

From: [Required Field](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: ?Comments on the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS
Date: Monday, April 30, 2012 5:55:20 PM
Attachments: [Frank T. Fazzino III Resume PDF LinkedIN.pdf](#)

I heard about the drilling poissibility from Curtis Wright, local radio show host & State Senator Thom Goolsby. I am one of many, who whole heartedly support offshore exploration. It can bring jobs to our area while lowering our depedance onEnergy from Terrorist Supporting Countries. Ifd you have bumper stickers, please let me know. North Carolina can take advantage of its own sel sustainability before nearby states begin slant drilling !! Come on overto North Carolina, we want you here !! Also, I would like to apply for entry level Floorman position, see my resume attached.

Sincerely,

Frank Fazzino -Wilmington NC, Resident & Supporter of Offshore Exploration & Extraction

From: [Nancy Danch](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: "Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities"
Date: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 2:33:42 PM

This action is totally uncalled for. BOEM's proposal to use airgun arrays to blast the ocean and seafloor with sound waves loud enough to pinpoint oil and gas deposits buried deep underground is not safe for our environment nor are is it safe for marine life.

BOEM has no idea of the long term effects that marine life will suffer in their communciation, mating, and daily living activities that have existed long before our scientific community decided to blast their home.

Isn't there enough harm that is caused by pollution, over fishing, etc.? BOEM does not need to add to this.

I am firmly against this project and hope that it never happens.

What good will all of this testing and blasting be if we destroy nature and, in turn, our habitat that so strongly depends on a healthy environment?

Think again, do not proceed with this.

Nancy Danch
Princeton University

From: [Lisa Koehl](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: "Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities"
Date: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 8:14:09 AM

Dear Honorable Officials:

I am writing with respect and personal sincerity to voice my opposition to harmful exploration that will lead to oil and gas development in the Atlantic.

Oil exploration leads directly to oil drilling. Both the search (with disastrously loud airgun blasts) and the resulting **drilling (with oil spills, discharges, and disasters a daily risk) devastate marine ecosystems, degrade marine habitat and water quality, and affect clean ocean uses like fisheries, surfing, boating, and coastal tourism.**

IF this happens, what harm will result?

For marine life, like fish, whales, dolphins, and turtles:

- The loud blasting masks social communications used to find mates, forage for food, or identify predators.
- The long-term noise can interfere with nursing, family groups, and migration patterns.
- Repetitive sound waves can cause temporary or permanent hearing impairment and loss, serious injury from tissue trauma and hemorrhaging, or even death - as is suspected in many marine mammal strandings world-wide.
- The US Navy recently found that their own seismic/sonar activities are much more harmful than previously thought (Check back with **COA's Blog** tomorrow for more on this.)

For humans, and the businesses and economies of the coasts:

- When these surveys are ongoing (over the next decade), any other ocean use will be excluded over a vast ocean area.
- Commerce and fishing will be limited in when the ocean can be used; fish stocks and catches can be impacted.
- Divers and swimmers would be at risk of serious trauma if underwater at the time of a nearby airgun blast.
- Once oil and gas production begins, and the industrialization of the Atlantic is complete, coastal economies will suffer.

ARE these surveys even necessary?

NO. These surveys are for oil and gas exploration only. Studies show that there is only enough Atlantic Ocean oil to fuel the U.S. for 209 days and natural gas to last 14 months (at current consumption rates). Drilling in the Atlantic will **NOT affect gasoline prices - According to a study done by the U.S. Government, we'd only save (at most) a few cents per gallon, and not until 15-20 years after drilling begins.**

WHAT solutions are needed?

A national energy policy promoting energy efficiency and conservation, and an **orderly transition to renewable and alternative energy sources.**

Impacts to Marine Life: Seismic surveys send shocking air gun blasts at levels of up to 255 decibels into the sea floor in search of oil and gas causing harm to the marine environment.

These sound waves interfere with communication, behavior, and reproduction in marine life. Sound levels for divers begin to become intolerable at a level of around 140 decibels, and cause physical impacts around 160 decibels. A thousand dolphin deaths in Peru recently are feared to be due to seismic surveys, and here at home the DOI has even stopped some Gulf of Mexico seismic surveys because the agency thinks they're having impacts on dolphins there.

Impacts to Fisherman: In New Jersey, there are more than 46,000 fishing industry jobs, more than \$1.4 billion in recreational fishing sales and more than \$5.8 billion in commercial fishing sales. Seismic Exploration can disorient fish changing migration and reproduction habits and in turn threatening the fishing industry.

Impacts to the Economy: New Jersey's tourism & recreation industry, which generates more than \$38 billion and 312,000 jobs, is at risk from drilling off the Atlantic coast. The Gulf of Mexico is still - two years later - reeling from the economic impacts of the BP Deepwater Horizon Disaster.

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((,,' ..' Lisa Koehl
-:|:- ((,,' '* -:|:-

"I am only one but I am still one." I cannot do everything but I can still do something"

"When Injustice Becomes Law Rebellion Becomes Duty"

"Until he extends the circle of his compassion to all living things, man will not himself find peace." - Albert Schweitzer

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

"Think occasionally of the suffering of which you spare yourself the sight "-Albert Schweitzer

"Well behaved women rarely make history."- Laurel Thatcher Ulrich

"The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing"- Albert Einstein

"When I do good, I feel good; when I do bad, I feel bad. That's my religion."- Abraham Lincoln

From: [Marlene Rost](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: "Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities"
Date: Friday, May 18, 2012 2:28:02 PM

It is completely unnecessary to check on the ocean floor for gas and oil and will be very harmful to marine life.

This will not solve our energy problem in the US and will not even begin to contribute.

Do not allow this to happen. It is unconscionable and cruel to destroy the environment in this manner.

We are completely opposed and request that you stop it from happening.

Marlene Rost &
Richard Pineles &
Alan Reiff

From: [Jen Rhee](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: A note on the cost of gas
Date: Friday, April 13, 2012 2:23:32 PM

Hi,

I came across your site while searching for blogs and posts about oil prices. That said, I wanted to reach out to see if you'd like to view a graphic that my team and I created which illustrates why our current gas prices are so high. Would you be interested in taking a look?

I'd love to get your readers' feedback as well as yours!

Thanks,
Jen R.

From: Captain Joel S. Fogel
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Additional Comments : BOEM EIS Proposal for Seismic Testing / Drilling for Gas and Oil
Date: Sunday, April 29, 2012 4:10:13 PM

ATTN:

Mr. Gary Goeke,
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Dear Mr. Goeke:

Clearly the hearing of marine mammals is known to be affected and we also know that fish can be killed by sound blasts. It then stands to reason that if important segments of the ecosystem are affected, (1) the entire system is exposed to the risk of major alterations, and (2) that those changes are more often than not negative ones since the existing systems tend to be optimized in terms of diversity, productivity and stability. No doubt, natural systems fluctuate but if they are healthy those fluctuations do not lead to a tipping point that threatens the entire system.

One should also point out that the oceans have already been subject to a great number of stressors, including a soup of chemical compounds that has been entered the ocean system for decades. Increased acidification has become a problem more recently but we are already seeing the accumulative effect of those various impacts. It must be clear to any objective observer that increasing the pressures and stress on the ocean system will likely result in more and more failures of eco-system components until eventually the entire system will fail or collapse.

In regards to the argument that new drilling is needed to create jobs and reduce importation of foreign oil.

Maybe it would create jobs but more often than not more jobs are lost in the existing sector (fisheries, tourism) than gained in the new (exploration and eventually drilling).

The second point is an absolute myth: no matter how much drilling occurs in the U.S. and its territorial waters, it won't reduce the dependency on foreign oil because all crude is sold on international markets.

In addition, the US does not have the refining capacity it would need to be independent. At best, oil and gas will be part of a larger energy policy that shifts towards and will be dominated by renewable energy sources (wind, solar, waste to energy, thermal energy just to name a few) and the reduction of energy consumption on all levels.

We need to look at ecosystem valuation and use this approach to demonstrate the economic value of the ocean and the resources and benefits it provides.

Those who generically claim that exploration and drilling delivers economic benefits without ever mentioning the economic costs are not reviewing the entire picture of cost vs benefit.

VTY,

Captain Joel S. Fogel
www.captainfogel.com

Exec. Director
WATERWATCH International
www.waterwatchinternational.org

Chairman, Environmental Affairs
The Explorers Club, Philadelphia Chapter
www.explorers.org

Member
Ground Water Advisory Committee
Atlantic County Utilities Authority
www.acua.com

Co-Chair
Eco Tourism
New Jersey Tourism Council
www.actourism.org

Chairman
Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation
www.adventureandscience.org

From: [Kimberly Barbar](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Adopt Alternative C
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 1:02:33 PM

Please adopt Alternative C.

Kimberly Barbar

From: [Meryl Friedman](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Adopt Alternative C
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 12:29:51 PM

Not good for our oceans!
--Meryl Rosen Friedman
12 Wilson Way Soutj
West Windsor, NJ 08550
merylfriedman@mac.com

From: barbbagge@aol.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Adopt Alternative C
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 3:09:42 PM

**Please adopt Alternative C, prohibiting seismic testing in our oceans,
prohibiting seismic exploration and prohibiting drilling off our coast.**

From: [Sarah Gilliam](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Against testing for off-shore drilling
Date: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 2:36:05 PM

Mr. Gary D. Goeke,

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my concerns about testing for off-shore drilling along the coast of North Carolina. After reading up on the impacts to marine life, I am strongly opposed to the high-intensity seismic air gun testing. Our coastal waters have dolphins, porpoises and some whales species, all of which are sensitive to the noise these air guns produce. The science is clear. These underwater blasts can hinder migration, feeding and communication. The Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement conducted by your agency clearly recognizes the expected negative impact on ocean dwelling mammal populations, even with the establishment of protective "exclusion zones."

I live less than 100 yards from the intercostal waterway and I find great joy in taking my kayak out and seeing dolphin swim and feed in our waters. I hope this unique experience will be something my children can enjoy. It is so important to preserve our oceans for future generations. Thank you in advance for your time.

Sincerely, Sarah Gilliam

Sarah Gilliam, Coordinator
Stop Titan Action Network
NC Coastal Federation
sarah@stoptitan.org
910-777-9834

From: [M & M Miller](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Air gun and seismic testing along Our Atlantic Coast
Date: Saturday, May 19, 2012 7:08:29 AM

Any SEISMIC TESTING is environmentally BAD for our fragile endangered species and that includes people along the coastal waters IN and OUT. We are trying to protect our right whales, sea turtles (several types only land here) and the dolphins, fishing industry and the rest of us humans.

The only answer is NO TESTING.

Mary Miller
5093 Atlantic View
St Aug Fl 32080

From: eckert.5620@comcast.net
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Air gun blasts off the mid and south Atlantic coasts.
Date: Friday, May 04, 2012 11:01:50 AM

I am very much against allowing air gun blasts off the Atlantic coast for locating places fo drill for oil and gas. I is well known how totally disruptive these blasts are to marine fish and mammals. They become totally disoriented and unable to function in any normal capacity (feed or mate). Fisheries are disrupted, and industries such as whale watching become impossible. We must get off of fossil fuels, but in he meantime, we must not destroy the oceans' other creatures until we do. I am grieved to witness the suffering of so many creatures at the hands of growing human populations and consumption of resources which should always be sufficient to support all . I hope that politics of exploring for energy for human survival doesn't trump the survival of the oceans' creatures.

Sincerely,
Jacqueline
5620 Robert Scott Dr. N.
Jacksonville, FL 32207

From: [Pat Rittenmeyer](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Alternate C - Seismic testing
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 10:19:00 PM

Good Afternoon Gary

PLEASE eliminate alternates A & B - think about the North Atlantic Right Whale. There are only 361 individuals left in the world. We've already decimated their population. PLEASE give them a chance.

As I suspect you know, airgun noise is loud enough to mask whale calls over literally thousands of miles, destroying their capacity to communicate and breed. It can drive endangered whales to abandon their habitat and cease foraging, again over vast areas of ocean. According to Dr. Pabst of UNCW, "we believe that at least one right whale has likely given birth in NC waters, and it appears likely that others give birth in the mid-and SE Atlantic, not just off the coast of Florida." With only 362 individuals remaining on our earth, each one is vital to their survival. WE cannot take a chance seismic testing!

AND what about the sea turtles and other marine life in areas other than Brevard Co. Florida - they don't count? PLEASE again give them a chance.

For the continued health of our ocean - PLEASE select alternative C. The health of our ocean affects YOU & ME, in addition to all the animals who live there.

Gratefully,

Pat Rittenmeyer ASA, AAA, ISA CAPP
910-392-7884
257 Marsh Hen Drive
Wilmington, NC 28409

Pat Rittenmeyer ASA, AAA, ISA CAPP
Rittenmeyer & Associates LLC
(910) 392-7884
257 Marsh Hen Drive
Wilmington, NC 28409
www.WilmingtonAppraiser.com

From: arttutor@aol.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Alternative C
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 8:25:46 AM

Please adopt Alternative C. We must not wilfully harm our sea life.
Lee Fricke

From: [Harriet Fink](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Alternative C
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 10:14:05 AM

Please adopt Alternative C and prevent seismic testing in our oceans. Save our dolphins and whales. Thank you.

Harriet Fink @ yahoo.com

From: [Rose Kress](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Alternative C: Atlantic Geological & Geophysical PEIS
Date: Thursday, May 10, 2012 12:24:29 PM

Mr. Gary D. Goeke

I am writing in support of Alternative "C" and to ask that the agency release an Environmental Impact Statement focused on the development of renewable energy only.

Seismic airgun activity for oil and gas exploration has a huge environmental footprint and would produce significant impacts on marine mammals, sea turtles, fishes, and other marine life. Over the next eight years - according to the administration's own estimates - seismic exploration would injure up to 138,500 marine mammals and disrupt marine mammal feeding, calving, breeding, and other vital activities more than 13.5 million times. Airgun noise also affects fish behavior and fisheries on a broad scale, displacing commercial species of fish over thousands of square kilometers.

BOEM must keep airguns out of sensitive environmental areas and promote the use of greener alternatives.

Thank you.

Rose Kress
14 Forest Av.
Old Greenwich, CT 06870

From: [Colleen Poole](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Atlantic ocean blasting.
Date: Monday, April 30, 2012 6:06:00 AM

Please do not look for oil/gas in our ocean. Do not want to see sealife murdered. Do not want to explain this to my children. "Sorry, I know its hot, but the beach has dead dolphins etc. We cant use the beach because there is oil all over it!"

From: [Jean Luedtke](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Atlantic Ocean Drilling
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 8:50:57 AM

I am praying that the following, although it is a message I am forwarding, will be received and considered by you as the absolutely accurate feeling of a citizen of the United States and the world. It would be shameful for us to continue in harming the planet in the name of fossil fuel energy development. We should be working in the opposite direction, to develop renewable and eco-safe and friendly energy sources. Thank you, I hope, for taking the long-term beneficial and humane path.

I am strongly opposed to opening our Atlantic Ocean to any exploratory seismic testing. By allowing this dangerous and irresponsible procedure to be used, we will be putting into action an irreversible, devastating chain of events that threatens the very existence of all marine mammals, sea turtles, and fish. Even the industry acknowledges that the testing could do great harm. Look at the connection between the thousands of dead dolphins washing up on Peru's beaches and the seismic testing being done there. We risk destroying our planet and its ability to continue to nourish and feed all of the earth's population. We need all of our oceans to be healthy and viable so both human and marine life as we know it can continue to exist.

All this under the guise of becoming energy dependant. The oil and gas that is collected doesn't necessarily stay in our country to be used here, it is often sold to the highest bidder. Look at how Mother Nature manages all life on this planet. Everything is used and recycled, allowing the chain of life to continue indefinitely. It is a perfectly balanced system.

When are we going to realize that by violating the Earth that Nature created, we put ourselves on a collision course with our own man made destruction.

