only \$37.50, to ensure that taxpayers receive fair market value for offshore resources and to provide leaseholders with additional impetus to invest in leases that they are more likely to develop. Rigorous analysis of the last 15 years of lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico showed that deepwater leases that received high bids of less than

\$100 per acre, adjusted for energy prices at the time of each sale, experienced virtually no exploration and development drilling.

Regarding offshore rigs, the number of rigs that left the Gulf of Mexico after *Deepwater Horizon* has been more than offset by the number of new rigs being brought into the Gulf by companies eager to explore and develop its abundant oil and gas resources. The firm Baker Hughes reports that the total number of active offshore rigs in the U.S. was higher in January 2012 than any time since May 2010. Baker Hughes has published weekly averages of 42 to 45 rigs operating in the Gulf of Mexico in January through February 2012, comparable to the 41 to 46 rigs identified in their weekly averages for January through February 2010, prior to the oil spill.

With new rigs entering the Gulf of Mexico, the economy continuing to grow, and the industry complying with the strengthened safety and environmental standards, I am confident that the Gulf of Mexico remains an attractive place to work, with strong infrastructure to develop finds and bring resources to market efficiently.

The Department will continue to provide balanced, responsible leadership as we work with the states, stakeholders, and local communities on these important issues. Please be assured that this Department is moving forward, onshore and offshore, with policies and programs that will continue to bring important energy resources to market, with appropriate attention to safety and environmental protection. We know the importance of domestic oil and gas, now and for the future, for energy supply, economic prosperity, and revenue generation. We will continue to manage this Nation's oil and gas resources in the full interests of the American public.

Similar letters have been sent to the cosigners of your letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ken Salazar". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Salazar

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

1077900

February 29, 2012

The Honorable Barack H. Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to express our concern about the rising cost of gasoline and your Administration's failure to take concrete actions to address this serious problem. The average U.S. price of a gallon of regular gasoline has more than doubled since the week of your inauguration in January 2009, from \$1.84 to \$3.72. Furthermore, according to the Associated Press, the typical U.S. household spent \$4,155 filling up at the pump in 2011, an all-time high, and 8.4 percent of the median household income—the highest percentage spent for gasoline since 1981, when oil prices had soared due to crisis in the Middle East.

Last week you stated, "With or without this Congress, I'll continue to do whatever I can to develop every source of American energy, so that our future isn't controlled by events on the other side of the world." Indeed, the fact remains there are concrete actions within your power that can help ease fears of oil supply disruptions and skyrocketing gasoline prices. As you acknowledged in your March 2011 energy security speech, "producing more oil in America can help lower oil prices, create jobs, and enhance our energy security." However, several policies of your Administration are in direct conflict with this stated goal, and are contributing to the economic burden felt by families and businesses facing rising prices.

Expanding access to federal onshore and offshore lands, and eliminating permit delays for leases, could help lower prices and strengthen our energy security while creating jobs and boosting tax revenues. Unfortunately, your Administration's proposed offshore oil and natural gas leasing plan for 2012 to 2017 eliminates 50 percent of lease sales provided for in the previous plan, opens less than three percent of offshore areas to energy production, and imposes a moratorium on developing energy from 14 billion barrels of oil and 55 trillion cubic feet of natural gas in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The moratorium on exploration in the Gulf of Mexico, and persistent delays for permits in shallow and deep water leases, could result in a 19 percent decrease in production in 2012 compared to 2010, according to an Energy Information Administration projection.

Alleviating burdensome regulations would also help lower energy costs. For example, even as gasoline prices near \$4.00 a gallon, next month, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to propose its "Tier 3" rule to cut air emissions from fuels and light-duty vehicles,

including requiring refiners to drastically cut sulfur in gasoline. A recent study concluded the rule could increase the cost of manufacturing gasoline by 12 to 25 cents per gallon. It could raise the refining industry's operating costs by \$5 billion to \$13 billion annually, lead to a 7 to 14 percent reduction in gasoline supplies from U.S. refiners, and force as many as seven U.S. refineries to shut down. Combined with proposed greenhouse gas emissions rules (which will serve as an energy tax on every consumer), new source performance standards, and the boiler "maximum achievable control technology" rule, these could put more U.S. refiners out of business, leading to even higher gasoline prices at the pump. The combined regulatory onslaught should be weighed against the impact on families and employers across the country.

Finally, reconsidering your denial of the Keystone XL pipeline would also secure future additional supplies of oil, bringing more than 700,000 barrels per day in additional Canadian crude oil. Rather than asking Saudi Arabia and other OPEC countries to produce more oil, we should work closely with our Canadian neighbors to reduce our dependency on oil from OPEC. Canada is a reliable and geographically secure trading partner whose oil exports are insulated from potential supply disruptions threatened by geopolitical turmoil found in the Middle East and the impulses of OPEC, including Iran, Libya, and Venezuela.

All of these actions are within your Administration's purview, and would signal to markets that America is serious about reducing its vulnerability to geopolitical oil shocks around the world. The actions you take will help determine how long our pain at the pump continues.

Sincerely,

John Conyers

Paul Vitter

Joe Scarborough
Ron Johnson

Jeff Sessions
Pat Romney

Tom Barr

William J. E.

Jim DeMint

Mark

Richard A. Lugar

Chuck Grassley

Mike Crapo

Dan Coats

Kyrsten

Sally Clarkin

Jim Clabby

Jimmy

John Barrasso

Dean Heller

Kay Bailey Hutchison

Kevin S. Hatch

John John

Mike Johnson

John Homan

John Bozeman

Ray Bend

Richard Shelby

Jon Kyl

Mike Enzi

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

2012 MAR 23 PM 3:06

RECEIVED

510579

32 Signers

Signatures (from left to right):

John Cornyn, United States Senator
Jeff Sessions, United States Senator
David Vitter, United States Senator
Patrick J. Toomey, United States Senator
James E. Risch, United States Senator
Tom Coburn, United States Senator
Ron Johnson, United States Senator
Mike Lee, United States Senator

(Page Three)

Jim DeMint, United States Senator
Marco Rubio, United States Senator
Richard G. Lugar, United States Senator
Chuck Grassley, United States Senator
Mike Crapo, United States Senator
Daniel Coats, United States Senator
Roger F. Wicker, United States Senator
Saxby Chambliss, United States Senator
Richard Burr, United States Senator
James M. Inhofe, United States Senator
Johnny Isakson, United States Senator
John Barrasso, United States Senator
Dean Heller, United States Senator
Kay Bailey Hutchison, United States Senator
Orrin G. Hatch, United States Senator
Pat Roberts, United States Senator

(Page Four)

John Thune, United States Senator
Mike Johanns, United States Senator
John Hoeven, United States Senator
John Boozman, United States Senator
Roy Blunt, United States Senator
Richard C. Shelby, United States Senator
Jon Kyl, United States Senator
Michael B. Enzi, United States Senator



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

April 26, 2012

The Honorable Kenneth L. Salazar
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

We write today to bring to your attention our concerns with the National Park Service's (NPS) recently released draft General Management Plan (GMP) for Biscayne National Park (BNP). The GMP for Biscayne is intended to serve as a framework to guide visitor experience opportunities, management of visitor use, and development of facilities for the next 15 to 20 years.

Biscayne National Park is one of the busiest in the nation in terms of fishing and boating. It supports nearly 10 million angling trips each year. We are very concerned about the NPS's plan to establish a 10,522-acre marine reserve – or no-fishing zone – and several “no combustion engine zones” within BNP. This designation would essentially halt fishing and boating in certain areas of the park.

Florida is the most popular recreational fishing and boating state in the nation. According to data from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), Florida's approximately 2 million saltwater anglers annually contribute approximately \$3 billion in retail sales, 50,000 jobs, and over \$345 million in state and local tax revenues. Similarly, the boating industry supports over 200,000 jobs and over \$16 billion in economic impact statewide each year, with a substantial portion of that economic output occurring in South Florida.

Recognizing the substantial economic contribution of the recreational fishing and boating industry in Florida, in 2007, the NPS signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the FWC, specifically stating that the FWC and the NPS will provide for recreational and commercial fishing and opportunities for the angling public **by seeking the least restrictive management actions necessary.**

But the measures proposed in the NPS plan represent the most extreme tools available for making fishery management modifications in BNP, ignoring alternative ways to achieve the desired resource improvements without sacrificing the public's ability to access and enjoy the park.

Furthermore, activities conducted by federal agencies anywhere in Florida are subject to the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), and must be fully consistent with state authorities

included in the Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP). We believe that as proposed, the GMP is not fully consistent with those state authorities. And we are concerned it ignores both the cooperative nature of the MOU and the role of state jurisdiction.

Secretary Salazar, because the duration of the GMP will be at least a decade, it is important we get it right. We urge you to work with the NPS to reconsider the proposed GMP and working cooperatively with the Florida FWC. Together they can revise the management plan to ensure it will conserve the Park's valuable natural resources but will also maintain public access for anglers and boaters and reinstitute the appropriate Federal-state agency relationship so important to successful fisheries management. We appreciate your attention to our concerns.

Sincerely,



SENATOR BILL NELSON



SENATOR MARCO RUBIO

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
OFFICE OF THE

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THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

MAY 14 2012

The Honorable Marco Rubio
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Rubio:

Thank you for your letter of February 29, 2012, to President Barack Obama regarding strategies you would recommend to reduce gasoline prices. President Obama has asked me to respond. A similar response is being sent to the cosigners of your letter.

This Administration is advancing safe and responsible domestic oil and gas production as part of an “all of the above” energy strategy that provides for increased domestic energy production, including oil and gas, as well as development and implementation of efficiency measures and alternative energy sources. In the President’s words, it is time to “use less and produce more right here in the United States of America.”

In 2011, U.S. crude oil production reached its highest level since 2003, increasing by an estimated 90,000 barrels per day (bbl/day) over 2010 levels to 5.57 million bbl/day. Overall, oil imports have been falling since 2008, and net imports as a share of total consumption declined from 57 percent in 2008 to 45 percent in 2011—the lowest level since 1995. America’s natural gas production grew by an estimated 7.4 percent in 2011—the largest year-over-year volumetric increase, easily eclipsing the previous all time production record set in 1973. Natural gas prices are their lowest in many years. The Department of Energy recently announced that for the first time since 1949, the United States exported more gasoline, heating oil, and diesel fuel last year than it imported.

I would like to supplement the information I provided in my response dated February 29, 2012, regarding energy resources on public lands. We are taking steps that will open to leasing areas containing 75 percent of our untapped offshore oil and gas resources. Regarding your point about oil shale, we have continued to offer opportunities for companies to explore and develop technologies to help them determine whether they are viable on a commercial scale. In addition, in response to your interest in Gulf of Mexico energy production, I will note that industry has moved quickly to meet the new safety standards we set after the tragic *Deepwater Horizon* disaster, and we have seen a sharp rebound in Gulf exploration and permitting; there is no moratorium, de facto or otherwise, in the Gulf of Mexico.

We have tremendous faith in Americans’ ability to innovate, to bring new technologies online, and to effectively meet the energy challenges this Nation faces today and in the future. We are presiding over, and helping to stimulate, growing investment in our Nation’s domestic energy sources, from offshore oil, gas, and wind, to onshore conventional sources and renewables,

including solar, geothermal, and wind. Moreover, we are pushing for technological advancement that will make the cars we drive twice as efficient, encourage alternative energy sources from biofuels to electricity, and bring energy jobs and dollars back home.

We recognize the importance of domestic oil and gas production, both now and for the future, to help supply energy, drive economic prosperity, and generate revenue. We will continue to manage this Nation's oil and gas resources responsibly and in a manner that meets our Nation's needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ken Salazar



Office of U.S. Senator Marco Rubio

201 S. Orange Ave., Suite 350
Orlando, FL 32801
Phone 407-254-2573
Fax 407-423-0941

To: Dept. of the Interior
Congressional Affairs

From: Jason Teaman

Pages: 4 (Including cover)

Date: 6/13/2012

Fax: 202-208-5533

Re: (b)(6)

Comments:

I would greatly appreciate it if you could review this matter and provide a response. Please address your response to Senator Marco Rubio c/o Jason Teaman at 201 S. Orange Ave., Suite 350, Orlando, FL 32801.

Best Regards,

Jason Teaman
Constituent Services Representative
Jason_Teaman@rubio.senate.gov



Office of U.S. Senator Marco Rubio Privacy Act Consent Form

In accordance with the provisions of The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579), your expressed written consent is required prior to contacting a federal agency on your behalf. Since e-mails do not contain a valid signature, they do not fulfill the requirements of the Privacy Act. If you are inquiring on behalf of another person age 18 or older, it is necessary that he or she sign this document. All information must be written in English. Items marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

* Title: (select one) Mr. Ms. Mrs. Mr. & Mrs. Rev. Doctor Other: _____

* Name: (b)(6) * Date of Birth: (b)(6)

* Address: (b)(6) * City: Naples * State: FL

* County: Collier * Zip code: 34120 * Home Phone: (b)(6)

Work Phone: () * Mobile Phone: (b)(6) Fax: ()

E-mail Address: (b)(6)

Issue: (select one) Immigration Veterans Social Security Other: Civil Rights Violation, Assault by National Park Ranger, Violation of Americans with Disabilities Act

If you have contacted another congressional office to assist you, please list the office:

Name of Office Contacted: _____

Please Complete the Sections That Apply to Your Case:

Alien Number: _____ Military Rank and Unit: _____

Type of Application Filed: _____ Claim/Receipt Number: _____
(Ex: N-400, I-130, SSI, SSD, EEOC, CMS-855)

Social Security Number: (b)(6)

* Briefly describe the nature of your problem and what outcome would you like from this inquiry:

See attached

I have discussed my concerns with Senator Marco Rubio and/or his representative(s), and request that any relevant information that is required to assist in responding to my inquiry may be furnished upon request.