Again I strongly oppose any exploratory seismic testing in the Atlantic Ocean, and in any of the other Seas and Oceans, and hope that you will not allow this unnatural procedure to take place.

From: [Holly Turner](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Atlantic Ocean Seismic testing.
Date: Saturday, April 28, 2012 6:14:07 AM

I would like to add my comments and also choose alternative c, do nothing. No more new wells, new alternative energy choices instead, please.
Holly Turner
HCRHS
Flemington, NJ

From: Marie Christine [\[mailto:sweetbabydoll3161@yahoo.com\]](mailto:sweetbabydoll3161@yahoo.com)
Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 6:47 PM
To: BOEM Public Affairs
Subject: NO PEIS. STOP IT NOW!!

Dear BOEM;

I do not approve of this G&G programmatic oil and gas exploration you are planning on the continental shelf. I want it stopped. DOWN WITH PEIS!

The damage that will be done to the marine life will be devastating. How could you approve something so damaging to innocent mammals and marine life? I do not believe that no matter what kind of alliance you have with the Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, that you will provide a safe environment for the underwater life. Clearly you cannot protect them from the sonic booms that will reverberate throughout the water at a much heavier volume. Your words of pontification of proposed work and justification of such do not fly.. You leave out the facts of blowing the whales and dolphins eardrums out.. and all the other marine life. The agony they will be in to stop the pain, leading to beaching themselves to end the misery. You make no mention of the lobsters, the scallop beds, shrimp and fish of all kinds that will be moved hundreds of miles out of their normal feeding grounds - which in turn will affect the commercial fisherman to lose their jobs, pay more to travel further to fish, in turn having the price of seafood skyrocket! There is nothing good that can come out of this exploration. On top of that you are affecting a huge portion of the east coast.. which can only hurt many of the states lining this proposal. No where on your site do you mention the negative outcomes that will affect us all and more than us - the marine life up and down the coast. SHAME ON YOU!

Please advise what I can do to have a say in this and have it stopped. Thank you.

Concerned Citizen;

Donna M McAveney

13 Crest Hill Dr
Sussex, NJ, 07461

From: [Wendy Beyda](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Atlantic Oil and Gas Explorations
Date: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 10:30:12 AM

Dear Secretary Salazar,

Please reconsider allowing Oil and Gas explorations in the Atlantic. America does not need more offshore drilling, we need more renewable energy that does not do so much damage to our environment. I have been reading about the massive deaths of dolphins in Peru where there is seismic activity going on for oil and gas explorations. I see a connection in their deaths with this exploration where sound is a factor. We are not certain the extent of damage we are doing to marine life with these explorations but these intelligent beings are very sensitive to sound and this very well could be their cause of death. Offshore drilling can cause a lot of problems with marine life, it is still going on in the Gulf after 2 years of the massive spill there. We need to go after energy that will not cause so much suffering and death. Going after more fossil fuels is NOT the answer. Our environment is already in real trouble because of our addition to fossil fuels and now going after harder to reach fossil fuels with riskier techniques and further degrading the environment and our own health. We need a healthy environment to sustain all of us and currently we are headed in the wrong direction. Please point us in the right direction because otherwise we will all pay the price. Thank you.

Wendy Beyda
6 Meadow Lane
Marlboro, N.J. 07746

From: [d.s](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Blasting sound waves
Date: Wednesday, June 06, 2012 10:31:55 AM

Please do not blast sound waves to test for oil and gas reserves underwater off the eastern seaboard.

The potential for environmental disaster (both in the loss of wildlife and gas and oil drilling) far outweigh the need for profit taking by those who would benefit from this survey.

I respectfully request no action be taken.

Deborah Slating

From: [cabfolds](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: BOEM impact study
Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 10:33:35 AM

Please just say "NO" to the proposed study. The potential (probable) detriment to our small part of the ocean, it's permanent residents and visitors, is not worth risking for a non-renewable resource when alternative sources need to be developed. When we lose our coast and it's inhabitants, they'll be gone for good. Please nip this idea in the bud!!

From: [Felicity Macdonald](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: BOEM porposes to blast our ocean with sound to map oil and gas fields
Date: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 5:36:36 PM

To whom it may concern

Upon reading the reports on this planned devastation of the North American sea board all the way from the North in Maine to the southernmost coast of Florida, it sickens me to think of the unnessary slaughter of sea creatures and marine life in general, who not only will die but die in terrible pain, according to the investigations that have made on dolphins off the coast of Peru. And then they criticise over-fishing!

After the terrible oil spill disaster last year, why are we going for more drilling?

I feel that you could more wisely use your technology to research alternative means of fuel or power.

Praying for the world to come to its senses

Felicity Macdonald

From: Captain Joel S. Fogel
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Cc: Captain Joel S. Fogel
Subject: BOEM: Atlantic City Hearing on April 27th
Date: Saturday, April 28, 2012 8:10:20 AM

ATTN:

Mr. Gary Goeke,
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Dear Mr. Goeke:

Thanks for the opportunity to speak during the hearing yesterday (see the excellent article by Derek Harper in the Press of Atlantic City today) for the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.

As I stated during the testimony, our organizations as listed below, support the Alternative C or Third option as mentioned in the EIS Proposal for Seismic Testing in the Mid-Atlantic and Southern Atlantic Sectors....essentially leaving things "status quo" or no testing as suggested by our NJ State Governor and U.S. Senators.

I was asked by several of the media about the sound I was making in the microphone during testimony yesterday at the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management hearing at about 230 decibels (which is what the air guns make during seismic testing underwater... 120 decibels being the limit which marine mammals can tolerate).

It was not "BOOM". It was "BO-EM", which is what is heard as the hydrophones pick up the resounding echo off the sea bottom.

VTY,

Captain Joel S. Fogel
www.captainfogel.com

Exec. Director
WATERWATCH International
www.waterwatchinternational.org

Chairman, Environmental Affairs
The Explorers Club, Philadelphia Chapter
www.explorers.org

Member
Ground Water Advisory Committee
Atlantic County Utilities Authority
www.acua.com

Co-Chair
Eco Tourism
New Jersey Tourism Council
www.actourism.org

Chairman
Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation
www.adventureandscience.org

ATTN:
Mr. Gary Goeke,
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Dear Mr. Goeke:

Please confirm that I am registered to have a "speaking spot" at the Atlantic City Hearing on April 27th,

Thank you.

VTY,

Captain Joel S. Fogel
www.captainfogel.com

Exec. Director
WATERWATCH International
www.waterwatchinternational.org

Chairman, Environmental Affairs
The Explorers Club
www.explorers.org

Member
Ground Water Advisory Committee
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New Jersey Tourism Council
www.actourism.org

Chairman
Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation
www.adventureandscience.org

Captain Fogel

Explorer of the Year

by WaynePAbright | 3 years ago | 354 views

2:40

Joel S. Fogel

From: ravigloom@rediffmail.com on behalf of [Ravi](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: choose Alternative "C"; no seismic testing
Date: Monday, May 07, 2012 3:33:34 PM

Dear Mr Goeke,

I am against the seismic oil and gas exploration program proposed for the Mid Atlantic and South Atlantic outer continental shelf (OCS) planning areas. Seismic activity is harmful marine wildlife. Airguns displace commercial species of fish as far as thousands of miles away from where they are used as well as being harmful to other species like whales and dolphins.

In addition, offshore oil and gas development is harmful to the environment and the safety regulations are flawed. Case in point, the oil disaster of BP which uses the cheapest materials possible to "secure" an oil well from having an accident.

Please choose Alternative "C" (the "no-action" alternative).

Thank you,
Ravi Grover
POB 802103
Chicago IL 60680-2103



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From: [Carol Jagiello](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments Draft Seismic Testing Atlantic
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 1:32:54 PM

Dear Mr Goeke- New Jersey and all of the Atlantic states are hugely dependent on the Atlantic Ocean for economic, social, survival-foods-and of course R&R. The reality of these tests and the ultimate reality of fuel exploration would potentially decimate economies up and down the coast. Even the Navy admits their sonar testing is incredibly harmful with known deaths of aquatic fish and mammals in massive amounts. Another federal agency whose actions are known to intentionally kill wildlife is abhorrent and unnecessary. We are at a crisis now with our fisheries, mammals and sharks are at record low numbers. Acidification and rising ocean temperatures are other threats to this delicate system. I understand the amount of recoverable fuels is minimal and finite, surly no reason to cause massive disturbance of the ocean and economies in the most populated area of the US. We thought the Atlantic was off limits to this filthy buisness. Clean, renewable energy exploration should be the option considered in the Atlantic Ocean. Thank You- Carol Jagiello 91 Wood Pl. Bloomingdale, NJ 07403

From: [giordano83](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS
Date: Wednesday, May 02, 2012 6:27:32 AM

Mr. Gary D. Goeke:

If we have learned anything at all from the many environmental catastrophes (BP, Exxon Valdez, etc.) caused by irresponsible corporations hungry for more profits, we cannot allow our beautiful and indispensable natural resources such as shorelines to be exploited and destroyed by energy companies-- we absolutely must say **no to energy exploration off the Atlantic Coast.**

Aside from the beauty of the shoreline and its vital place in the breeding of fish, birds and other wildlife (some of which we depend on for a major portion of our food supply), the shore is a major part of the economy in a place like New Jersey, where tourism, fishing and other industries help sustain the economy.

We cannot continue to allow a blind pursuit of energy to ruin our precious natural resources. I don't care how much the price of oil, gas, etc. goes up; we need to pursue clean alternative energy, not more dirty fossil fuels.

Thank you,
Tony Giordano
Middletown, NJ

From: [Denise](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS.
Date: Wednesday, May 02, 2012 7:40:02 AM

Dear Mr.Goeke,

As a lifelong resident of the beautiful New Jersey shore, I urge you to do all you can to prevent the proposed seismic survey intended to locate sub-seabed oil and gas deposits. These surveys have the potential to cause significant damage to marine life and marine ecosystems. They place at risk our residents, commercial fisherman, surfers, divers, tourism industry and the environment upon which we all depend. Please do all you can to protect our ocean from this menace. Thank you.

Denise Summer

From: [RAMOS, JOANN S](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: comments on Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS
Date: Friday, May 11, 2012 4:47:39 PM

Your proposal to blast airgun arrays in the Atlantic Ocean from Florida to Delaware will have devastating consequences. The surveys generate intense marine noise pollution that spreads through vast areas of the ocean. The potential is great to cause significant damage to marine life and marine ecosystems. You have to look at the whole picture. I do not feel we should sacrifice the natural world to satisfy the human thirst for gasoline.



From: [Patricia Alessandrini](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 9:18:36 PM

Re: Comments on Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities

I am writing to advocate against seismic exploration in the Atlantic Ocean, from Delaware to mid-Florida.

Oil exploration leads directly to oil drilling. Two years later, the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill is still impacting the environment, economy and marine life in the Gulf. The draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Study downplays many of the risks of seismic surveys. I urge you to opt not to engage in this drastic process on the East Coast.

Sincerely,

Patricia Alessandrini
593 Beverly Road
Teaneck, NJ 07666
201 357-4616

From: [Elizabeth Kurtz](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: comments on draft PEIS
Date: Thursday, May 24, 2012 2:50:58 PM

Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities

Please support ALTERNATIVE C – no action – for the proposed seismic testing along the eastern seaboard of the United States. We CANNOT continue to kill off or otherwise jeopardize the health and well-being of our oceans and marine wild-life. All of this just for oil and gas? There is too much at stake on our one very fragile earth to make this decision out of thirst and greed for power. The impact is just too great.

Thank you for considering my opinion.

Elizabeth J Kurtz

ESL Teacher

Downingtown, PA 19335

Elizabeth

From: [Barbara Suruga](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS
Date: Thursday, May 10, 2012 10:21:01 AM

Dear Sirs & Madams,

Thank you for objectively investigating the environmental impact of off shore drilling. Many of my neighbors and I feel that the negative impact far outweighs any potential benefit. We have all seen the devastating results of the BP blowout and know that it is not an isolated event. It was well publicized (unlike most spills) but oil spills and leaks are an on going, unresolved problem; the Niger Delta is an excellent example. And BP has not kept their word; they have not cleaned up their mess. Corporation's concern for their profit margins blind them to their social and environmental responsibilities.

Although I was able to attend some of the public meeting in Norfolk, Va, I had to leave before commenting. While listening to the commentators I was shocked to hear a representative from some office say that he over 80% of Virginians are in favor of off shore drilling. This is totally untrue. I live in a very conservative area of the state and I can assure you that we are not in favor of off shore oil drilling. If you want a better gauge of how the general population feels about off shore oil drilling, look to the Presidential debates of the last two decades. Whether the candidate was Republican or Democrat, each one stated that they felt that the United States needs to move away from our dependance on oil and dirty fossil fuels and invest in clean, renewable energy sources. John McCain said it, Barack Obama said it, Mitt Romney said it Hillary Clinton said it, George W. Bush said it John Kerry said it, Al Gore said it, Bill Clinton said it. Every major Presidential candidate has said in campaign rhetoric that they supported the US moving away from dirty fossil fuels and moving towards clean, renewable energy. Why would these candidates say this if 80% of the population was in favor of dangerous, dirty fossil fuel? They wouldn't. They said it because most Americans would like to see the US using clean, renewable energy. We want to use clean, renewable energy.

Even the exploration required for oil extraction is more dangerous, invasive and environmentally distressing than the investigation for clean renewable energy. Please, do not allow the oil corporations to drill off shore. Please promote clean, renewable energy. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,
Barbara Suruga

From: [Cheryl Mascioli](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS"
Date: Wednesday, May 02, 2012 2:40:19 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I recently read an article in the Atlantic City Press about the proposal and Testing to permit companies to explore waters off the East Coast for oil and natural gas. **I am in favor of the third option - which essentially shelves the proposal.** I am adamantly opposed to all types of testing which would have a goal to allow companies to seek and find oil and natural gas from the world's oceans or waterways. Haven't we learned enough from past experiences - with the most recent ones being the Deepwater Horizon spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the fossil fuel spill which is still ongoing in the North Sea off the coast of Scotland? The havoc wreaked and still to come is of great magnitude and we still don't know all of the consequences. As global citizens we must realize that the risk far outweighs the benefits. The NJ coastline is a vital part of our economy and enjoyed by many for a plethora of reasons. It would be a disaster if such an event, like the North Sea or the Gulf spill, were to occur here. Even the impact of Testing alone on sea-life could produce awful results. The disruption of harmony to the ocean is uncalled for and we need to start spending our time and investing into renewable energy sources - such as solar - and energy that can be harnessed from here.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my email regarding stopping the proposal and please listen to the majority of those who attended the 1pm Atlantic City meeting last week - as Opponents significantly outnumbered Proponents of proposal.

Sincerely,
Cheryl Mascioli
Brigantine, NJ
856 404 2506

From: [Anthony John](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS
Date: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 11:22:19 PM

I don't have money to persuade you to not allow the blasting. However my words might be able to. We are paying \$4 a gallon while oil companies are making record profits. We Americans are suffering, do we have to make the wild life off our coast suffer too?

From: [Michael Burban](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS
Date: Monday, April 02, 2012 8:13:53 PM

Dear Mr. Goeke, Chief:
How many more beaches do we have to ruin in the name of "responsible and protection"? Have you been to Long Beach, CA? How sad. Let's have a meeting on new sources of energy.
Michael Burban

--

Michael Burban
Crescent Beach Realty of St. Augustine, Inc.
6275 A1A South
St. Augustine, FL 32080
Cell: 904-466-0018
Ofc: 904-471-9696
Fax: 904-471-9696
www.crescentbeachrealty.com

From: jristsurfs@comcast.net
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS
Date: Friday, May 25, 2012 4:41:05 PM

Hello,

I would like to leave comment.