Yes, I would like to receive Marco Rubio's electronic newsletter.

* Signature: [Handwritten Signature] * Date: 7 of June 2012

Please mail or fax completed form to:
U.S. Senator Marco Rubio
201 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 350
Orlando, Florida 32801
Fax: (407) 423-0941

(b) (6)

June 01, 2012

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sincerely

(b) (6)

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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513327



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, California 94104-2828



IN REPLY REFER TO:
A 3615 (PWR-C)

The Honorable Marc Rubio
United States Senator
201 S. Orange Ave., Suite 350
Orlando, FL 32801

28 JUN 2012

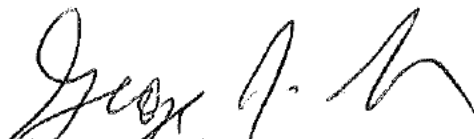
Dear Senator Rubio:

We are in receipt of your letter dated June 13, 2012 concerning the incident involving (b)(6) (b)(6) at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park on (b)(6)

The superintendent of the park apprised (b)(6) in a letter dated May 15, 2012, of the actions taken after this incident. That letter states that per National Park Service policy we have initiated an investigation by the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) to review the circumstances surrounding the allegations. OPR is the internal affairs unit of the National Park Service located in Washington, DC, that independently conducts investigations into allegations of serious misconduct of law enforcement personnel. Their investigation will attempt to determine what, if any, improprieties exist related to (b)(6) allegations. During the course of this investigation (b)(6) will be contacted by the assigned investigator to discuss and clarify his concerns. (b)(6) will be notified when the investigation is completed; however, as the investigative file and report are part of a "system of records" which is governed by the Privacy Act, the disposition and report cannot be publicly released.

Should you have any questions you may contact Scott Wanek, Regional Chief Ranger at 415-623-2180.

Sincerely,


FOR Christine S. Lehnertz
Regional Director, Pacific West Region

Enclosure

cc: Superintendent, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

TAKE PRIDE[®]
IN AMERICA 



Office of U.S. Senator Marco Rubio

201 S. Orange Ave., Suite 350
Orlando, FL 32801
Phone 407-254-2573
Fax 407-423-0941

To: Dept. of the Interior
Congressional Affairs From: Jason Teaman

Pages: 13 (Including cover) Date: 7/2/2012

Fax: 202-208-5533

Re: (b) (6)

Comments:

The following are additional documents regarding the inquiry made on behalf of (b)(6) on June 13, 2012. I would greatly appreciate it if you could review this matter and provide a response. Please address your response to Senator Marco Rubio c/o Jason Teaman at 201 S. Orange Ave., Suite 350, Orlando, FL 32801.

Best Regards,

Jason Teaman
Constituent Services Representative
Jason.Teaman@rubio.senate.gov

2012 JUL -9 PM 1:23

RECEIVED

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Office of U.S. Senator Marco Rubio Privacy Act Consent Form

In accordance with the provisions of The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579), your expressed written consent is required prior to contacting a federal agency on your behalf. Since e-mails do not contain a valid signature, they do not fulfill the requirements of the Privacy Act. If you are inquiring on behalf of another person age 18 or older, it is necessary that he or she sign this document. All information must be written in English. Items marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

RECEIVED JUN 06 2012

Title (select one) Mr. Ms. Mrs. Mr. & Mrs. Rev. Doctor Other _____

Name **(b)(6)** Date of Birth **(b)(6)**

Address **(b)(6)** City Naples State FL

County Collier Zip code 34120 Home Phone **(b)(6)**

Work Phone () _____ Mobile Phone **(b)(6)** Fax () _____

E-mail Address **(b)(6)**

Issue (select one) Immigration Veterans Social Security Other Civil Rights Violation, Assault by National Park Ranger, Violation of Americans with Disabilities Act

If you have contacted another congressional office to assist you, please list the office.

Name of Office Contacted _____

Please complete the sections that apply to your case.

Alien Number _____ Military Rank and Unit _____

Type of Application Filed _____ Claim/Receipt Number _____
(Ex: N-400, I-130, SSL, SSD, F100, CMS-800)

Social Security Number **(b)(6)**

Briefly describe the nature of your problem and what outcome would you like from the inquiry.

See attached

I have discussed my concerns with Senator Marco Rubio and/or his representatives, and request that any additional information that is required to answer or responding to my inquiry may be furnished upon request.

Yes, I would like to receive Senator Rubio's electronic newsletter.

Signature **(b)(6)** Date July 2012

Please mail or fax completed form to:
 U.S. Senator Marco Rubio
 201 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 350
 Orlando, Florida 32801
 Fax: (407) 423-0941

If you have any questions or comments, please call us at (407) 231-2774 or our Facebook page (facebook.com/senatorrubio)

Teaman, Jason (Rubio)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 29, 2012 11:37 AM
To: Teaman, Jason (Rubio)
Subject: Information requested

Here are the documents that have been requested which we are needing for our case but they are doing their best to keep them from us I have requested these under the freedom of information act and also as items need for our defense and both have yet to be seen or even acknowledged as being sent to us.

National Park policy and training manuals and the procedure on who is supposed to take a report when a park guest wants to file a formal complaint when a park employee/ranger is accused of assault and battery of a guest

Who on the scene of the incident of (b)(6) was supposed to have taken above mentioned statement involving (b)(6)

How to file for reimbursement of the expenses for having to send my service dog to school to be retrained due to the effect of (b)(6) using unjust force to assault and battery me in front of him as allowed under the DOJ ADA LAWS involving (b)(6)

Copies of all dash camera audio and video recordings from park vehicles and other monitoring systems of the incident on (b)(6) involving (b)(6)

Copies of all dispatch records and radio recordings having to do with the incident on (b)(6) involving (b)(6)

Copies of all photographs taken at the incident on (b)(6) involving (b)(6)

Copies of all written and all sworn statements from all park employee's and rangers involved in the incident involving (b)(6) to include the written and sworn statements of park employee who supposedly saw my service dog off leash

copies of all training manuals and documents of all park employee's and rangers / enforcement officers on the ADA laws and how to enforce them and to deal with persons with disabilities and service animals to include protocol for the investigation of if a dog is or is not a service dog.

A copy of the Volcanoes National Park Compendium By Cindy Orlando Park Superintendent

Copies of all training manuals and documents for all National Park Police and Park Rangers on the use of force.

Copies of all manuals and documents to National Park Rangers and National Park Police and park employees used to train them in the ADA and guidelines, along with how to deal with disabled persons and what questions they are and are not allowed to ask under the ADA.

Copies of all training manuals and documents for National Park Rangers and National Park Police on procedures on filing reports and forms for when a park guest wants to press charges against a Park Ranger or National Park Police for assault and Battery

Copies of all training manuals and documents for National Park Rangers and National Park Police on procedures on filing reports and forms for when a park guest wants to press charges against a Park Ranger or National Park Police for destruction of private property belonging to the park guest.

Copies of all evaluations of (b)(6) and disciplinary actions taken against him while in the employ of the National Park Service.

Name of person who supposedly reported they saw my service dog off leash, copy of their written and sworn statement to such.

Copies of all statements, documents, written and sworn statements and emails from the following persons in reference to the incident involving (b)(6) and (b)(6) service dog on (b)(6) to include the following persons known by us and the ones that the park refuses to release:

Any and all employee's of the Department of Interior who have been made aware of the incident involving (b)(6)

(b)(6)

of the incident on (b)(6) Radio Dispatchers name being intentionally withheld Park employee that reported the supposed dog off leash to the park Rangers Name being intentionally withheld.

As they know they are important to being able to defend the criminal charges against us based on my having a service dog as we were told by (b)(6) at our cabin which are important to prove the defense of these charges and appear to be willfully withheld till the last minute to create further harassment, mental stress and anguish to (b)(6) and to cause further un due harm to our reputations.

These items are detrimental in our being able to prove and disprove allegations of criminal actions of (b)(6) (b)(6) service dog.

Teaman, Jason (Rubio)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, July 01, 2012 2:15 PM
To: Teaman, Jason (Rubio); (b)(6)
Subject: Information

Jason,
Yesterday (b)(6) received a certified letter dated 26 June 2012 from the U.S. Department of the Interior in reference to all the information we have been requesting from them. According to the letter the following people Attorney Advisor Deborah Bardwick, FOIA Officer Kevin Killeen and Christine S. Lehnertz Regional Director, Pacific West Region all participated in the decision to deny the request of anything having to do with case incident Report Number (b)(6) (b)(6) because release of the information could cause foreseeable harm and interfere with the ability the enforcement actions. Well I am sure they feel that way because the information is needed in order to prepare our defense. Their actions there show their intent to withhold information needed under discovery that was requested in order to prepare a defense which only goes further to show how that the U.S. Department of the interior and the National Park Service intends to violate our rights even further and is refusing to allow us a fair and just ability to represent our case showing that they are intentionally doing everything to violate our rights along with railroad us into a conviction. I have made my mind up that since we are unable to get a attorney to represent us and we were having to represent ourself in the case that since they are running a one sided investigation along with refusing to release the information needed for us to represent ourself in court that I am going to not be spending the money that I need in order to have my service dog refresher trained because of the damage his seeing me receive assault and battery at the hands of (b)(6) and that they are enabling themselves to rewrite any and all reports by refusing us the copies of all the items we requested which would make it impossible to change anything that we had copies of. I am going to let them arrest me in order to get me into court for the charges that they have against me due to my innocence and in order to get the news to cover the injustice that is being intentionally being used against us in order to keep the thick blue line together and to protect (b)(6) and all others involved from facing their assault & battery against me along with willful violation of all my civil and constitutional rights that they have done. Call me if you would like me to fax you a copy of the letter refusing to release the information at (b)(6) and I will fax it to you. We have only 2 1/2 weeks before having to appear in court and we in no way can prepare our case without the information we had requested or do we have time to request a change of venue to get the case brought to Florida. If you have any contacts in the news service please pass on what is going on so that hopefully they can do a story to help with this. I am embarrassed to have ever served in the military and ashamed that my wife served in the military for a country that treats it's veterans and it's disabled especially those of us who had served their country with pride in our country. I have never been so embarrassed or ashamed of anything in my life. I know now what it must be like to have no country and to live in a place where they can violate a person in every possible way after receiving assault and battery along with my what are supposed to be in this country civil and constitutional rights just thrown away like yesterday's trash. I will let the United States continue their fight to destroy me and my family just to save the face of their National Park Ranger and crooked system of constitutional and civil rights and ADA laws that are only for the privileged and the rich in a country I was brought up in believing was the greatest in the world and had the fairest judicial system possible where no one was denied justice or their freedoms and that the political system and those in it cared about upholding the laws of this country, The Constitution and civil rights, all of which have been proven to have been just wishful promises and not fact.
Sincerely,

(b)(6)

Fax

TO: Jason Traman
Fax Number: 4074230941
Date: 7/2/12

From: (b) (6)
Number of pages including cover: 3
Regarding: Assault, Battery, ADA and civil rights violations

Dear Jason,

Here is the letter from the Department of the Interior denying us any of the information, manuals, recorded, written, or sworn statements or any video or photographic evidence. Don't they realize that it is all part of discovery and since we can not even get a attorney to return our calls about this case that we have to have all the information we have requested in order to build a defense? Especially since we were never told why we were charged with these offenses? Along with the fact that they are withholding anything about the assault and battery which very conveniently they are not investigating nor have they even done a report on it even though I at least stated 10 to 20 times to the rangers at the scene that I wanted to press formal charges for assault and battery against (b) (6). Their think big line is definitely not going to do anything that will bring out the truth about the incident or to cause a formal investigation as required about the assault and Battery or excessive use of force what ever they want to call it along with the two cannons broken by during the assault and battery by (b) (6). Please call me at (b) (6) as soon as you get this. I am also including a letter from a U.S. Army Brigadier General and a U.S. Navy Commodore which show what kind of a person I am by showing what kind of person I am. I send care packages full of cigars, lighters, cutters and another related items that I can get to the troops serving in Afghanistan and did to Iraq when we were still there.

Sincerely yours,

(b) (6)



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

(b) (6)

June 25, 2012

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

On June 25, 2012, you sent a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request with the United States Department of the Interior, Office of the Secretary, seeking the following:

[All training manuals for Park Rangers and enforcement personnel related to training on the ADA, Dealing with disabled persons, use of force, procedures for dealing with a victim of assault and battery by National Park Personnel, along with any other materials having to do with the training of the Park Rangers, a copy of the Superintendent's Compendium for the Volcanoes National Park. Copies of all audio and video recordings and reports having to do with this incident from all officers involved. These items are allowed under the freedom of information act and discovery laws of the United States. Judicial laws.

Your request was received in the Office of the Secretary June 25, 2012, and assigned control

(b) (6)

Please cite this number whenever contacting this office about your request.