I would like to request that you use Alternate plan C--No Action

Please do NOT allow any drilling permits off of the Atlantic Coast EVER!

Thank You,

Joanne Rist

609-489-0199

208 South Lakeshore Drive

Manahawkin, NJ 08050

From: [Mortela](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft Atlantic PEIS
Date: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 8:07:16 PM

To whom it may concern,

In the aftermath of the Gulf oil tragedy, I do not support new drilling off our coast. The Mid- and South Atlantic coasts have arguably the best offshore wind energy resources in the country and could power tens of millions of homes. I support offshore wind as a clean, renewable energy source with no pollution, no water use, no fuel costs, and no risk of running out.

Unnecessary ocean exploration activities, particularly invasive seismic testing, can be harmful to marine life and should not be allowed for oil and gas exploration, particularly during sensitive seasonal migration periods.

Our seafood is already questionable for consuming and wind is an excellent clean energy source. Please think, look past your nose and pocket book, and think about your families future here on this planet.

Thank you,
-Shannon Mortela

From: [William Fleming](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft G&G Programmatic EIS
Date: Sunday, April 29, 2012 9:55:39 AM

My comments regarding the Draft Geological and Geophysical Programmatic EIS are as follows:

1. If the Mid- and South Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Survey is conducted all of the data that is obtained should, at the minimum, be made available to U.S. public colleges and universities for scientific and other uses. The Federal government should consider making this information available to all U.S. citizens via some transparent process. The product of these surveys should not be kept in secret by any private or limited-access entity, particularly petroleum companies or their affiliates.
2. If the Mid- and South Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Survey is conducted, the survey should be managed and controlled by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).
3. Any contracts issued to companies or institutions to perform work under this survey should make it clear that all data, information, and other work products obtained under the contract are the property of the U.S. Government and must be turned over to the U.S. Government.
4. Any contracts and procurements that are let out in order to conduct any BOEM-related G&S surveys should be prepared in accordance with contract procedures of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act for Federal Civil Agencies, the Armed Services Procurement Act, the Competition in Contracting Act, and the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act. These contracts and procurements should be in compliance with the Armed Services Procurement Regulation (ASPR), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), and other complimentary regulations. All contracts and procurements should be audited by a Federal agency similar to the Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA).
5. If passive acoustic devices are used in order to detect whales and other life forms in order to prevent injury or death from acoustic sources such as air guns and explosives, these acoustic devices should be chosen and installed so that they may be used to detect and locate whales, other mammals, and schools of fish. These acoustic devices should be used to locate whales in order to notify ships and keep them from colliding with the whales. These acoustic devices should also be used to track schools of migrating fish such as tuna, herring, menhaden, and shad in order to better understand their migration and habits. No acoustic data should be used to help, aid, or assist in the capture and destruction of mammals or fish.
6. If acoustic sensors can be left in place to detect whales and fish, those sensors should be managed and controlled by a Federal agency or several agencies acting in collaboration.
7. If the survey is conducted I feel that the second proposed option should be the minimum level by which the survey is conducted.

William W. Fleming, PhD
1324 Five Point Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23454
Home phone: (757) 481-4084
Mobile phone: (757) 450-4084

From: [Gail Hankinson](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G & G Activities
Date: Monday, May 21, 2012 5:31:47 PM

Mr. Gary D. Goekey,

I am writing in support of Alternative "C": no testing.

Seismic airgun activity for oil and gas exploration is environmentally irresponsible. The intense noise disrupts fisheries and is harmful to marine mammals.

I live coastal St. Johns County Florida and from my home I can watch the Right Whales as they come to our Florida waters to calve every February. I am very concerned that the seismic air gun explosions will cause irreparable harm to whales and other sea mammals in this area.

Disruptions of fisheries could also be very harmful to the economy of our already financially depressed area. Commercial fishing operations cannot bear additional losses. Sport and recreational fishing operations can suffer significant losses if the tourist population simply perceives the fishing in Florida is no good due to these seismic explosions.

Please do not allow these operations to damage our economy or our environment.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my support for Alternative "C".

Respectfully,

Gail L. Hankinson
9150 Mellon Court
St. Augustine, Florida 32080

From: [Brooks, Shawn D CTR \(US\)](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G & G Activities (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Wednesday, May 23, 2012 11:35:00 AM

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Mr. Gary D. Goekey,

I am writing in support of Alternative "C" and to ask that the agency release an Environmental Impact Statement focused on the development of renewable energy only. Seismic airgun activity for oil and gas exploration has a huge environmental footprint and the intense noise is loud enough to mask whale calls over literally thousands of miles, interfering with their capacity to communicate and breed. Over the next eight years - according to the administration's own estimates - seismic exploration would injure up to 138,500 marine mammals and disrupt marine mammal feeding, calving, breeding, and other vital activities more than 13.5 million times. Airgun noise also affects fish behavior and fisheries on a broad scale, displacing commercial species of fish over thousands of square kilometers. BOEM must keep airguns out of sensitive environmental areas and promote the use of greener alternatives. Thanks for this chance to support Alternative "C". Please do not allow this airgun activity to, once again, favor industry over our environment.

Respectfully,
Shawn Brooks
6147 Igo Rd., King George VA 22485

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

From: [Christopher D'Aiuto](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G and G Activities
Date: Thursday, May 24, 2012 2:50:58 PM

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management,

The ocean, the intercoastal, and the beach, are a few of my favorite things about Florida. Having been born and raised there, I was horrified when the BP Deepwater Horizon started spewing oil into the Gulf. Thankfully, FL took the least of it directly into its wetlands and beaches, unlike Louisiana and the Gulf Islands.

When I think about the future of FL, the gulf, and the southeast, it does not include fossil fuels. It includes utilizing our abundant solar energy, and investing in wind energy of the Outer Banks of NC. The potential risks of oil drilling (different from and less than its normal risk) are much greater than these other energy sources because drilling has the potential to destroy not only what makes us a destination for tourism and retirement, but also our already fragile and failing Gulf ecosystem. We need solutions that wont add to an more variable climate, which the burning of hydrocarbons will do. And considering how many Floridians are vulnerable to climate change (in sea level rise and tropical storms) in their sea-side condos, they demand even more caution to such issues than other states.

Keep what oil rigs and refineries we have, make them safer and more efficient, and invest the rest in technologies that move us into a better future.

--

Christopher D'Aiuto

From: [Ann](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G and G Activities
Date: Thursday, May 24, 2012 1:53:09 PM

No drilling off of our coast.

Get us OFF fossil fuels.

Thank you,
Ann Pierce
apiercegardner@gmail.com
757-870-9105

From: [Jacqueline Walker](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G and G Activities
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 5:35:53 PM

SOLAR power is our future!

Jacqueline Suzanne Walker

From: [Diane Stephenson](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities'
Date: Tuesday, May 22, 2012 3:47:25 PM

Dear Mr Gary,
I am in favor of option "C" - no action.

Alternatives sources of energy to gas and oil are available now much to the oil industry's dismay. There is technology that will provide energy for all human needs without destroying the fish and marine life populations. Fish are a major food source for the majority of humans on this planet, especially the poor and those in developing countries. Destroying the food supply is not an option.

The Exxon oil spill in Alaska and the recent Gulf of Mexico oil spill prove the oil industry is not a "clean energy" industry and it is not capable of preventing devastation to large areas of the planet. We all live on this planet, not just the oil companies and their stockholders. There is more at stake here than just "future profits".

I am in favor of option "C" - no action to preserve the food supply, the fishing industry of NJ, the health of the oceans (water moves around the planet it doesn't stay within man made boundaries), the tourist industry of NJ and the Atlantic Coast, and to enjoy the beauty and majesty of this planet which all energy industries seem to treat with wanton disregard!

Diane Stephenson, Citizen
160 9th Ave
Estell Manor, NJ 08319

From: [Joan Flynn](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities"
Date: Monday, May 14, 2012 2:59:35 PM

This activity is unnecessary and disruptive to all life in the ocean and on the land.
We must have clean safe renewable energy now. Anything else is just unacceptable.
Joan Flynn

From: annahofford@comcast.net
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 10:09:44 AM

Anna Hofford
633 Stono Edge Drive
Charleston, SC 29412-2745

May 9, 2012

Gary D Goeke

Dear Gary Goeke:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit comments on the PEIS for proposed geological and geophysical activities on the Atlantic OCS.

Due to the environmental degradation, the negative impacts on quality of life for coastal residents, and the threats to our tourism industry that oil and gas development represent, I am opposed to any oil and gas leasing in the South Atlantic.

I am also opposed to any exploration activity that results in limited, proprietary use of the collected data and would therefore exclude the public and the States from a substantive discussion regarding the appropriate use of our marine resources.

However, I recognize the benefit to having updated marine data that is made available to the public and the States as future uses of the Atlantic OCS are considered and planned for.

Minimizing and eliminating impacts to fisheries, marine mammals, habitat, other marine species and recognition of endangered species like the Right whale that are present in our coastal waters should be a priority as plans for exploration are considered.

The quality of life that accompanies South Carolina's pristine coastal environment is of utmost importance to the citizens of this state, and all necessary measures should be taken to preserve these characteristics for current and future generations.

Sincerely,

Anna Hofford

From: [LINDA HOLMES](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 10:14:52 AM

Mr. Gary D. Goekey,

I am writing in support of Alternative "C" and to ask that the agency release an Environmental Impact Statement focused on the development of renewable energy only. Seismic airgun activity for oil and gas exploration has a huge environmental footprint and the intense noise is loud enough to mask whale calls over literally thousands of miles, interfering with their capacity to communicate and breed. Over the next eight years - according to the administrations own estimates seismic exploration would injure up to 138,500 marine mammals and disrupt marine mammal feeding, calving, breeding, and other vital activities more than 13.5 million times. Airgun noise also affects fish behavior and fisheries on a broad scale, displacing commercial species of fish over thousands of square kilometers. BOEM must keep airguns out of sensitive environmental areas and promote the use of greener alternatives. Thanks for this chance to support Alternative "C".

Respectfully,

Linda Holmes

4594 Wenhart Rd

Lake Worth, FL 33463

From: [Alexa Ross](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Wednesday, May 02, 2012 10:05:46 PM

Please add my voice to those looking for cleaner energy that does not harm the environment.

I have been concerned by the Navy's use of sonar noise, which injures, disorients and drives away marine life, disrupting feeding, mating, communicating and swimming.

Now it seems in the frantic search for dirty energy, the government is willing to allow

explosive air guns to repeatedly disturb the ocean habitat, risking the fishing and tourism

industries and the web of life in the ocean.

The right whale is already endangered and at risk with ship traffic, low reproductive rates and

this additional assault on their senses is not proper or necessary and risks their extinction.

Please reconsider this misguided proposal.

Alexa Ross
763 Poplar St
Nelsonville OH 45764

From: [BEVERLY GRIFFITHS](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Wednesday, May 02, 2012 3:53:17 PM

Mr. Gary D. Goeke, Chief,
Regional Assessment Section
Office of Environment (MS5410)
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Gulf of Mexico OCR Region
1201 Elmwood Park Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

RE: Comments on Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities

To the Honorable Gary D. Goeke,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the use of exploratory seismic testing on the East Coast of the United States.

I am against opening the Atlantic coastline to offshore drilling rigs. I am a lifelong resident of Florida, a state that wisely chose tourism and fisheries over oil production many long years ago. Our economy was built on and depends on clean beaches and healthy coastal waters. This push to industrialize our eastern coastline is heartbreaking to say the very least. I am disappointed in President Obama's decision to move forward on this plan.

Seismic testing has already been proven harmful to marine life. The use of air gun arrays towed behind ships releasing intense, frequent blasts of compressed air into the water are cruel and inhumane to whales, dolphins, fish and all other marine life. And the equipment that is being dragged behind these ships, damages habitat for ocean bottom dwellers.

Our oceans are complex ecosystems where everything is connected to everything else. We must treat our oceans with respect. Our oceans have a tipping point. They are not indestructible.

If we cannot conduct oil and gas exploration in a responsible, humane manner, we should not be doing it at all. If there is a less destructive and less harmful technique for oil and gas exploration, it should be mandated with no exceptions!

Fishermen rely on a bountiful catch to sustain their livelihoods and to provide seafood to restaurants and the marketplace. Seismic testing reduces their catch.

Have we learned nothing from the BP oil rig explosion? Even now, biologist are finding fish covered in nasty lesions and dolphins, including baby dolphins, washing up dead along our shores. There are recent reports of oil still being found inches below the top layer of sand on north Florida beaches. Wetlands have been damaged.

If our leaders in Congress had any sense, our nation would be promoting and investing more heavily in clean renewable energy. Florida is ideally suited for solar. Some coastal areas may be well suited for wind farms that are properly sited away from migratory flyways. Electric Vehicles are beginning to take hold in the marketplace.

I urge you to reject seismic testing on the East Coast, particularly off the coast of Florida, my home state. And for the record, I am against opening the East Coast to new drilling.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and thank you for your time and consideration.

Bev Griffiths
7201 Alafia Ridge Rd.
Riverview, FL 33569
813-741-3054

From: jen_11992@yahoo.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Monday, April 23, 2012 6:46:01 PM

Jennifer Polfus
6000 Roosevelt Rd
Coloma, MI 49038-9414

April 23, 2012

Gary D Goeke

Dear Gary Goeke:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit comments on the PEIS for proposed geological and geophysical activities on the Atlantic OCS.

Due to the environmental degradation, the negative impacts on quality of life for coastal residents, and the threats to our tourism industry that oil and gas development represent, I am opposed to any oil and gas leasing in the South Atlantic.

I am also opposed to any exploration activity that results in limited, proprietary use of the collected data and would therefore exclude the public and the States from a substantive discussion regarding the appropriate use of our marine resources.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Polfus
2693639745

From: dacha1@embarqmail.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 1:56:43 PM

Sally Murphy
PO Box 136
Sheldon, SC 29941-0136

April 18, 2012

Gary D Goeke

Dear Gary Goeke:

Minimizing and eliminating impacts to fisheries, marine mammals, habitat, other marine species and recognition of endangered species like the loggerhead and other sea turtle species that are present in our coastal waters should be a priority as plans for exploration are considered.

The loggerhead sea turtle uses most of the Continental Shelf to migrate from nesting beaches to foraging areas. They are especially concentrated in areas where the shelf narrows, such as off the coast of North Carolina.

Any blasting in areas used by loggerheads would probably be fatal. I am opposed to any exploration for oil and gas.

Sincerely,

Sally R. Murphy

From: [Carlo Popolizio](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Tuesday, May 22, 2012 8:28:30 AM

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the following comments:

Under Alternative A (the proposed action), BOEM estimates that the proposed activities would avoid incidental take of only 2/3 of North Atlantic right whales by active acoustic sound sources. There are only 400-450 North Atlantic right whales in the Atlantic Ocean. BOEM projects a take of 10 North Atlantic right whales for the duration of the project under the preferred action. BOEM projections of total take for all whale species listed as endangered or otherwise protected by Federal law is approximately 125 for the duration of the project (Table 4-10). My comment: not one take of any whale should occur.

BOEM recently advised Global Geophysical Services not to conduct deep penetration seismic surveys in the Gulf of Mexico until May when the bottlenose dolphin calving season ends. Yet, under Alternative A, BOEM projections for total take run in the tens of thousands of dolphins and porpoises (Table 4-10). Let them calve and kill them later?

According to Clean Ocean Action, a 501(3)c non-profit organization, the proposed action is projected to "take" or kill as many as 38,637 marine mammals a year, following an independent synthesis of the draft PEIS. Large mortality of dolphins was documented off the coast of Peru following activities similar to those proposed by BOEM in the Atlantic Ocean. <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=massive-dolphin-die-off-in-peru-may-remain-a-mystery> - also - <http://youtu.be/7kgtrdzaKec>. The government of Peru has not released one autopsy yet. The ocean is our life, not our oil and gas reserve.