We are writing to respond to your request on behalf of the Office of the Secretary. After a search reasonably calculated to uncover all relevant documents, it has been determined that the Office of the Secretary has no records responsive to your request.

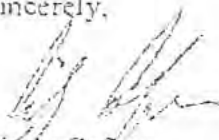
You may file a FOIA appeal by writing to the FOIA Appeals Officer, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, N.W., MS-6556 -- MIB, Washington, D.C. 20240. Your appeal letter must be received no later than 30 workdays after the date of our final response. Your appeal letter must be marked, both on its envelope and at the top of its first page, with the legend "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." Your appeal letter must be accompanied by a copy of your original FOIA request, a copy of this letter, and a brief explanation of why you believe that this decision is in error.

(b)(6)

There is no fee for the processing of this request. This completes the Office of the Secretary's response to your request. We note that your request was also sent to National Park Service. They will provide their separate response directly to you.

If you have any questions regarding our response to your request, or any of the issues discussed in this letter, you may contact Cynthia Sweeney by phone at 202-208-3552, by fax at 202-219-2374, by e-mail at os_foia@ios.doi.gov, or by mail at U.S. Department of the Interior, 1951 Constitution Avenue, N.W., MS 116 – SIB, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Sincerely,



Cindy Casaro
Office of the Secretary
Acting FOIA Officer

Fax

TO: Jason Teaman
Fax Number: 4074230941
Date: 7/2/12

From: (b)(6)
Number of pages including cover: 5
Regarding: Assault, Battery, ADA and civil rights violations.

Dear Jason,

Here is the letter from the Department of the Interior denying us any of the information, manuals, records, witness, or sworn statements or any video or photographic evidence. Don't they realize that it is all part of discovery and since we can not even get a attorney to return our calls about this case that we have to have all the information we have requested in order to build a defense? Especially since we were never told why we were charged with these offenses? Along with the fact that they are withholding anything about the assault and battery which very conveniently they are not investigating nor have they even done a report on it even though I at least stated 10 to 20 times to the rangers at the scene that I wanted to press formal charges for assault and battery against (b) (6). Their thick blue line is definitely not going to do anything that will bring out the truth about the incident or to cause a formal investigation as required about the assault and Battery or excessive use of force what ever they want to call it along with the two (b)(6) broken by during the assault and battery by (b) (6). Please call me a (b)(6) (b)(6) as soon as you get this. I am also including a letter from a U.S. Army Brigadier General and a U.S. Navy Commodore which show what kind of a person I am by showing what kind of person I am. I send care packages full of cigars, lighters, cutters and another related items that I can get to the troops serving in Afghanistan and do anything when we were still there.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Pacific West Region
335 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, California 94104-2828



(b) (6)

28 JUN 2012

(b) (6)

Dear Ms. (b) (6)

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated May 10, 2012, and received at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park on May 29, 2012. The Department of the Interior tracking number for this request is (b) (6). Please include this number in any future correspondence regarding your request.

You requested a copy of Case Incident Report Number (b) (6)

The park has forwarded your request to this office as required when park staff proposes records be withheld. Your request is denied. The National Park Service will not provide the file for Report (b) (6) because law enforcement proceedings associated with the incident have not been completed and thus these records are protected under Exemption 7(A) of the FOIA (5 U.S.C. 552(b)(7)). Exemption 7 of the FOIA protects records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, whereby the production of such law enforcement records or information could cause foreseeable harm. Specific to your request, exemption 7(A)(1), prohibits the release of information that could be expected to interfere with enforcement actions that are proceeding, pending, or prospective and the disclosure of the documents could be expected to cause harm, (i.e. disrupt, impede, delay, or otherwise harm the enforcement proceeding). Exemption 7(A)(2), allows the withholding of documents as long as the enforcement proceeding remains pending or prospective. You may wish to re-submit your request after the proceedings are complete.

You have the right to appeal this decision by writing to the Department of the Interior FOIA Appeals Officer, MS-6556-MIB, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20240. Your FOIA appeal must be received by the FOIA Appeals Officer no later than 30 workdays after the date of this final response. A copy of your original request and all correspondence between you and the NPS regarding your request should accompany your appeal, as well as a brief statement of the reasons why you believe the initial decision to be in error. The appeal should be marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal" both on the envelope and the face of the letter.

Alternatively, as part of the 2007 OPEN Government Act FOIA amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a nonexclusive alternative to litigation.




Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)
National Archives and Records Administration
Room 2510
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001

Email: ogis@nara.gov
Phone: 301-837-1996
Fax: 301-837-0348
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

In addition to myself, Attorney Advisor Deborah Bardwick and FOIA Officer Kevin Killeen participated in this decision. If you have questions about the processing of your FOIA request, Mr. Killeen can be reached at 206-220-4051.

Sincerely,


Christine S. Lehnertz
Regional Director, Pacific West Region

cc: Kay Molhoek, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park



May 25, 2012

(b)(6)

Dear **(b)(6)**

On behalf of the 1,455 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines serving under the TWENTY-SECOND Naval Construction Regiment, I want to personally thank you for the exceptional cigars, hats, humidity packs, and cutters you sent to us in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Please also extend our gratitude to Soyeda Humidity Packs, Drew Estates Corona Cigars, Outlaw Cigars, Deadwood Tobacco, and Sosa Cigars.

It is always gratifying when a citizen shows their appreciation for our military. As our troops prepare to return from Afghanistan in the next few weeks, your thoughtful act will resonate for many months to come.

Sincerely,

Kathryn A. Donovan

Kathryn A. Donovan
 Captain, Civil Engineer Corps
 United States Navy
 Commodore, TWENTY-SECOND
 Naval Construction Regiment



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, California 94104-2828

IN REPLY REFER TO:
A 3615 (PWR-C)

25 JUL 2012

The Honorable Marco Rubio
c/o Jason Teaman
201 S. Orange Avenue
Suite 350
Orlando, FL 32801

Dear Senator Rubio:

Thank you for your letters of July 2 and July 10, 2012, in which you request additional documents regarding the June 13, 2012 inquiry made on behalf of your constituent (b)(6). We have responded to this request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) directly to (b)(6) and have enclosed herein a copy of that response letter for your records. (b)(6) was also contacted directly by the US Attorney's Office who explained the discovery process to him.

We previously responded to a FOIA request from (b)(6) on June 26, 2012, and have forwarded a FOIA referral letter to the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Georgia for response. Copies of these letters are also enclosed.

Copies of the records that were released to (b)(6) as a result of their FOIA requests are not enclosed with this letter.

Should you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Hawaii Volcanoes National Park Superintendent Cindy Orlando. Ms. Orlando can be reached at (808) 985-6025.