BOEM evaluates the most harmful survey methods available as Alternatives A and B and fails to evaluate less harmful alternatives listed under Alternatives Not Being Considered (p. 2-49). The only way to include mitigative measures is Alternative C, which I fully support.

I question the reliability of visual monitoring for marine mammals and sea turtles over such a large area of interest. No specific methodologies appear to have been described in the draft PEIS.

BOEM does not propose to monitor for post-activity mortality and other adverse impacts to Atlantic Ocean biota. A professional diver at the Atlantic City public meeting testified that, in his experience, 90% mortality of ocean species will be visible only on the ocean's bottom. The professional diver testified that damage to benthic communities will not be documented and disagreed with BOEM's conclusion that impacts to this resource would be negligible. I want live animals in the ocean, not dead ones at the bottom. Make Alternative C your preferred alternative!

BOEM has not developed specific buffer zones for sensitive benthic communities in the Atlantic Ocean except for a few delineated areas, relying on data from the Gulf of Mexico. How is that supposed to compare?

BOEM stated that adverse impact to fisheries would be minor which contradicts BOEM assertion that there has been no documented mortality or injury to fish from active acoustic sound activities. BOEM did not offer any referenced studies to validate projected impacts.

At the April meeting of the New England Fishery Management Council, the industry was confronted with a decision to shutdown the inshore gillnet fishery for two months in the fall due to unacceptable take levels of harbor porpoises based on limited data projected through modeling. The fishermen's assertion is that the government operates with a hypocritical "double standard" given the projected high take level of dolphins and porpoises in the draft PEIS, take that is classified as "moderate" by BOEM. Alternative C is the only fair alternative.

Prior to issuing the draft PEIS, BOEM received 798 response comments during the initial scoping phase, of which 80% were opposed to the project, 13% in favor, and 7% neutral. Why are you moving ahead if the people do not want this?

At the public meeting held at the Atlantic City Convention Center on April 27, 2012, the public was overwhelmingly opposed to this project. Issues raised included adverse impacts to marine mammals, sea turtles, fisheries, and benthic communities. The latter two are multi-billion dollar industries in New Jersey. Others opposed the project on the grounds that any future exploration and production of oil and gas may result in contamination of the Atlantic Ocean similar to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill disaster in the Gulf of Mexico, with devastating consequences to the 38.8 billion dollar tourist industry in coastal New Jersey. Tourism accounts for approximately 10.9% of total employment in the State of New Jersey, and 17 billion dollars in wages and salaries. The offices of Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) and Representative Frank Pallone (D-6th District) voiced opposition to the project at the public meeting.

I support Alternative C for all the aforementioned reasons.

Very Sincerely,

Carlo Popolizio
160 Nith Avenue
Estell Manor, NJ 08319

From: information@maywahab.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 5:26:58 PM

May Wahab
1610 Live Oak Park
Johns Island, SC 29455-6320

April 17, 2012

Gary D Goeke

Dear Gary Goeke:

All exploration activity should be done in a way that prevents any substantive impact to our marine resources. If that cannot be accomplished in certain areas, then those areas should be excluded from exploration activities.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit comments on the PEIS for proposed geological and geophysical activities on the Atlantic OCS.

Sincerely,

May Wahab
843-532-4526

From: andersonwd@cofc.edu
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 4:16:37 PM

William Anderson
655 Clearview Drive
Charleston, SC 29412-4508

April 17, 2012

Gary D Goeke

Dear Gary Goeke:

Due to anticipated environmental degradation, negative impacts on quality of life for coastal residents, and threats to tourism that oil and gas development represent, I am opposed to any oil and gas leasing off the southeastern coast of the United States.

Sincerely,

William Anderson

From: jerdone@gmail.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 10:08:24 AM

jenny welch
1163 East and West Road Charleston SC 29412
Charleston, SC 29412

April 17, 2012

Gary D Goeke

Dear Gary Goeke:

Dear Mr. Goeke,

I am writing regarding the EIS planned for the waters off the coast of the Atlantic. I would like to ask that you look deeply into renewable energy efforts and disregard ANY and ALL oil and gas projects. I am deeply opposed to oil and gas development off the South Atlantic coast. As we have seen many times in the past, gas and oil are destructive to the ecosystem and poses a giant threat to our marine life as well as to our tourism industry. Being on the coast, we have too many other viable options (solar, wind, and hydro) to even consider outdated and dangerous sources such as oil and gas. When doing your research, please use utmost caution when surveying an area. Marine life is fragile. Lastly, I would like all of the data you find to become public record. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Jenny Welch

Sincerely,

jenny welch

From: [Kenny Collins](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Sunday, April 15, 2012 9:47:55 AM

Dear Bureau of Energy Management,

You WILL NOT allow drilling off the East Coast of the U.S., because if you do you will start a war with every environmental group you've never even imagined in your worst nightmares.

We will not sit idly by while you allow the destruction of East Coast fisheries, beaches, coastal wetlands, ecosystems, tourism and the environment. Developing other energy sources that are renewable is the only real answer. We MUST reduce our use of and reliability upon fossil fuels. Drilling off the Eastern seaboard is an unacceptable risk that you must not allow.

Did you learn ANYTHING from the BP Deepwater Horizon Disaster? ANYTHING AT ALL? Apparently all you learned was how to pollute and destroy on a grand scale.

End this impending environmental war NOW. DO NOT ALLOW THIS ABSURD ADDICTION TO OIL to ruin the east coast of America like you did the Gulf of Mexico. DO NOT START THIS ENVIRONMENTAL WAR. IF YOU DO YOU WILL BE SORRY. Is the legacy you want to leave for YOUR children one of endless environmental degradation? It would appear so.

NO DRILLING IN THE ATLANTIC!!!

Sincerely,

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kate Amendola](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Monday, May 21, 2012 12:45:05 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my opposition to harmful exploration that will lead to oil and gas development in the Atlantic, because it will devastate marine ecosystems, degrade marine habitat and water quality, and affect clean ocean uses like fisheries, surfing, boating, and coastal tourism.

Thank you, K. Amendola

From: [elisabeth.hoffman](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 5:39:02 PM

To: Mr. Gary D. Goeke, chief
Regional Assessment Section
Office of Environment (MS 5410)
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Re: Public comments on Geological and Geophysical Exploration on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf (OCS)

Dear Mr. Goeke,

Although I had heard about the plan for seismic tests off the Atlantic, I didn't find out about the public hearing in Maryland until I read about it in a newspaper the following day. I would have been there had I known in advance of the hearing. I understand, however, that you are accepting public comment until tomorrow. I am very strongly opposed to seismic testing off the Atlantic coast. The testing might pose hazards for ocean life, but mostly I know that this is just one step toward drilling for oil off the coast -- which is the real concern. The easy oil and gas are gone, and now we are resorting to drilling in oceans and hydraulic fracturing to get the last drop of fossil fuels from out of the ground. This path is utter folly. The Exxon-Valdez and Deepwater Horizon disasters show that the damage from inevitable accidents is severe and irreparable, for decades if not generations. The oil industry constantly presents energy development as a choice between jobs and the environment. We can no longer afford that dichotomy, because in the process we are killing our oceans and rivers, fouling the air, placing horrible stress on plants and wildlife, changing the climate and making ourselves sick. Seismic testing for eventual oil drilling in the Atlantic keeps us tethered to last century's energy policies. Instead, we need an energy policy that moves boldly toward renewable and non-polluting energy forms. I strongly oppose this plan for seismic testing in the Atlantic.

Please let me know how and when will you decide whether to proceed.

Sincerely,
Elisabeth Hoffman
Clarksville MD

From: NGFELLOWS@aol.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Cc: flaenergyforum@gmail.com
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Thursday, May 17, 2012 1:30:54 PM

By this e-mail I am registering my encouragement of efforts to survey the OCS for potential hydrocarbon energy resources. Our country needs to know what sources exist for our future energy needs.

Thank you for your consideration.

George Fellows

From: [Geoff Santoliquido](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 11:48:05 AM

Mr. Gary D. Goeke, Chief
Regional Assessment Section, Office of Environment (MS 5410)
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394

Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities

Dear Mr. Goeke:

I strenuously oppose the proposed seismic oil and gas exploration program for the Mid Atlantic and South Atlantic outer continental shelf (OCS) planning areas. The seismic activity is known to be injurious to marine wildlife and it is also the first step toward offshore drilling and potential spilling off our coasts. As a long term resident of North Carolina this proposal causes me great concern and consternation. North Carolina is especially at risk of dangers from offshore oil drilling accidents on the east coast since ocean currents from the north and the south meet immediately offshore of Cape Hatteras, meaning that spills anywhere on the east coast could gravely harm us.

The PEIS acknowledges that seismic testing is particularly harmful to ocean dwelling mammals. Some of these mammals are endangered species. The safeguards described in the PEIS are not enough to assure the safety of these animals and there is no indication of how compliance with the proposed exclusion zones would be assured.

Seismic exploration is the first of many dangerous and polluting steps in offshore oil and gas development. For all the threats that offshore drilling imposes on our oceans and coastal economies, there is very little reward. According to the U.S. Energy Information Agency, fully developing all of our recoverable offshore oil reserves everywhere would only lower pump prices by 3 cents – and would take twenty years to do so.

I urgently plead that you to choose Alternative "C" (the "no-action" alternative) which will instead focus on developing renewable energy.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey C. Santoliquido
Cary, NC 27518

From: [Shannon Gentry](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Friday, May 25, 2012 9:35:42 AM

Dear Mr. Goeke,

I am writing to you to express my objection to the seismic survey planned for the Atlantic coast. I live in Wilmington, NC where the water is my community's livelihood and the creatures that inhabit that water deserve our protection, as we benefit from their existence on so many levels. It terrifies me that it all could be jeopardized for an increasingly limited resource that we cling to like straws. Please, do allow this project to move forward.

Thank you,

Shannon Rae Gentry
Wilmington, NC

--

"We can sit in our corners mute forever while our sisters and our selves are wasted, while our children are distorted and destroyed, while our earth is poisoned; we can sit in our safe corners mute as bottles, and we still will be no less afraid." --Audre Lorde

From: angela.fischer
To: G&GEIS
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities"
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 7:50:13 AM

2nd attempt with correct subject heading above

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: angela fischer <fischerange@yahoo.com.au>
To: "GGEIS@boem.gov" <GGEIS@boem.gov>
Sent: Thursday, 31 May 2012 12:41 AM
Subject: Submission against seismic testing and oil exploration in the mid and Sth Atlantic region

TO: Mr. Gary D. Goeke, Chief, Regional Assessment Section, Office of Environment (MS 5410), Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394
FROM: Angela Fischer, Tweed Street, George Town 9812, Invercargill, New Zealand
DATE: 30.05.12

RE: Submission against seismic testing and oil exploration in the mid and Sth Atlantic region

This submission is firstly to oppose seismic exploration testing in the mid and South Atlantic regions due to the negative impact it has on whales and dolphins. To support the "opposing" view of seismic exploration in the ocean, I refer to the test results of Dr. Llanos that indicate seismic oil exploration was the cause of death for one thousand dolphins along the coast of Peru in March 2012. Necropsy results from Dr. Llanos indicated that the dead dolphins had acoustic trauma to the periotic bones surrounding the ear, and were caused by loud sonar or explosive blasts. Other dolphins caught by fisherman did not have the same fractures to the periotic bones which indicate the fisherman did not cause the fractures to the dolphins washed up on shore. I do not support the Government opinion saying otherwise. (New York Times, May 2012). Greenpeace mention in their feature story for September 2003, that dolphins, whales and seals can be harmed significantly by sonar blasts reaching 180 decibels and that sonar guns used to blast ocean floors when seeking oil or gas can reach up to 260 decibels, and said "without their heightened sense of hearing, marine mammals cannot find food, avoid predators or communicate with each other" (Greenpeace, Sept 11, 2003). The Polarcus Alima, an oil exploration vessel for OMV and Shell explored the Southern East Coast of New Zealand in 2011 and 2012, had 5 marine mammal watchers on board to reduce the total deaths of whales or dolphins caused by sonar explosions, which indicates, oil exploration companies are aware of the damage seismic testing has on marine life. (NZ Herald, Dec. 2011). Secondly, this submission is to oppose off shore drilling for oil or any large scale extraction of any other resource (with exception of water to produce electricity) due to the environmental risks and the damaging effects an accident can have on the ocean and the surrounding ecosystems, communities, and wildlife. An Example of an off shore oil accident that has caused wide spread destruction to ecosystems and communities is that which occurred in the Gulf of Mexico in April 2010 when around 750 million litres of crude oil poured into the ocean over a period of 3 months killing more than 6,000 birds, 600 sea turtles, 150 dolphins and thousands of fish. (ABC Environment, Feb 2012). Alternative sources of clean renewable energy should be considered instead.

Regards,
Ange Fischer
New Zealand

References;

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Retrieved from http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=10772568

New York Times, (2011), Expert links dolphin deaths to sonar testing.
Retrieved from <http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/05/28/expert-links-dolphin-deaths-to-sonar-testing/>

ABC Environment, (2012). Is there life after and oil spill.
Retrieved from <http://www.abc.net.au/environment/articles/2012/02/27/3437955.htm>

From: [Eugene Geer](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Thursday, May 24, 2012 11:37:19 AM

Hazlet, New Jersey
May 24, 2012

Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Mr. Gary D. Goeke, Chief
Regional Assessment Section, Office of Environment (MS5410)
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394

I am appalled at the idea that testing in the ocean, using extremely loud blasts of sound, is even being considered. We all know that marine mammals, as well as several other species of animals, use various frequencies and levels of sound to communicate among themselves, to find prey, perhaps to stun other animals with blasts they themselves generate, detect and avoid potentially dangerous other animals or geological structures, etc.

It seems clear that such testing as proposed will probably damage many of these animals, and could lead to massive kills. In the written proposals for the tests, much is said about the intention not to injure, or kill, marine life, **but I did not see any scientific evidence that the testing has been proven safe.** Instead, proposals to have people on watch, physically looking for animals that might be in the area, are clearly half-way, grossly inadequate methods. Most of these tests will be done in deep water, and the operators of the testing apparatus will have no idea what kinds of life are in the immediate vicinity of the tests or within a distance where they might possibly be harmed.

This is, at best, a crude, potentially devastating proposal.

I attended the hearing held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on April 27, 2012, and, except for a few industry spokespersons, all the commenters were strongly opposed to the proposed testing plan. Several people noted stories about marine mammals being found with blood coming from their ears in areas where sonic activity had taken place. Searching the Internet for these incidents yields instances where this has occurred, and it seems most likely this will happen in our Atlantic Ocean if the proposed testing goes ahead here. Others noted the potential impact on tourism if dead, and dying, animals wash up on the shore.

I have an additional concern, based on my experience with the low dissolved incident that occurred in the New York Bight in 1976. When a thick layer of ceratium tripos plankton died, and settled to the bottom during the early summer, bacteria began decomposing the material and the level of oxygen dropped to near zero over an area of perhaps 4000 square miles. All marine life that did not have a swim bladder (e.g., lobsters, ocean pout, crabs, surf clams) died and decomposed on the bottom. It was a truly massive marine disaster^[1]. However, because the water becomes layered in the summer, with perhaps two or more thermoclines, animals that use the upper layers, such as bluefish and tuna, were able to survive, and

fisherman were able to successfully catch them. So, only a few people, particularly SCUBA divers, realized the full extent of the kill. The same thing that happened then could also occur with the proposed oil exploration testing plan. **Many animals will probably be severely injured and die, or be permanently impaired, and nobody will know about it, because the water is too deep. Devastation could occur and the public will be totally unaware.**

I urge you to abandon this testing plan. There is little enough potential oil to be found to risk such a profound impact on our dwindling marine sources.

Thank you for considering my comments

Eugene W. Geer

558 Beers Street

Hazlet, NJ 07730-1036

Email: pansegene@yahoo.com

Phone: 732-264-3129

[1] NOAA Professional Paper 11.