Sincerely,

Christine S. Lehnertz
Regional Director, Pacific West Region

Enclosures

cc: Cindy Orlando, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park



Office of U.S. Senator Marco Rubio

201 S. Orange Ave., Suite 350
Orlando, FL 32801
Phone 407-254-2573
Fax 407-423-0941

To: Dept. of the Interior
Congressional Affairs

From: Jason Teaman

Pages: 4 (Including cover)

Date: 6/13/2012

Fax: 202-208-5533

Re: (b)(6)

Comments:

I would greatly appreciate it if you could review this matter and provide a response. Please address your response to Senator Marco Rubio c/o Jason Teaman at 201 S. Orange Ave., Suite 350, Orlando, FL 32801.

Best Regards,

Jason Teaman
Constituent Services Representative
Jason_Teaman@rubio.senate.gov

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 18, 2014

RECEIVED

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary
U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

641185

2014 FEB 24 PM 3:04

E OF THE
SECRETARIAT

The Honorable Penny Pritzker
Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Jewell and Secretary Pritzker:

We are writing to express concerns regarding the Section 7 consultation process under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the proposed rule under 316(b) of the Clean Water Act ("the proposed rule"). Specifically, we are requesting that your agencies vacate the consultation process as it relates to the proposed rule as we believe that it is an inappropriate application of the ESA.

As indicated in a February 10, 2013 modified settlement agreement, the EPA has been working to finalize proposed requirements for cooling water intake structures (CWIS) at existing power plants. It has recently come to our attention that a Section 7 consultation process began shortly before the proposed rule was to be finalized this past June. It is unclear at whose direction or why the consultation was initiated during the final review of the proposed rule. Unfortunately, inquiries to your agencies regarding this process have not resulted in any substantial response.

The proposed rule is expected to create standards that would apply to existing power plants nationally. These power plants are located throughout several different regions and sub-regions of the United States, each with its own environment, site-specific conditions and requirements, and surrounding species and habitat. Therefore, we fail to understand how the outcome of a Section 7 consultation process would be adequately or appropriately applied on a national level through the proposed rule. While we recognize the goals of the ESA as they apply individually to CWIS at existing power plants, we fail to see the value in applying provisions of the ESA beyond a project- by-project basis, which we deem to be a more appropriate application of the Section 7 consultation process.

The utilities to which this proposed rule will apply provide clean and low-cost power to many of our constituents. Ultimately, this current roadblock, if not properly addressed, will only result in even higher energy costs for consumers across the country with no corresponding benefit. Therefore, we respectfully request that you immediately direct your agencies to vacate the consultation process that is being incorrectly applied to a national rulemaking process. At a time when resources are limited and regulatory uncertainty is high, we do not believe that this exercise is a prudent use of time or limited taxpayer resources.



11 May 2012

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

I would like to express my deepest thanks for your support of the troops. The cigars, the hats and humidity packs, and the cutters were all well-received and enjoyed by the unit. The ash trays were a nice touch as well. Again, thank you for all that you do in support of not only my troops, but also the countless other troops to whom you have brought a little piece of home.

Sincerely,

Very Thank you!

Nathan G. Wells
NATHAN G. WELLS
Brigadier General, US Army
Commanding General

We appreciate your attention to this matter, and as Members with a key role in the oversight of your agencies, we will continue to monitor this issue until it has been appropriately resolved.

Respectfully,









cc: Administrator Gina McCarthy, Environmental Protection Agency



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

APR 09 2014

The Honorable Marco Rubio
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Rubio:

Thank you for your letter dated February 18, 2014, regarding the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) formal consultation under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on their efforts to promulgate regulations to implement Section 316(b) of the Clean Water Act.

In a letter dated June 18, 2013, EPA requested ESA Section 7(a)(2) consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the FWS. The ESA and its implementing regulations require Federal agencies to consult with the FWS if the agency determines that their action "may affect" listed species or designated critical habitat. As described in the June 18 letter, EPA determined that the issuance and implementation of the proposed regulations may affect 215 threatened and endangered species and the designated critical habitat of 30 species.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me directly or have your staff contact the Service's Assistant Director for Ecological Services, Mr. Gary Frazer, at (202) 208-4646.

Sincerely,

Sally Jewell



Office of U.S. Senator Marco Rubio

201 S. Orange Ave., Suite 350
Orlando, FL 32801
Phone 407-254-2573
Fax 407-423-0941

644379

RECEIVED

2014 JUN -3 PM 12: 32

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

To: Dept. of the Interior
Congressional Affairs

From: Jason Teaman

Pages: 4 (Including cover) Date: 6/2/2014

Fax: 202-208-5533

Re: (b) (6)

Comments:

This is a new inquiry from senator Rubio's office. I would greatly appreciate it if you could review this matter and provide a response. Please address your response to Senator Marco Rubio c/o Jason Teaman at 201 S. Orange Ave., Suite 350, Orlando, FL 32801.

Best Regards,

Jason Teaman
Constituent Services Representative
Jason_Teaman@rubio.senate.gov
(407) 318-2728

RECEIVED
2014 MAY -3 PM 12: 11
OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

644374



Office of U.S. Senator Marco Rubio Privacy Act Consent Form

In accordance with the provisions of The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579), your written consent is required so that we may contact a federal agency on your behalf. Since e-mails do not contain a valid signature, they do not fulfill the requirements of the law. If you are inquiring on behalf of another person that is 18 or older, it is necessary that he or she sign this document. All information must be written in English.

Title: (select one) Mr. Ms. Mrs. Mr. & Mrs. Rev. Doctor Other: _____

Name: (b)(6)

Address: (b)(6) City PORT CHARLOTTE State: FL

Zip code: 33983 Phone: (b)(6) Fax: _____ Cell: _____

E-mail Address: (b)(6) Date of Birth: (b)(6)

If you have contacted another congressional office to assist you, please list the office: SENATOR BILL NELSON

Federal Agency Issue: FEDERAL & STATE WILD LIFE PROTECTION

(Please complete the sections that apply to your case on page 2)

BRIEFLY STATE YOUR PROBLEM AND WHAT OUTCOME YOU WOULD LIKE FROM THIS INQUIRY.

REMOVAL OF SCRUB JAY PROTECTIONS IN DEVELOPED AREAS. SEE ATTACHED

Signature: (b)(6) Date: 5/10/14

I have discussed my concerns with Senator Marco Rubio and/or his representative(s), and request that any relevant information that is required to assist in responding to my inquiry may be furnished upon request.

Please return the completed form: By mail: U.S. Senator Marco Rubio
201 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 350
Orlando, Florida 32801
By fax: (407) 423-0941
By email: casework@rubio.senate.gov

If you have any questions, please call the Orlando Regional Office at (407) 254-2573 or (866) 630-7106, toll-free in Florida.