Oxygen Depletion and Associated Benthic Mortalities in New York Bight, 1976.

Rockville, Md

December 1979

U. S. Department of Commerce

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Editors: R. Lawrence Swanson and Carl J. Sindermann

From: Dan_Gerst@qs1.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Thursday, May 24, 2012 11:21:43 AM

Dear Mr. Goeke:

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Atlantic G&G activities PEIS. As a coastal state constituent adjacent to the Mid- and South Atlantic Planning Areas, I encourage BOEM to adopt Alternative C—the no action alternative—in its programmatic environmental impact statement. My concerns regarding the potential impacts oil and gas exploration on the Atlantic coast's natural environment, tourism and fishing industries, and quality of life are outlined below.

The Atlantic coast currently enjoys a vibrant tourism industry and thriving fisheries that contribute significantly to both our quality of life and economy. Our region's tourism and recreation industry generates tens of billions of dollars in revenue per year and employs hundreds of thousands of coastal residents.

The vitality and integrity of our beaches, waterways and fisheries are critical to our local economies and should be preserved for residents and tourists to enjoy.

Unnecessary ocean exploration activities, particularly invasive seismic testing can be harmful to marine life and should not be allowed for oil and gas exploration, particularly during sensitive seasonal migration periods. Offshore geological and geophysical (G & G) activities and eventual drilling can be harmful to the marine and coastal environment and inconsistent with maintaining coastal resources. Pollution caused by oil and gas G & G activities such as the use of air guns, aero magnetic surveys, and the drilling of test wells has proven associations with major impacts to marine mammals, turtles, and fish. Waterborne pollution such as drilling fluid and potential test well blowouts further compromises the health of our waters. The vitality of aquatic ecosystems and the beauty of our region are non-negotiable for our fishers, shrimpers, and crabbers, our tourists, and our coastal residents' way of life.

Furthermore, given that we would not support eventual commercial oil or gas drilling off our coast following the exploration process, surveying activities would be a wasteful investment of time, money, and energy. In the wake of the Gulf oil disaster, as well as the many other lesser-known blowouts that occur every year, we insist that the risk of blowouts alone is enough to outweigh the benefits of drilling.

Clean renewable energy sources are becoming less expensive by the day and are a much smarter investment than risky offshore drilling. The Mid- and South Atlantic coasts have arguably the best offshore wind energy resources in the country and could power tens of millions of homes. I support offshore wind as a clean, renewable energy source with no pollution, no water use, no fuel costs, and no risk of running out.

Since offshore oil and gas prospecting and potential eventual drilling would be harmful and risky to our coastal economy, natural beauty, and way of life, I urge you to implement Alternative C and not allow G & G activities for oil and gas in the Mid- and South Atlantic Planning Areas.

Thank you,

Dan Gerst

102 Oakfern Dr

Simpsonville, SC 29681

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From: loresabo@aol.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities"
Date: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 4:30:11 PM

I do not believe we should take actions that impact wildlife and our environment such as blasting sound waves into the ocean floor to try to find fuels. What about the poor animals? Who will speak for them? How would you feel if someone ruined your hearing or destroyed your ability to find your way home or impacted your ability to have children? Do we want the legacy of destruction of our planet and animals to continue? Shouldn't common sense prevail? Must it always be about the money? This is absolutely crazy and unnecessary. Stop before it's too late.

Lorraine Abate Cosumano
474 Belle Mead-Griggstown Road
Belle Mead, NJ 08502 

From: [Maureen](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities"
Date: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 9:50:09 AM

I am against oil exploration via seismic sound blast in the Atlantic Ocean. Marine life will be significantly damaged both immediate and the long term, because of the proposed method of research.

As a tax paying, voting, philanthropic American citizen, I vote NO to this activity.

Sincerely,

Maureen Fry

Sent from my iPhone

From: [RAMOS, JOANN S](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Thursday, May 24, 2012 1:02:07 PM

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is proposing to use airgun arrays to blast the ocean and seafloor with sound waves loud enough to pinpoint oil and gas deposits buried deep underground. Oil exploration leads directly to oil drilling. Both the search (with disastrously loud airgun blasts) and the resulting drilling (with oil spills, discharges, and disasters a daily risk) devastate marine ecosystems, degrade marine habitat and water quality, and affect clean ocean uses like fisheries, surfing, boating, and coastal tourism.

IF this happens, there will be harm:

For marine life, like fish, whales, dolphins, and turtles:

The loud blasting masks social communications used to find mates, forage for food, or identify predators.

The long-term noise can interfere with nursing, family groups, and migration patterns.

Repetitive sound waves can cause temporary or permanent hearing impairment and loss, serious injury from tissue trauma and hemorrhaging,

or even death - as is suspected in many marine mammal strandings world-wide.

The US Navy recently found that their own seismic/sonar activities are much more harmful than previously thought

For humans, and the businesses and economies of the coasts:

When these surveys are ongoing (over the next decade), any other ocean use will be excluded over a vast ocean area.

Commerce and fishing will be limited in when the ocean can be used; fish stocks and catches can be impacted.

Divers and swimmers would be at risk of serious trauma if underwater at the time of a nearby airgun blast.

Once oil and gas production begins, and the industrialization of the Atlantic is complete, coastal economies will suffer.

In New Jersey, there are more than 46,000 fishing industry jobs, more than \$1.4 billion in recreational fishing sales and more than \$5.8 billion in commercial fishing sales.

Seismic Exploration can disorient fish changing migration and reproduction habits and in turn threatening the fishing industry.

Please do not allow harmful exploration with airgun arrays that will lead to oil and gas development in the Atlantic.

Sincerely,

Joann Ramos
Iselin, NJ



From: gmcapex
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Cc: gmcapex@bellsouth.net
Subject: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic GG Activities
Date: Friday, May 25, 2012 11:02:26 PM

Dr. Gary D. Goeke,

It is obvious by the actions of oil and gas companies that money is at the top of the list, people and environment come later. There are many incidents, (see last half of email) , that confirm Oil and gas companies are not known for being socially responsible. They will not be any more vigilant working in North Carolina.

Fracking in Pennsylvania has destroyed people's drinking water and the value of their homes. Strict regulation BEFORE fracking is legalized is the only way to force oil companies to protect the environment and people's health.

Then there are all the basic questions such as, what will happen to all the contaminated water that is used in this process? If it's a closed system how are they going to dispose of it? Towns and counties water treatment plants are not equipped to clean toxic industrial waste out of water. What guarantees will be put in place to clean the water? Is it even possible to clean the water back to the same level of safety it was before it was introduced into the process?

Just a few years back NC was suffering from a severe drought. Is there really sufficient supply to deal with the growth and the millions of gallons used in this process if water becomes scarce again? Or even in an average rainfall year?

The focus should not be on this dirty potentially harmful process. The focus should be on clean, renewable energy alternatives and a real effort on conserving energy. Until those efforts are exhausted, it is not prudent to take a chance this type of process.

Condensed excerpts of oil company incidents: (gregpalast.com)

Two years before the Deepwater Horizon blow-out in the Gulf of Mexico, another BP off-shore rig suffered a nearly identical blow-out in the Caspian Sea, but BP concealed the first one from the U.S. regulators and Congress.

One cause of the blow-out was the same in both cases: the use of a money-saving technique—plugging holes with “quick-dry” cement.

By hiding the disastrous failure of its penny-pinching cement process in 2008, BP was able to continue to use the dangerous methods in the Gulf of Mexico—causing the worst oil spill in U.S. history.

Had BP, Chevron, Exxon or the Bush State Department revealed the facts of the earlier blow-out, it is likely that the Deepwater Horizon disaster would have been prevented.

BP will neither confirm nor deny the 2008 Caspian Sea blow-out. As to the failure to tell Congress and US regulators and the SEC about the blow-out, BP states only that it informed

the government and regulators of Azerbaijan.

Another incident is the manipulation of software used in PIG robots used to inspect pipelines. Pipelines like the Trans-Canadian XL pipeline. Federal law requires the oil and gas industry to run a PIG, a Pipeline Inspection Gauge, through big oil and gas pipelines. The robot, tethered to a GPS, electronically squealing when it finds problems.

The software for the crucial piece of pipeline safety equipment, the “PIG,” had a known flaw.

The flaw allows cracks, leaks and corrosion to go undetected – and that saves the industry billions of dollars in pipe replacements. But pipes with cracks and leaks can explode and kill people.

The contractor found the life-threatening flaw in the software program, and then created a software patch to fix it. But the fix was not used.

With the PIG calibrated to the danger sensitivity required by law, oil and gas companies would have to dig up, inspect and replace pipe at a cost of millions per mile which they would certainly want to avoid.

On September 9, 2010, a gas pipeline exploded, incinerating 13-year-old Janessa Greig, her mom and six others. A PIG with the software patch – would have caught the bad welds in the old pipe.

Thank you for your time

Geoff Chamberlin

Apex, NC

From: [Suzanne Gooding](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the G&G Draft Programmatic EIS
Date: Friday, April 27, 2012 8:33:30 AM

BOEM staff,

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Mid-Atlantic G&G Draft Programmatic EIS. I encourage you to choose Alternative C. I do not believe Alternatives A or B are a solution to our regions' needs, but a continuation of status quo, strict reliance on fossil fuels. I appreciate the mitigation measures and thought of Alternative B and glad you consider most impacts to be negligible.

I think our region's reliance on tourism and quality of life will be damaged if G&G testing activities occur. I also believe that reducing consumption of fossil fuels and increasing consumption of renewable technologies, along with energy efficiency and sustainable development is the only real long-term solution. Alternatives A and B further promote reliance on fossil fuels, sprawled communities and auto-centric lifestyles. I know your decision is not easy nor quick, but I do believe the purpose of your decision is to protect the long term viability of the Mid-Atlantic region. For this reason, Alternative C is my choice.

Thank you,
Suzanne Gooding
Wilmington, NC

From: [Allen, Kerri Alexandra](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Comments on the G&G Draft Programmatic EIS
Date: Tuesday, May 01, 2012 8:55:17 AM

Dear Bureau of Ocean Energy Management,

In regards to the Atlantic Geological and Geophysical Activities Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, I am in full support of ALTERNATIVE C, "NO ACTION FOR OIL AND GAS, STATUS QUO FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MARINE MINERAL G&G ACTIVITY."

As a citizen of the coast as well as a geology graduate student, I feel our coasts are far too valuable to exploit for oil and natural gas. After everything we have seen in the last few years, I think pursuing oil in the Atlantic would be an irresponsible choice and a blatant disregard for both public health and the environment.

Please keep dangerous oil and natural gas exploration off our coasts.

Thank you,
Kerri Allen

Kerri Allen, Candidate, M.S. Geology
University of North Carolina Wilmington
E-mail: kaa7591@uncw.edu <<mailto:kaa7591@uncw.edu>>
Lab phone: 910.962.2339
Cell phone: 910.619.8469

From: [Pamela Hastings](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Companies Run By Romney's Private Equity Firm Received Millions In State And Local Government Subsidies
Date: Monday, June 11, 2012 9:12:10 AM

2012 GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney has been campaigning hard against government spending, blasting “crony capitalism” and criticizing the Obama administration for providing economic development subsidies. Romney has blasted the “endless subsidies and credits intended to shape behavior in our economic society,” calling them “intrusion in the workings of the free marketplace itself.” However, as Bloomberg News reported, the companies run by the private equity firm Bain Capital when Romney was its CEO had little problem accepting subsidies from state and local governments:

During Romney’s years as chief executive of Bain Capital LLC, companies owned by the firm received millions of dollars in benefits from a variety of state and local government economic development programs.

In California, taxpayer money built one Bain company a conveyor bridge between two of its buildings. New York City gave another Bain company tax breaks and lower energy bills to discourage it from moving to New Jersey. And in Indiana, a county government issued bonds to help buy new equipment for a Bain-owned steel plant — a business success featured in a Romney campaign ad touting his private sector prowess.

In his campaign ads, Romney has been citing the Steel Dynamics as an example of where his business acumen help turn around a company and create jobs. Steel Dynamics benefited from \$37 million in subsidies from the state of Indiana.

From: mchugh175@aol.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Do the right thing!
Date: Tuesday, May 22, 2012 12:36:51 PM

Doing right by the Oceans is doing right by us all...remember the Gulf!

From: rohalkakepoto@gmail.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Dolphins
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 8:29:46 AM

Although many of you think we need this oil, we don't. Sure we may run low on energy, but it's worth it to save the lives of many innocent beings.
Let's stop seismic testing, and anything involving water and crude oil because it is evidently harming numerous dolphins. This is bad, and unless you all are naive enough to continue this hellish way, there will be opposition.

From: [cyrus](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Drilling off Coast
Date: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 6:42:42 PM

Hello- I, Cyrus Bowie hearby support Alternative C, No seismic exploration and no drilling off our coast. Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to help. My phone number is 904 826 1651 and my address is 525 N Nassau St, St Augustine FL 32084. Thank you.

From: [Kimberly Paulk](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: East Coast: Seismic Exploration, Offshore Drilling
Date: Monday, April 23, 2012 7:50:55 AM

I'd like to register my opposition to seismic exploration and offshore drilling along the East Coast. Having grown up in Florida, I know the economic damage that offshore drilling could bring to the state. Beyond that, the known and unknown harmful effects of both seismic explorations and drilling on marine wildlife are unacceptable.

Thank you,

Kimberly Paulk

4012 Camrose Crossing

Matthews, NC 28104

From: [Stephen La Serra](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: email.
Date: Thursday, May 03, 2012 10:01:33 PM

Dear boem, I have an email from you. I do not remember what this is for. Could you write back to me so that I can remember what this is? Thank you.

From: [David Wiles](#)
To: [David Wiles](#)
Cc: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Environmental Impact Statement: Proposed Geological and Geophysical Activities: Mid- and South Atlantic OCS
Date: Tuesday, April 03, 2012 9:28:22 AM

[David Pops Wiles](#)

Please read my comment following this article. BEOM is conducting public comment for similar gas and oil exploration by seismic noise all along the Atlantic seaboard. The request being considered does NOT consider dolphins and predicts up to 12 Sperm Whales and 2 Right Whale deaths annually due to seismic air gun exploration. My comment give weblink for the actual proposal and email address for making formal comment

[Agency stops seismic tests, fearing dolphin harm](#)

staugustine.com

NEW ORLEANS - With sick and dead dolphins turning up along Louisiana's coast, federal regulators are curbing an oil and natural gas exploration company from using seismic equipment that sends out underwater pulses known to disturb marine mammals.