May 5, 2014

SCRUB JAY HABITAT IN DEEP CREEK

I to have recieved a offer for my empty lot in Deep Creek from Mr. (b) (6) I can only say he has committed a great disservice to the owners of property in Deep Creek. What is mind boggling is how he knows about the "one time fee of \$2200" before we property owners are informed.

But the problem is deeper that that. Deep Creek was developed by PGI Corp in the the early 1980's with streets, water,SEWERS, telephone and electrical service. The land was developed into lots averaging 9600 sq ft. and four lots to an acre with the remaining sq. ft. dedicated to green areas and drainage canals. The State of Florida denied the digging of canals for fill as had been done in other areas of Florida and fill from PGI was brought in to fill low places. My lot had about two foot of black sand fill added to dry it up. The area for canals was then allocated to green belt and storm water drainage for Deep Creek with most of it (Section 20) flowing into an east west canal, south of Deep Creek Blvd., eventually emptying into the Peace River near the Charlotte, Desoto County line.

Development of Deep Creek then began with several spring home festivals and other builders until now Deep Creek is estimated to be 70%+/- built out. My neighborhood, bound by Copiapo Circle and Deep Creek Blvd., probleby exceeds 90%. What is left is green belt and some lakes.

Now twenty years later comes the Federal and State Wildlife to determine that scrub jays exist on this land and restrictions are being placed on how the property owners can now use their investment.

I suggest that all interested parties locate the internet article, "Songbirds-Florida Scrub Jay", authored by the Florida Fish and Wild Life Conservation Commission and read the paragraph on scrub jay habitat. Note the need for burn off to maintain the overgrowth 3-10 feet and floor clear of vegetation. The scrub jays avoid other forest types, wetlands, and agricultural acreage. It goes on to state some scrub jays have recently been converted to residential developments but their survival success is very poor. In Deep Creek there are no sandy tracts to bury their acorns, The green belts are grass and being mowed periodically (is this legal per the scrub jay overlay?), there is a requirement to keep cleared lots mowed and weed free. My lot has been mowed by me for 25 years. Most of the trees I see in the area are Brazilian Pepper trees, an undesirable invasive vegetation. The undeveloped lots are either mowed or have heavy vegetation and not requiring mowing and are not scrub jay habitat.

I personally Don't see much scrub jay habitat. It would seem to me that unfortunately for the scrub jay that its to little and to late to support the overlay in the Deep Creek area. Is the only reason the scrub jay is here because of the enviroment we (Deep Creek) have created for them, the green belt areas and food in our bird feeders? Is the \$2200 abatement for the pupose of buying and creating habitat elsewhere? Then why is Deep Creek being stuck solely with this cost. We have already contributed our share in green belt area, if thats were they live and nest.

Fish and Game needs to take another and realistic look at the Deep Creek scrub jay overlay and remove it. It doesn't meet the requirement.

(b) (6)



PORT CHARLOTTE, FL
33963



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

1875 Century Boulevard
Atlanta, Georgia 30345

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/R4/ES/057550

JUL 7 2014

The Honorable Marco Rubio
United States Senator
201 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 350
Orlando, Florida 32801

Dear Senator Rubio:

Thank you for your correspondence dated June 2, 2014, on behalf of your constituent (b)(6) regarding a scrub habitat overlay or "review buffer" for the threatened Florida scrub-jay affecting a vacant lot he owns in the Deep Creek area of Charlotte County, Florida. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is currently working with Charlotte County to develop a countywide Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) that will make scrub-jay conservation practical for affected landowners yet beneficial for the species.

On June 24, 2014, we spoke with (b)(6) to better understand his concerns and explained the process for using HCPs to help address endangered species conflicts for landowners.

(b)(6) stated the scrub habitat overlay should be removed because it is impacting the resale value of the vacant parcel that he purchased over 20 years ago for investment purposes. We explained to him why the scrub-jay is listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act and how we use review buffers to identify which parcels could be in occupied scrub-jay territory.

(b)(6) also expressed concern that he could not mow the vacant lot due to the overlay. We informed (b)(6) that he could continue to mow the lot since it will have no adverse impact on scrub-jays.

Conserving scrub-jays and several other scrub species is challenging because the well-drained areas in Charlotte County that support habitat for the threatened scrub-jay are also prime areas for commercial and residential development. As a result, the Service worked with Charlotte County in 2007 to expedite review of single-family lot development proposals by placing "review buffers," which (b)(6) refers to as scrub habitat overlays, on parcels throughout Charlotte County that fall within 850 feet of a verified scrub-jay observation. Charlotte County compiled the known scrub-jay observations the Service used to create the review buffers. Only parcels affected by the review buffers would be subject to further investigation, and parcels outside of the buffers could be developed without review for impacts on the scrub-jay.

The 850-foot review buffers around verified scrub-jay observations is used because scrub-jays have territories ranging from 6 to 25 acres in urban landscapes, and this distance provides a

reasonable estimate of the area in which their territory would likely be found; however, the Service is aware that territory boundaries fluctuate from season to season and from year to year. The scrub-jay review buffers are updated regularly as new verified scrub-jay location information becomes available and remain valid until sufficient survey information is provided documenting the area is not, or is no longer in an occupied scrub-jay territory.

Three scrub-jay families are found relatively close to (b) (6) vacant lot: one to the northeast/east, one to the southeast, and one to the west. The closest observation to the vacant parcel is about 480 feet to the northeast and dates from 2005. Subsequent observations of this family of scrub-jays have been made in 2007, 2009, and 2011, showing the persistence of this family in the general area. (b) (6) stated during the June 24 phone call that he has also observed scrub-jays coming to be fed at residences across the street from his vacant parcel.

Inclusion of a parcel in a scrub-jay review buffer does not preclude property owners from selling or developing their parcels. The buffers are a mechanism used to identify which parcels could be in occupied scrub-jay territories. If further investigation shows that development of a parcel will adversely affect scrub-jays, then landowners can either develop an individual HCP or use the existing statewide Florida Scrub-Jay Umbrella HCP to receive an Incidental Take Permit prior to construction. Developing an HCP includes calculating an amount or type of mitigation or compensation appropriate to the unavoidable impacts to the species. Mitigation under either HCP option is calculated the same way and is used to acquire and manage land for scrub-jay conservation. We acknowledge that the mitigation may increase the overall cost of developing a parcel, but the practice of mitigating for impacts to federally-listed species is used throughout Florida and across the United States.

We understand the frustration and uncertainty with respect to the current regulatory process for scrub-jays in Charlotte County and its potential to affect land prices and development costs for parcels in review buffers. The mitigation cost for a parcel such as (b) (6) under either the individual HCP or Umbrella HCP options is currently about \$17,130. To ease the concerns of landowners and prospective buyers within the review buffers, the Service has been actively working with Charlotte County to develop a countywide HCP to address impacts to scrub-jays as a result of development on a landscape scale. Once complete, the countywide HCP will balance scrub-jay conservation with the needs of residential and commercial development, provide regulatory certainty, and a streamlined permitting process. We anticipate the countywide HCP will be completed later this year.

The Service also anticipates a significant reduction in mitigation costs for developing vacant lots such as (b) (6) from approximately \$17,130 under the current process to approximately \$2,200 under the countywide HCP. While the value of properties is primarily market-driven, and the potential for any property to return to the value it held prior to the economic recession is unknown, the reduction in the cost of mitigation required to develop small residential parcels in scrub-jay review buffers should help ensure the value of these parcels are commensurate with similar properties not covered by the review buffers.

The Honorable Marco Rubio

3

If you have questions, please contact me at (404) 679-4000 or Larry Williams, State Supervisor, Florida Ecological Services, at (772) 469-4285.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cynthia K. Dohner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Cynthia K. Dohner
Regional Director

Copy to your Washington Office

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 18, 2014

RECEIVED

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary
U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

641185

2014 FEB 24 PM 3:04

E OF THE
SECRETARY

The Honorable Penny Pritzker
Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Jewell and Secretary Pritzker:

We are writing to express concerns regarding the Section 7 consultation process under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the proposed rule under 316(b) of the Clean Water Act ("the proposed rule"). Specifically, we are requesting that your agencies vacate the consultation process as it relates to the proposed rule as we believe that it is an inappropriate application of the ESA.

As indicated in a February 10, 2013 modified settlement agreement, the EPA has been working to finalize proposed requirements for cooling water intake structures (CWIS) at existing power plants. It has recently come to our attention that a Section 7 consultation process began shortly before the proposed rule was to be finalized this past June. It is unclear at whose direction or why the consultation was initiated during the final review of the proposed rule. Unfortunately, inquiries to your agencies regarding this process have not resulted in any substantial response.

The proposed rule is expected to create standards that would apply to existing power plants nationally. These power plants are located throughout several different regions and sub-regions of the United States, each with its own environment, site-specific conditions and requirements, and surrounding species and habitat. Therefore, we fail to understand how the outcome of a Section 7 consultation process would be adequately or appropriately applied on a national level through the proposed rule. While we recognize the goals of the ESA as they apply individually to CWIS at existing power plants, we fail to see the value in applying provisions of the ESA beyond a project- by-project basis, which we deem to be a more appropriate application of the Section 7 consultation process.

The utilities to which this proposed rule will apply provide clean and low-cost power to many of our constituents. Ultimately, this current roadblock, if not properly addressed, will only result in even higher energy costs for consumers across the country with no corresponding benefit. Therefore, we respectfully request that you immediately direct your agencies to vacate the consultation process that is being incorrectly applied to a national rulemaking process. At a time when resources are limited and regulatory uncertainty is high, we do not believe that this exercise is a prudent use of time or limited taxpayer resources.

We appreciate your attention to this matter, and as Members with a key role in the oversight of your agencies, we will continue to monitor this issue until it has been appropriately resolved.

Respectfully,









cc: Administrator Gina McCarthy, Environmental Protection Agency



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

NOV 18 2014

The Honorable Marco Rubio
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Rubio:

Thank you for your letter of October 8, 2014, requesting that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) consider withdrawing its proposed rulemakings and proposed policy that relate to critical habitat designations under the Endangered Species Act (Act).

The FWS, in conjunction with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), announced the proposed regulations and the draft policy on exclusions from critical habitat in three *Federal Register* notices that published on May 12, 2014. At the time of publication, the FWS opened a 60-day public comment period. On June 26, 2014, the FWS announced an extension of the comment period for the proposals for 90 days through October 9, 2014.

The FWS and NMFS held a number of webinars on the proposed regulations and draft policy for stakeholders, including Federal and state agencies, and industry and environmental organizations. On June 11, 2014, the FWS and NMFS held a briefing for the minority staff of the Senate Environment and Public Works and Commerce Committees on the proposed regulations and policy.

The proposed regulations and policy which are consistent with the Act and the Department's authority, were informed by over 15 years of experience in designating critical habitat and consulting on effects to critical habitat, as well as, by advice from stakeholders across the spectrum on how we might improve implementation of this aspect of the Act. The FWS's approach to critical habitat designation is designed to avoid disincentives to voluntary conservation efforts on non-Federal lands and to provide more predictability to the process of critical habitat designation.

For these reasons, we respectfully decline to withdraw the proposals. The Department appreciates your interest in endangered species conservation and critical habitat. Please feel free to contact the FWS Director, Mr. Dan Ashe, personally or have your staff contact the Service's Assistant Director for Ecological Services, Mr. Gary Frazer at (202) 208-4646.

Sincerely,

Sally Jewell



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20240-0001

MAY 14 2015

The Honorable Marco Rubio
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Rubio,

Thank you for your letter dated January 27, 2015, to Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, regarding Mr. Christopher Barry's efforts to obtain documents from the Department of the Interior (DOI), Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). Secretary Jewell asked me to respond.

BSEE's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) office has responded to multiple requests by Mr. Barry pursuant to the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. §552, and the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. §552a. The items enumerated by Mr. Barry in his request to your office were included in those requests.

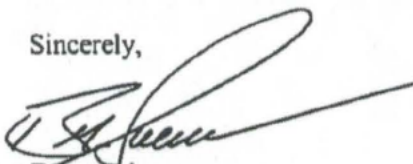
Mr. Barry submitted multiple requests regarding the BSEE Investigative Review Unit's 2011-2012 investigation and BSEE responded. On September 5, 2013, BSEE provided a redacted copy of the information responsive to his requests. Mr. Barry's subsequent request for a non-redacted copy of the IRU investigation was acknowledged on August 28, 2014, notifying him that the request was referred to the OIG FOIA Officer for response. On September 8, 2014, the OIG FOIA Officer responded to his request, stating:

"The documents you request relate to an ongoing investigation. Your request, therefore, is being denied pursuant to the provisions of 5 U.S.C. §552(b)(7)(A), which applies to records of information compiled for law enforcement purposes, the release of which could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings. Accordingly, we will close this FOIA request, however, you may contact me to inquire about the status of the investigation at the number listed below. When the investigation is completed and closed by the headquarters office of the OIG, you may submit a new FOIA request."

Mr. Barry's September 18, 2014, request for BSEE reports to GAO regarding the development of the National Training Center was responded to on November 6, 2014. A copy of BSEE's response is attached.

As detailed in the attached responses, BSEE and the OIG have responded to and closed out Mr. Barry's FOIA requests pursuant to all applicable requirements. If you have any questions please contact Ms. Julie Fleming, Chief, BSEE, Office of Congressional and International Affairs, at (202) 208-3827.

Sincerely,



Brian Salerno

Attachments