Here is my on-line comment following the article:

~~~~

### The Tip of a Dangerous Policy Iceberg

Unlike many of the on-line comments following particular stories this one has most important implications for those of us living along the Florida and Georgia coast. The consideration of using seismic air guns and other devices for gas and oil exploration along the Atlantic coast from North Carolina to Florida is going through the public comment phase this month.

I urge you to wade through the formal request for such exploration as you will find the 'impact' on environment being requested does NOT involve any safety measures for dolphins and calculates 'moderate' risk for Sperm Whales (0-12 deaths annually) and Right Whales (0-2 deaths annually) simply due to the noise generated by these seismic air guns.

You may download or view the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS on BOEM's Atlantic G&G website at

<http://.boem.gov/and-Gas-Energy-Program//.aspx>

or on BOEM's NEPA website at

<http://.boem.gov/Stewardship/Assessment//.aspx>.

You find the 'risk' being discussed for the Atlantic oil and gas exploration by these methods give three options for implementation:

Option A means year round exploration and the only safety is that a lookout must be posted and the seismic noise must not be used when mammals are in the immediate area.

Option C means that there will be no oil and gas exploration off the Atlantic coast due to environmental risk ----which has as much political chance of occurring as telling the Navy they cannot have undersea training to promote our 'national defense.' The dependence on foreign oil mean Option C is moot even though the recent gas price increases let us all know that fuel distribution is global and private corporate, not nation-state and public.

Option B seems the most reasonable possibility for actual Atlantic exploration. At least Option B recognizes that there are special considerations for migrating species and especially those endangered ( Right Whales, loggerhead, Ridley and other sea turtles, certain shorebirds) so that seismic exploration would not be allowed at all during designated seasons. For us in NE Florida that would mean the Right Whale months and the sea turtle nesting months (roughly February through October).

BOEM is asking the public for public comment and will be conducting a public discussion

- Monday, April 16, 2012, Jacksonville, Florida: Jacksonville Marriott, 4760 Salisbury Road, Jacksonville, FL 32256; two meetings, one beginning at 1:00 p.m. EDT and one beginning at 7:00 p.m. EDT;

Your formal comments can be sent to [GGEIS@boem.gov](mailto:GGEIS@boem.gov).

If you would like to receive announcements for public meetings and the availability of our environmental documents for Atlantic activities, please submit your name and contact information to BOEM at the website

[https://www.data.boem.gov/homepg/data\\_center/other/gmaillist/subscribe.asp](https://www.data.boem.gov/homepg/data_center/other/gmaillist/subscribe.asp)

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I would urge each of you readers to find out about the BEOM discussions, write your comments demanding that dolphins be considered in risk assessment and argue that noise protection for ocean mammals like Right Whales means that Option B is the minimum environmental constraint acceptable and a true Blue Revolution ethic would lean toward Option C.

From: [G&GEIS](#)

Sent: Friday, March 30, 2012 9:47 AM

Subject: (10 of 13) Availability of Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement: Proposed Geological and Geophysical Activities: Mid- and South Atlantic OCS

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region

SPECIAL INFORMATION

BOEM Issues Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Geological and Geophysical Activities in the Mid- and South Atlantic Planning Areas

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is the Federal agency responsible for managing offshore energy and mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). A Notice of Availability for the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was published in the Federal Register on March 30, 2012, and the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS has been distributed for a 60-day comment period ending on May 30, 2012.

The proposed action is to permit geological and geophysical (G&G) activities in support of oil and gas exploration and development, renewable energy, and marine minerals in the Mid- and South Atlantic Planning Areas. The Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS will be used by BOEM and other responsible agencies to comply with various environmental laws (e.g., Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, etc.).

Public meetings during the public comment period allow Federal, State, and local government agencies, and other interested parties to comment on the Draft Programmatic EIS and assist BOEM in developing the Final Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS.

The public meetings are scheduled as follows:

- Monday, April 16, 2012, Jacksonville, Florida: Jacksonville Marriott, 4760 Salisbury Road, Jacksonville, FL 32256; two meetings, one beginning at 1:00 p.m. EDT and one beginning at 7:00 p.m. EDT;
- Wednesday, April 18, 2012, Savannah, Georgia: Coastal Georgia Center, 305 Farm Street, Savannah, GA 31401; two meetings, one beginning at 1:00 p.m. EDT and one beginning at 7:00 p.m. EDT;
- Friday, April 20, 2012, Charleston, South Carolina: Embassy Suites North Charleston, 5055 International Boulevard, Charleston, SC 29418; two meetings, one beginning at 1:00 p.m. EDT and one beginning at 7:00 p.m. EDT;
- Tuesday, April 24, 2012, Norfolk, Virginia: Hilton Norfolk Airport, 1500 N. Military Highway, Norfolk, VA 23502; two meetings, one beginning at 1:00 p.m. EDT and one beginning at 7:00 p.m. EDT;
- Wednesday, April 25, 2012, Annapolis, Maryland: Doubletree Hotel Annapolis, 210 Holiday Court, Annapolis, MD 21401; two meetings, one beginning at 1:00 p.m. EDT and one beginning at 7:00 p.m. EDT;
- Thursday, April 26, 2012, Wilmington, North Carolina: Hilton Wilmington Riverside, 301 North Water Street, Wilmington, NC 28401; two meetings, one beginning at 1:00 p.m. EDT and one beginning at 7:00 p.m. EDT;

• Thursday, April 26, 2012, Wilmington, Delaware: Sheraton Suites Wilmington, 422 Delaware Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19801; two meetings, one beginning at 1:00 p.m. EDT and one beginning at 7:00 p.m. EDT; and

• Friday, April 27, 2012, Atlantic City, New Jersey: Atlantic City Convention Center, One Convention Boulevard, Atlantic City, NJ, 08401; one meeting beginning at 1:00 p.m. EDT.

If you cannot attend the meetings, you may submit written comments within the comment period. Comments should specifically address aspects of the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS and may be submitted in one of the following two ways:

1. In an envelope labeled "Comments on the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS" and mailed (or hand carried) to Mr. Gary D. Goeke, Chief, Regional Assessment Section, Office of Environment (MS 5410), Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394; or

2. BOEM email address: GGEIS@boem.gov.

The BOEM will be printing and distributing a very limited number of paper copies. In keeping with the Department of the Interior's mission of protection of natural resources, and to limit costs while ensuring availability of the document to the public, BOEM will primarily distribute digital copies of the EIS on compact discs. However, if you require a paper copy, BOEM will provide one upon request if copies are still available.

1. You may obtain a copy of the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, Attention: Public Information Office (MS 5034), 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, Room 250, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394 (1-800-200-GULF).

2. You may download or view the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS on BOEM's Atlantic G&G website at <http://.boem.gov/and-Gas-Energy-Program//.aspx> or on BOEM's NEPA website at <http://.boem.gov/Stewardship/Assessment//.aspx>.

If you have any questions, you may call Mr. Gary D. Goeke at (504) 736-3233.

You are receiving this notification if you provided us with your email address at some point during scoping for the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS. If you would like to receive announcements for public meetings and the availability of our environmental documents for Atlantic activities, please submit your name and contact information to BOEM at the website below. You may also request to be removed from the current BOEM mailing list in the same way.

https://www.data.boem.gov/homepg/data_center/other/gmaillist/subscribe.asp

Please do not reply to this email. We will be able to process your requests most effectively if you follow the directions in this notice.

From: [Lueth, Kenneth](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Environmental Impact Study of
Date: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 3:16:05 PM

Wasn't the Gulf enough?

Do we really need to violate the Marine Mammal Protection Act and kill thousands of animals?

I like most others in NJ are dead set opposed to any mapping strategy that involves air gun testing and the "taking" of wildlife. Do we need to kill animals to have a better map of conditions without a specific purpose declared? I have lived off the coast of Virginia and New Jersey most of my life and do not want to see it turned into another Gulf of Mexico. I have walked the beautiful beaches of California where there are "acceptable levels" of oil pumping and found my feet blackened by the residue from the oil on my feet.

Anything short of Alternative C is unacceptable to me personally. I will join the effort to fight this as much as possible. Please don't cave in to the oil companies who have the spin doctors making this look acceptable.

New Jersey has enough cleanup from the oil companies who abandoned the refineries years ago. We don't need more. If they want oil in the Gulf, let them have it.

The air blasting is not needed without a specific goal which is still being hidden. Thank you for your time, but please choose Alternative C.

Ken Lueth

From: [Regina Speck](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Fw: Comments on the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS.
Date: Monday, April 30, 2012 7:35:49 AM

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Jeanne <specadune@yahoo.com>
To: GGEIS@boem.gov.
Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2012 3:23 PM
Subject: Comments on the Draft Atlantic G&G Programmatic EIS.

I was sorry my husband and I were unable to attend the meeting in Atlantic City. I am glad to have this opportunity to express my concern and displeasue with the plans to map the Atlantic Coastline. My immediate concerns for the environment and marine life are only surpassed by my worry that this is the first step toward off shore oil drilling. I am not happy about the impact and dangers involved with oil drilling off the coast. Especially on this anniversary of the Gulf of Mexico disaster I am shocked that this course of action is even being considered.

Regina Speck
442 Risley Rd.
Brigantine New Jersey 08203
specadune@Yahoo.com

From: [Bruce Tennant](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Fw: Great video on how they drill the bakken wells.
Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 4:08:24 PM

Sent: Friday, May 06, 2011 5:26 PM
Subject: Great video on how they drill the bakken wells.

This is a great video, take the time to learn something new! JACK

This is a short video about how they drill Horizontally to get the oil out of the shale rock. It's very interesting. I always wondered how they do that.

Subject: Great video on how they drill
the bakken wells

(I found this to be very very informative.
I think you will also.)

I crossed western ND a couple months ago
and was amazed at all the oil works going
on. Williston is booming with Halliburton
and other oil company equipment every
where. Hotels are full of workers and
trailer courts of 8x30 campers are going

in. It is a real boom town compared to the last time I was there. I didn't understand how they drilled laterally and I appreciate the information.

I think that one reason that it is booming is because much of the drilling is on private land in a business friendly state.

For those of you that haven't been following oil development in North Dakota, the Bakken shale underlies about the western third of the state and is estimated to contain over 500 Billion barrels. Yes that is Billion - not a typo. For comparison, Saudia Arabia has 25 billion and Alaska about the same. Recoverable with current technology is apparently 20% although two companies drilled two laterals in the same section in Mountrail County last summer. Up until those, the procedure was to go down vertically in one corner of a section (square mile) and drill horizontally (the lateral) at a diagonal across the section. (The closing scenes in the video are not Bakken wells - the wells are too close together.) One lateral in each section taps into a very small amount of the shale formation. Multiple laterals in one section may substantially increase the recoverable amounts. I've seen the Bakken crude and seen chemical analyses of it - it is very close to kerosene or diesel fuel - some of the sweetest crude in the world.

Initial production from the Bakken wells ranges from 300 to 2400 barrels per day depending on location since the shale seems to be different in different areas.

The Sanish-Three Forks shale is immediately below the Bakken and underlies all of North Dakota.

The Bears Den shale is below that and it also appears to underlie all of

North Dakota. No estimates on total oil in either of these yet. All three of these formations extend into Montana and Saskatchewan.

I've seen one article on the Bakken oil developments in the Wall Street Journal - nothing in any of the other media. Do you suppose that they fear support for alternative energy development would collapse if the public knew we have enough oil in North Dakota alone to supply our country's needs for many years to come?? Apparently they would prefer to cover the prairies with wind farms and the deserts with solar panels.

Despite climategate and some seriously cold weather this winter they are still pushing global warming.

In contrast to most states, North Dakota had \$1 Billion surplus last year that they put into public schools and reduced our property taxes. Mostly from the severance tax on oil.

<http://www.northernoil.com/drilling.php>

No virus found in this message.

Checked by AVG - www.avg.com

Version: 10.0.1209 / Virus Database: 1500/3603 - Release Date: 04/28/11

From: Ckflbi@aol.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Fwd: Deny Conduct Seismic Testing
Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2012 8:29:10 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

Dear Mr. Goeke:

"I am writing as a very concerned resident of New Jersey who strongly supports a denial of the requests to allow seismic testing in the Atlantic Ocean from the Delaware Bay to Central Florida. I am opposed to both the search for oil and the resulting offshore drilling in the Atlantic with the risk of spills, discharges and disasters. In the two years since the BP spill, which of the proposals recommended by the National Commission on the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling have been put in place? To my knowledge, none have. The effects of that spill speak for themselves.

Now there is a proposal to conduct seismic testing which is likely to have devastating effects on marine life. What studies have been done here on the roughly 1000 dolphins found off Peru with air bubbles found in their blood likely caused by rapid ascent from the ocean depths in response to being startled by the loud explosions during seismic testing there? What studies have been conducted regarding the

concerns of those in the scientific community that believe the air gun blasts will disrupt social communication of fish, whales, dolphins and turtles, therefore interfering with finding mates, food or identifying predators, as well as migration patterns, or the belief that the 120 and 300 Hz sound waves generated during the seismic explosions causes temporary or permanent hearing loss, serious injury from tissue trauma and hemorrhaging?.

The proposed seismic testing would affect an area of 330,032 square miles, to a depth of 18,468 ft. with sound waves traveling much further. Knowing what damage could result to sea mammals and other marine life would seem to be the responsible course of action IF testing would serve any purpose other than locating oil before a disaster occurs.

Thank you for considering denying seismic testing in the Atlantic Ocean.

Carolynn Flaherty
Long Beach Twsp, NJ

Thank you for considering my opinion."

Upcoming Events

We found your Garden Club Web site online and were hoping you might help us spread the word about an art exhibition taking place in Stone Harbor, NJ over Memorial Day weekend. The featured artist is a renowned floral painter, Brian Davis. His artwork is so lifelike, a cursory glance may lead you to believe it is a photograph!

We thought your garden club members might be interested in this gorgeous floral artwork so we were hoping you would be willing to share the attachment with them, which includes details on the exhibition along with a few photos of images. (If you prefer, I have inserted the exhibition info below with one image of Brian Davis' artwork.)

The gallery's facebook page lists the event times along with show details as well.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ocean-Galleries-Stone-Harbor-New-Jersey/127605647267098>

Thanks so much for your consideration. Please let us know if you need anything else.

J

Julie Hayles
Ocean Galleries PR
H2H Consulting, LLC
609.576.3717

OCEAN GALLERIES WELCOMES ACCLAIMED ARTIST
BRIAN DAVIS

Lighting and detail of floral paintings bring Davis' art to life

WHO: Brian Davis – Renowned floral artist

WHAT: *Flowers of Light* – art exhibition featuring a collection of original and limited edition artwork

WHEN: Friday, May 25, 2012 through Monday, May 28, 2012

10:00 AM to 10:00 PM (Gallery Hours for the Exhibition)

Note: The exhibition will remain on display through Monday, June 25

Receptions with the Artist

Friday, May 25 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Saturday, May 26 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Sunday, May 27 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

WHERE: Ocean Galleries (9618 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247/Tel: 609.368.7777)



*"Luminous Yellow
Beauty" by Brian Davis
Free with purchase of
artwork during the
exhibition.*

Known for his special attention to light and detail, Brian Davis' primary subjects are florals. With a Master's attention to detail and an enormous passion, Davis transforms beautiful roses, calla lilies, and dahlias into romantic, compelling images with sharpness, color, movement, edge, and light. His striking artwork has won the admiration of fans worldwide, with several original paintings in permanent collections at the prestigious **Huntington Library Art Collections and Botanical Gardens** in San Marino, CA and the **New York Botanical Garden** in New York City, NY.

In celebration of this first time exhibition at Ocean Galleries, anyone purchasing original or limited edition artwork by Brian Davis during the weekend exhibition will receive a gorgeous 8" by 10" rose giclée on canvas, hand signed by Mr. Davis

Guests can meet Brian Davis at receptions being held 7:00 PM until 10:00 PM on Friday, May 25, Saturday, May 26, and Sunday, May 27. The show is **FREE** and **open to the public**. For more information, call **609-368-7777** or visit www.oceangalleries.com

###

For over 25 years, Ocean Galleries has provided quality art by contemporary artists to their clients while practicing the highest standards of credibility and integrity in a comfortable and unpretentious atmosphere. With locations in Stone Harbor and Avalon, New Jersey, the distinguished art galleries feature an ever-changing display of artwork that includes local artists' watercolors, nationally recognized artists' originals, popular beach prints and high-end reproductions. Ocean Galleries also carries fine furniture and hand-made crafts from America and around the world. For more information, please call 609.368.7777 or visit www.oceangalleries.com



Cake Mix Warning (not a joke)

Warning re: Cake Mixes! (Who knew?)

I always thought that "old" mixes that were past their expiration date would just not rise/bake correctly. This is scary!

Somebody wrote: 'Before my surgery I bought quite a few Duncan Hines cakes mixes that were on sale. A couple of months ago I decided to use one, I checked the expiration date and found it past the 'use' date. In fact all the boxes were past the expiration date.

I phoned Duncan Hines to ask if the one that was only two months passed if it was OK. She told me in no uncertain words to throw them all out; she even said to open the boxes and throw the mix in the garbage, just in case someone picked it up and used it.

Cake Mixes & Toxins - **PLEASE READ****-**

Pass this on to ALL in your address book. You never know whose life you may save by doing so. For those of you at work, PLEASE remember to check your cupboards when you get home tonight!!!

This is confirmed on Snopes:

<http://www.snopes.com/medical/toxins/pancake.asp>

A student at HBHS (high school) had pancakes this week and it almost became fatal. His Mom (registered nurse) made him pancakes, dropped him off at school and headed to play tennis. She never takes her cell phone on the court but did this time and her son called to say he was having trouble breathing. She told him to go to the nurse immediately and proceeded to call school and alert the nurse. The nurse called the paramedics and they were there in 3 minutes and worked on the boy all the way to the hospital. He came very close

to dying.

Evidently this is more common than I ever knew.

Check the expiration dates on packages like pancakes and cake mixes that have yeast which over time develop spores. Apparently, the mold that forms in old mixes can be toxic!

Throw away ALL OUTDATED pancake mix, brownie mixes, Bisquick, cake & cookie mixes, etc., you have in your home.

P.S. Tell this to your children, grandchildren, nephews, nieces and anyone else who keeps these types of mixes in the cupboard.

P.P.S. This warning especially applies to any person(s) with mold allergies.

=

From: [Jan Doyle Judy Madsen](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: proposal to open the Atlantic Ocean to seismic testing.
Date: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 6:42:56 AM

To Whom it may concern,

This letter was originally sent to you by my sister Anne Armstrong. I agree with her 100% and could not have said it any better myself, so I am sending her letter to you to express exactly how I feel about the proposed seismic testing of the Atlantic Ocean...

I am **strongly** opposed to opening our Atlantic Ocean to any exploratory seismic testing. By allowing this dangerous and irresponsible procedure to be used, we will be putting into action an irreversible, devastating chain of events that threatens the very existence of all marine mammals, sea turtles, and fish. Even the industry acknowledges that the testing could do great harm. Look at the connection between the thousands of dead dolphins washing up on Peru's beaches and the seismic testing being done there. We risk destroying our planet and its ability to continue to nourish and feed all of the earth's population. We need **all** of our oceans to be healthy and viable so both human and marine life as we know it can continue to exist. All this under the guise of becoming energy dependant. The oil and gas that is collected doesn't necessarily stay in our country to be used here, it is often sold to the highest bidder. Look at how Mother Nature manages all life on this planet. Everything is used and recycled, allowing the chain of life to continue indefinitely. It is a perfectly balanced system.

When are we going to realize that by violating the Earth that Nature created, we put ourselves on a collision course with our own man made destruction.

Again I strongly oppose **any** exploratory seismic testing in the Atlantic Ocean, and in any of the other Seas and Oceans, and hope that you will not allow this unnatural procedure to take place.

Anne C. Armstrong 8 North Bay Avenue, Manahawkin, NJ 08050

Thank you and **[PLEASE LISTEN TO OUR CONCERNS.](#)**
Janet M. Doyle
345 Station Ave.
Langhorne, PA 19047

--

janjudy@gmail.com

From: [Tom Bissinger](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Geologic testing
Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2012 2:49:22 PM

Mr. Gary D Goeke
Chief, Regional Assessment Section
Office of Environment (MS5410)
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Gulf of Mexico OCS

Dear Sir,

I am very opposed to seismic testing for oil and gas reserves under the ocean floor from New Jersey to Florida. Aside from the possible BP disaster in the making, the wanton slaughter of marine life is unconscionable and I say this noting that the Interior Dept's BEM data includes the projection of killing of marine mammals, up to 38,000.

Please con side my voice one of many opposing the geological and geophysical activities to map oil and gas fields.

As one who enjoys the Atlantic Ocean, and the life it provides the planet, I thank you for your consideration

Tom Bissinger
601 county Park Rd
Pottstown, PA 19465

From: [Jim Steitz](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Geophysical Exploration and Airguns in the Atlantic Ocean
Date: Monday, May 21, 2012 9:52:25 PM

Jim Steitz
564 Esslinger Drive
Gatlinburg, TN 37738

May 21, 2012

Mr. Gary D. Goeke, Chief,
Regional Assessment Section, Office of Environment (MS 5410)
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394

Dear Mr. Goeke,

I urge the Bureau to **withdraw its proposal to allow acoustic exploration for oil and gas across the middle and south Atlantic Ocean**, as described in the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Atlantic Geological and Geophysical Activities. This acoustic assault on the marine environment would have devastating impacts on marine mammals and other inhabitants of the Atlantic coastal ecosystems, as well as inflict horrendous and heinous suffering on individual animals.

Scientific studies have shown that the airgun devices used by industry produce the loudest aquatic sound waves besides outright explosives, and can cripple the hearing and echolocation organs of marine mammals, even across distant swaths of the ocean. The Bureau itself estimates, very conservatively, that this invasive, violent form of "exploration" would injure on the order of 140,000 whales, dolphins, and porpoises and disrupt the behavior of 13 million more. **These are demographically overwhelming losses that the already imperiled populations of marine mammals cannot sustain**, in light of all the other threats to the Atlantic Ocean.

This proposal clearly does not seek an appropriate or rational balance between energy production and the existence rights of marine mammals, and its serious entertainment by the Bureau is an affront to the moral decency that we owe our fellow mammals of the Atlantic Ocean. Moreover, this proposal is quite likely to result in the death or other 'taking' of threatened and endangered species, in violation of the Endangered Species Act, and violates at least the spirit of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. It is deeply ironic and disturbing that the **Bureau would allow industry to serially explode the eardrums of whales and porpoises, while a much lesser form of harassment would immediately land an individual in the detention of the Coast Guard.**

Moreover, our atmosphere cannot safely absorb any more carbon dioxide, and this liability to human welfare and survival must be incorporated into Bureau's assessment of the net economic value of the oil to be extracted. **The carbon content of the oil that may result from the exploration proposal is a material threat to America's national security.** President Obama has made clear the executive branch's desire to curb global warming, and for the Bureau to commit to production of a new long-term supply of fossil fuels from the Atlantic Ocean would frustrate this important national goal. The decision to extract oil and gas does not occur in a policy vacuum, triggered by industry interest, but in the context of an urgent national need to shift from carbon-based fuels. Unmolested marine ecosystems are becoming scarcer over time, while excess carbon dioxide is becoming a lethal liability. Therefore, the balance of values should be shifting in favor of preservation of the former and discouraging the latter.

The Bureau must also heed the cruelty, inhumanity, and barbarism inherent in subjecting marine mammals to these airgun devices. As best science can tell, whales, dolphins, and porpoises are extremely intelligent, sentient beings with a range of sensory acuities equalling those of humans. It is extremely likely that the experience of an airgun detonation in the vicinity of a whale whose echolocation tissues are attuned to very slight waves is horrendously painful and traumatic, as well as crippling to that animal's survival. This makes the exploration deeply immoral with respect to individual animals, as well as biologically destructive to the species and marine ecosystem. **It is not within the set of morally rational or sane policies to unleash this acoustic assault on the inhabitants of the Atlantic Ocean** to acquire a substance that our civilization must relinquish for its own survival as well.

Again, please withdraw this proposal by selecting the "No Action" Alternative C on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic Geological and Geophysical Activities. Thank you for your attention to this urgent issue.

Sincerely,

Jim Steitz

From: [Bob & Linda](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Georgia Offshore Drilling
Date: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 11:31:27 AM

Good afternoon -

You openly admit, and I quote; “overall impacts on marine mammals from seismic airgun surveys are expected to be moderate.”

I would submit that your version of moderate might be the same as asking a person to place their head in a large bucket and set off a firecracker. I believe that would be the equivalent of a moderate noise and subsequent effect.

I implore you, do not disturb the Right Whale population anymore then it has already been impacted.

Thank you,
Robert L. Nutter
St. Marys, GA

From: [Tina Sotis](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Halt seismic testing
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 6:10:13 AM

I implore you to halt seismic testing for oil exploration. I am a dive instructor and know full well the havoc that kind of thing can do to any animal, not just humans. Hundreds of dead dolphins have been found with their systems filled with bubbles caused by lethal decompression illness. It is a a horrible way to die and with all our technological might we should be exploring ways to make alternative energies work instead of oil.

Tina Sotis

Sent from my iPad

From: [T.Best](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: I am opposed to Offshore Oil Drilling exploration off AC
Date: Sunday, April 29, 2012 11:03:46 PM

Hello,

I definitely am opposed to Offshore Oil Drilling and exploration. I encourage the investment to go into alternative energy producers other than Oil, coal and nuclear. Please invest our money, time and your efforts into renewable and sustainable energy systems. Protect our waters from risks of oil pollution.

The ocean is a powerful source of energy production just in it's wave action and there is technology now to capture that wave power. That's just one choice and you know there are many others.

Invest in more Bay Wind projects, then you don't have all the Offshore cabling issues, etc. that Offshore Wind projects will have. I lived in the bay and have experienced the constant winds.

I'm doing my best by helping people to convert to residential solar systems one home at a time, but if there is anything I can do to help prevent offshore drilling and exploration, please contact me. Better incentives for Solar, Wind, Water power systems, and passing the legislation to improve the SREC's are all ways to incentivize clean renewable energy options that I encourage your staff to pursue. They work and are getting less

expensive, rather more affordable.

Thank you for taking comments on this subject.

Trish Best

50 Gibbs Ave

Somers Point, NJ

From: [jean public](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: i cannot attend the hearing in atlantic city on this friday however my comment is that i do not want seismic testing in the atlantic ocean
Date: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 3:28:54 PM

i do not want seismic testing in the atlantic ocean. i am well aware that such seismic testing kills marine life, whales, dolphins, shakr, etc. they all wash up dead on the beach. i also do not want oil wells off the nj coast. i am sorry i cannot make this meeting in atlantic city. maybe you should have done this on webinar so that more people can attend. and if it goes to multiple days, so be it. i think your method of setting up meetings where just a few people can attend is a poor one for getting public opinion on this extremely controversial issue. are you trying to bias the comment from the public, most of whom work on friday during the day? are you trying to stop them from comment?

jean public

From: [Tom Brown](#)
To: prvs=48167085d=GGEIS@boem.gov
Subject: I haven't seen your email. Re: Out of Office AutoReply: Draft PEIS for Atlantic Ocean Seismic Exploration
Date: Sunday, May 20, 2012 10:29:29 PM

Thanks for your email. I don't have internet access for a few days.
I'll reply to your email as quickly as I can!

--

Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not fish
they are after.

-Tom Brown
Lynchburg, VA.
Cell: (434)851-9890 Skype: flrttb

From: Ann@JOYisLBI.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: I oppose this testing!
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 1:47:36 PM

I OPPOSE ANY TESTING OFF THE JERSEY SHORE COAST!

Ann O. Hasney
Joy Luedtke Real Estate, LLC
1907 Bayview Avenue at Historic Viking Village
PO Box 888
Barnegat Light, NJ 08006
Office: 609-494-8883
Fax: 609-494-8882
Web: www.JOYisLBI.com
Email: Ann@JOYisLBI.com

From: [Adam](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: I support Alternative C.
Date: Thursday, May 10, 2012 7:41:36 AM

I support Alternative C, no seismic exploration and no drilling off our coast. As a captain and guide in the growing industry of Eco-tourism along Florida's east coast I ask that you do not put my livelihood in anymore risk then it is. With marine mammals being our biggest draw allowing seismic exploration could lead to the death and disappearance of not only our marine mammals but to Florida's largest industry as well, tourism.

Capt. Adam Morley
(904) 540-0514

From: [Ben Jezierski](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Jersey Oil Exploration
Date: Tuesday, May 22, 2012 11:31:57 AM

“By the government’s own estimates, extracting all recoverable oil offshore right now would lower the price at the pump a mere 3 cents 20 years from now,” he said. “Clearly, this is not the answer.”

From the May 22nd Cape May Herald

Is this really worth the deaths of an estimated 38,000 marine mammals per year over the 8 year course of testing? Hasn’t the oil industry destroyed enough of the planet?

Instead of looking into corporate coffers for your answer, look into your hearts instead, just once.

Before our only home is damaged to a point where she cannot be repaired.

Ben Jezierski

From: Chris McCaffity
To: aaron_suntag@hagan.senate.gov; americanvoices@mail.house.gov; asktheleader@mail.house.gov; arun_revana@akaka.senate.gov; anna.martin@safmc.net; arafdal@doc.gov; andrea.grabman@safmc.net; andrew_cooper@sfu.ca; andy.strelcheck@noaa.gov; angiecou@email.unc.edu; abundantseafood@gmail.com; albatrossfleet@earthlink.net; aaron_sankin@huffingtonpost.com; anne.deaton@ncdenr.gov; bradley.ryon@mail.house.gov; brittany_mchale@burr.senate.gov; bsmith@politico.com; braxton.davis@ncdenr.gov; [bharti@bellsouth.net](mailto:bhartiq@bellsouth.net); bill@hitchcockrealty.net; bobfish@aol.com; buzz@charlotteobserver.com; carolyn_belcher@dnr.state.ga.us; chad_tilley@burr.senate.gov; clark.alexander@skio.usg.edu; coleman@email.unc.edu; carl@elec-tra-mate.com; customoutfitters58@yahoo.com; churchill.grimes@noaa.gov; cindy.chaya@safmc.net; christinawjones@gmail.com; carlton.thompson@gsa.gov; c21fisher@aol.com; calabashfishingfleet@hotmail.com; capt.markbrown@comcast.net; capt.thompson@gmail.com; captainlarry@fishaholiccharters.com; captainmatt@fishaholiccharters.com; captainrandy@fisherofmencharter.com; captbrant@oifc.com; captcharles@oldcoresound.com; captjerry@captjerry.com; captlobster@yahoo.com; charles.bergmann@noaa.gov; cindy@ecolaseafoods.com; dave.whaley@mail.house.gov; daleperk@aol.com; dave@godspeedcharters.com; dumasc@uncw.edu; dank@scsportsman.com; deb_buscher@safmc.net; david.phillips2@weyerhaeuser.com; dayboat1965@gmail.com; dbrzezinski@asmfc.org; dbyers@politico.com; denise@freedom-walker.com; doug.haymans@dnr.state.ga.us; dsf2009@aol.com; david.knight@ncdenr.gov; desk@wtn.com; eric.johnson@unf.edu; eric_wilson@burr.senate.gov; efetherston@oceanconservancy.org; fullcirclecrabco@earthlink.net; fvtarbaby@embarqmail.com; ferry.roland@epa.gov; finchaser357@aol.com; fishdelph@aol.com; fisherman's.catch@yahoo.com; fishermenofamerica@cfafish.org; fishnmore@cfl.rr.com; fishthinkguidesc@yahoo.com; G&GEIS; governor.office@nc.gov; gilliam@nova.edu; ga_capt@yahoo.com; george.sedberry@noaa.gov; greenfluke@optonline.net; greg.mcfall@noaa.gov; gregg.waugh@safmc.net; governor@ncmail.net; harveywalker06@yahoo.com; hunter@terranova.net; inshoreflorida@gmail.com; info@luckystrikesportfishingcharters.com; info@gulfcouncil.org; info@midcoastfishermen.org; info@southfloridasportfishingtrips.net; invites.undersecretary@noaa.gov; im4frwrks@yahoo.com; info@captstacy.com; info@doghousesportfishing.com; john.boreman@ncsu.edu; joshua.bowlen@mail.house.gov; jimdrfa@aol.com; jim.berkson@noaa.gov; jhmurray@moore.sc.edu; jhutchinson@joinfa.org; jdepersenaire@joinfa.org; jean.preston@ncleg.net; jeff@compassnews360.com; judyjordan16@msn.com; john.mcGovern@noaa.gov; john.stossel@foxnews.com; john.carmichael@safmc.net; jeffery_buckel@ncsu.edu; jocelyn.karasia@noaa.gov; kmathis3@ec.rr.com; katherine.hanes@burr.senate.gov; kara_weishaar@burr.senate.gov; kari.fenske@safmc.net; kari.maclaughlin@safmc.net; kensurfflex@gmail.com; koenig@bio.fsu.edu; kim.iverson@safmc.net; kimberly.puglise@noaa.gov; kate.michie@noaa.gov; kschnier@gsu.edu; lgould@ec.rr.com; louis.daniel@ncdenr.gov; lmoty@co.shasta.ca.us; lockwood@thenewstimes.com; logan.barnes@weyerhaeuser.com; lah4492@uncw.edu; lbaugh@co.shasta.ca.us; lbedrosian@divcom.com; luz.barbieri@fwc.state.fl.us; melissa_midgett@hagan.senate.gov; michelle.duval@ncdenr.gov; moira_bagley@paul.senate.gov; margaret_brooks@burr.senate.gov; maryellen.simmons@mail.house.gov; matthew_dockham@burr.senate.gov; melba.ncwu@gmail.com; mjiturano@ncsu.edu; mnosnhoj@comcast.net; mike.collins@safmc.net; mike.errigo@safmc.net; mm_reynolds@burr.senate.gov; norman.sanderson@ncleg.net; naturalresources@mail.house.gov; nccroakerjoe@yahoo.com; ncwu_robby@yahoo.com; nikhil.mehta@noaa.gov; news@fishermanspost.com; ned@magicfishing.com; niaz@namanet.org; pat.mcelraft@ncleg.net; patrick_brennan@hagan.senate.gov; phil.berger@ncleg.net; polly_walker@burr.senate.gov; phil@philknightshow.com; palmettobooks@bellsouth.net; pamdorris@coresound.com; paula@huffsseafood.com; racheal.silvas@safmc.net; ross@uncw.edu; roy.crabtree@noaa.gov; reeldeepcharters@gmail.com; reichertm@dnr.sc.gov; rgaines@gloucesterimes.com; robby@ncwu.net; robert.mahood@safmc.net; robert.w.foos@uscg.mil; rom@hatterasrelease.com; rachel_bovard@paul.senate.gov; rick.devictor@noaa.gov; robert.k.mahood@safmc.net; saltydogmk1979@yahoo.com; sam@floridasportsman.com; senator@boxer.senate.gov; senator@feinstein.senate.gov; speakerboehner@mail.house.gov; stephen_lassiter@hagan.senate.gov; stratton.kirton@mail.house.gov; sunrise@coastalnet.com; sue_wink@hagan.senate.gov; sburrows@carolinajournal.com; scott.crosson@noaa.gov; slshcrkwrks@aol.com; safmc@safmc.net; sandra.brooke@marineconservation.org; sue.lincoln@hotmail.com; thom.tillis@ncleg.net; terrafisheries@netzero.com; thesec@doc.gov; tim@charlottefishco.com; tom@swatzel.com; tyandle@emory.edu; tburgess@embarqmail.com; teaser2_fishingmail@charlestonfishing.net; underseas6@yahoo.com; voshea@asmfc.org; vandolahr@dnr.sc.gov; whiteheadjc@appstate.edu; warner-kramerdm@state.gov; william.moore@mail.house.gov; Laney, Wilson; wright.samuel.e@dol.gov; waugh@safmc.net

Subject: Limiting government mandated waste and abuse of seafood

Date: Tuesday, June 19, 2012 3:02:04 PM

Public Comments Regarding the June South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting

My name is Chris McCaffity. I would like to thank the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) for doing something right. I agree with the way the council will allow 13,067 Red Snapper to be harvested even if I do not agree with the quota that is based on "fatally flawed data". I also agree with requiring fishermen to keep their limit of Red

Snapper regardless of size. This will leave more of the large breeders to replenish the stock faster while limiting waste and abuse. I oppose the idea of a tag program for Red Snapper next year. I would support a research tag program for Warsaw Grouper and Speckled Hind. This should be done in conjunction with an independent electronic reporting system for all offshore fishermen. Electronic reporting would provide timely data that should be used to MANAGE the quotas with possession limits that are adjusted to a level that fills a quota without a long closure when 75% of a quota has been landed. The council COULD do this now as they project months in advance when they will shut down one fishery after another for long periods of time. These long closures force fishermen to discard every illegal fish we catch as we target fewer and fewer legal fish that flood the market and drive down prices while denying consumers access to a dependable supply of safe American seafood. This tragic waste and abuse of our renewable public resources compromises our safety at sea as we must stay longer and in worse weather to catch enough devalued legal fish to stay in business. More fishermen will DIE as a direct result of this gross mismanagement of our fisheries if the council continues to refuse to properly MANAGE the unnecessarily low quotas they set using “fatally flawed data”.

The SAFMC should not be allowed to pass any more laws until they properly manage the quotas they set using “fatally flawed data” in their rush to meet the Magnuson-Stevens Act hard deadlines. They should not be allowed to allocate our resources to a few well-connected corporations through catch share schemes. They should not be allowed to expand or create any new Marine Protected Areas. They should not be allowed to force fishermen to buy expensive and intrusive Orwellian Vessel Monitoring Systems. They should not be allowed to create any endorsement schemes that shut the vast majority of permit holders out of fisheries our permits cover. They should not be allowed to increase the amount of waste in our fisheries by arbitrarily increasing size limits beyond the length required for a species to breed once. The SAFMC should do its job and collect accurate data to use in credible stock assessments and properly manage the quotas. The SAFMC should follow the Magnuson-Stevens Act mandates to limit waste, make efficient use of our resources, and promote fishermen’s safety at sea.

The SAFMC is planning to make it illegal to commercially harvest Grey Trigger Fish in the South Atlantic starting in September through January 1. The mandatory circle hooks will break the jaw of many of the Trigger Fish we accidentally catch while targeting other legal species. Those discarded fish with a broken jaw will slowly starve to death in the name of conservation. This tragic waste and abuse could be avoided by simply setting a 100 pound Trip Poundage Limit for the rest of the year starting now. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the SAFMC to consider options that would mitigate the negative impacts of laws they pass. This simple solution would follow the Magnuson-Stevens Act

requirements to limit waste and make efficient use of our resources while providing consumers with a dependable supply of Trigger Fish throughout the entire year.

Please send any questions or comments to. freefish7@hotmail.com

From: [Capt. Monty Hawkins](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: MAB Comment
Date: Monday, June 25, 2012 5:37:28 PM

Dear Mr. Goeke,

Regarding your agency's assumption that hard-bottom reef doesn't exist in the Mid-Atlantic Bight, please see the following <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3nGYeXvkxE> for professional video footage. First minute is stills of impacted reef, rest is HD video of a very typical biotic assemblage of MAB hard-bottom reef.

From your agency's report: *"..Compared to the South Atlantic Bight, Mid-Atlantic Bight hard bottom habitats are sparsely distributed over the shelf and are composed of bare rock, gravel, shell hash, and artificial structures rather than limestone outcrops covered by algae, sponges, and soft corals.."*

Presumably, your BOEM's seabed charting will reveal hard bottoms -- it's not bare: In fact, its Essential Fish Habitat.

You might also review <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-cMC8JV2Bk&feature=related> & <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n77WF9XORJM&feature=related> for my personal video work..

Please know I support both renewable energy development & oil exploration. However, the scientific bog of poor research pertaining to hard-bottom reef fish habitat must be replaced with far better ecological study.

Regards,
Monty Hawkins

Berlin, MD
Capt. Monty Hawkins
mhawkins@siteone.net
Party Boat "Morning Star"

From: [Betty Anne Dawson](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 12:36:45 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

I strongly oppose opening the Atlantic Ocean to any exploratory seismic testing. This dangerous procedure will cause an irreversible and devastating chain of events that will threaten the very existence of all marine life i.e. mammals, sea turtles, and fish. The Industry itself acknowledges that the testing will, not may, do great harm. Peru's shores with the thousands of Dolphins washing up on it's beaches is testament that the seismic testing being done there is extremely harmful and deadly. We risk destroying our planet and its ability to continue to nourish and feed all of the Her population. We need to preserve all of our oceans while we are able to so both human and marine life, as we know it, can continue to exist. This atrocity is being exploited under the guise of becoming energy independent. The oil and gas we extract may not stay in our country to be used by us, as we all know it is often sold to the highest the bidder. Mother Nature manages all life on this planet on a very fragile basis and our interference will have a major effect on it's existence and her perfectly balanced ecosystem. What will it take for us to realize that violating Nature puts ours and Earth's future at risk?

Again, I strongly oppose any exploratory seismic testing especially in the Atlantic Ocean as proposed.

Respectfully,

Betty Anne Dawson
24 Flower Lane
Levittown, Pa 19055

From: [Richard Gaine](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Date: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 2:25:49 PM

It's about time we started looking for oil and gas off our coasts. I don't think it will hurt the environment at all. But gives the wackos a chance to make up lies, so their organizations can keep making money.

From: [Shana](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Date: Friday, May 04, 2012 6:15:14 PM

I am against seismic sea testing off the east coast.

From: [Ira Brinn](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Date: Thursday, May 03, 2012 12:12:11 PM

Mr. Gary D. Goekey,

I am writing in support of Alternative "C" and to ask that the agency release an Environmental Impact Statement focused on the development of renewable energy only. Seismic airgun activity for oil and gas exploration has a huge environmental footprint and the intense noise is loud enough to mask whale calls over literally thousands of miles, interfering with their capacity to communicate and breed. Over the next eight years - according to the administration's own estimates - seismic exploration would injure up to 138,500 marine mammals and disrupt marine mammal feeding, calving, breeding, and other vital activities more than 13.5 million times. Airgun noise also affects fish behavior and fisheries on a broad scale, displacing commercial species of fish over thousands of square kilometers. BOEM must keep airguns out of sensitive environmental areas and promote the use of greener alternatives. Thanks for this chance to support Alternative "C".

Respectfully,

Ira M. Brinn
452 Briarwood Circle
Hollywood, FL 33024

From: [Jose Gallegos](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Mid-Atlantic exploration
Date: Monday, April 23, 2012 11:10:18 AM

To Whom it May concern,
I am not in favor of exploring the Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic for oil and gas.
Sincerely,
Karen Gallegos
5424 Sunrise Bluff Court
Midlothian, Va 23112
Sent from my iPad

From: [Logan Dodson](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: My comment related to Atlantic G & G Activities
Date: Friday, June 08, 2012 2:55:19 PM

Mr. Gary D. Goekey,

I am writing in support of Alternative "C" and to ask that the agency release an Environmental Impact Statement focused on the development of renewable energy only. Seismic airgun activity for oil and gas exploration has an environmental footprint larger than its benefit. The intense noise is loud enough to mask whale calls and disrupt fish activities and behavior. It has been known to cause a "startle" behavior in affected fish that makes them less likely to be caught by fishermen. Fishing is a tough business and we do not need to make it more difficult. We also do not need new sources of domestic or foreign oil. Instead, we need to develop renewable alternatives and seek to use what we currently have more sustainably. It is currently estimated by BOEM that 138,500 marine mammals would be injured after 13.5 million instances of seismic explorations in eight years. This will disrupt too much wildlife and valuable habitat to be worth the oil that could be mined from this area. Even more, the Gulf of Mexico is only now truly beginning to recover from the Deepwater Horizons Oil Spill. It has been said that technology for the oil and gas industry has only slightly improved in the past 25 years and many of the technologies are probably not able to be safely used at the great depths found in the Gulf of Mexico or Atlantic Ocean. Future development in the Atlantic Ocean could jeopardize priceless marine environments by using this same technology with another poor safety plan. BOEM must keep airguns out of sensitive environmental areas and promote the use of more environmentally friendly alternatives. Thank you for allowing me to weigh-in on this important decision and for this chance to support Alternative "C".

Sincerely,
Logan Dodson
ldodson@stetson.edu

From: [Trevor Taylor](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: NO DEADLY SEISMIC EXPLORATION OF THE ATLANTIC --- Support Alternative C: Atlantic Geological & Geophysical PEIS
Date: Saturday, May 19, 2012 12:05:24 PM

Mr. Gary D. Goeke

I am writing in support of Alternative "C" and to ask that the agency release an Environmental Impact Statement focused on the development of renewable energy only. Seismic airgun activity for oil and gas exploration has a huge environmental footprint and would produce significant impacts on marine mammals, sea turtles, fishes, and other marine life. Over the next eight years - according to the administration's own estimates - seismic exploration would injure up to 138,500 marine mammals and disrupt marine mammal feeding, calving, breeding, and other vital activities more than 13.5 million times. Airgun noise also affects fish behavior and fisheries on a broad scale, displacing commercial species of fish over thousands of square kilometers. BOEM must keep airguns out of sensitive environmental areas and promote the use of greener alternatives. Thanks for this chance to support Alternative "C".

Respectfully,

Trevor Taylor
17 Hickory Hill
Manchester, MA 01944

From: [Candice Griffin](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: No DRILLING plz
Date: Wednesday, May 02, 2012 12:56:51 PM

Please for what it's worth, I would like to communicate with whoever this concerns that I love my ocean that I surf and retreat to daily. I would really like never to see such a precarious thing such as drilling for oil done any where near the sensitive oceans or anywhere else for that matter. Please rethink this idea of drilling in the Atlantic or anywhere as there are many alternatives that we may be striving to seek for for energy ect. Thanks so much for for considering the concern I have. Have yourself a peacefully-calm, enlightening and environmentally friendly day.

☒ Candice B. Griffin ☒ ☒

From: mrre6@verizon.net
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: No Seismic Blasting off New Jersey Coast!
Date: Wednesday, May 02, 2012 11:00:37 AM

I am a resident of New York state and have vacationed in Cape May, New Jersey since I was a young child. I am planning to make Cape May my year round home as soon as I am able.

I am absolutely opposed to seismic blasting in general and in particular to seismic blasting off the New Jersey coast. It is unspeakably cruel to dolphins and other ocean wildlife. In addition, any drilling that would be done there would be detrimental and possibly disastrous to ocean wildlife.

DO NOT LET THIS HAPPEN!!! We humans need to grow a conscience and stop destroying all the things nature gave us to survive. What good is fuel if we don't have breathable air, drinkable water and edible food? First things first.

Sincerely,

Martha Reid

From: j2d2@carolina.rr.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: No Seismic Blasting
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 10:26:50 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

NO OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION OFF OUR COASTS

The administration should choose Alternative "C" (the "no-action" alternative) and keep dangerous oil and gas exploration off our coasts.

We are not going to drill our way out of high gas prices. According to the U.S. Energy Information Agency (an independent division within the Department of Energy), fully developing all of our recoverable offshore oil reserves everywhere would lower pump prices by exactly 3 cents - and would take twenty years to do so.

Shooting seismic won't make a dent in the price we pay for gas - but it will do a world of damage to the oceans.

To search for oil and gas, the industry uses arrays of airguns, which are towed behind ships and release intense blasts of compressed air into the water - just about the loudest sounds human make short of explosives. Imagine dynamite going off in your neighborhood every 10 seconds for days, weeks and months on end. Now imagine that you depend on your hearing to feed, mate, travel, communicate and do just about everything else necessary for survival. That is the situation that endangered whales, commercial fish, and other wildlife are facing with airgun exploration.

This activity has a huge environmental footprint. Airgun noise is loud enough to mask whale calls over literally thousands of miles, destroying their capacity to communicate and breed. It can drive whales to abandon their habitat and cease foraging, again over vast areas of ocean. For example, a single airgun array in the North Atlantic caused endangered fin and humpback whales to stop singing - a behavior essential to their mating and foraging - and abandon habitat over an area more than 100,000 square miles in size. Closer in, it can cause hearing loss, injury and death.

Big Oil has already applied to MMS to run hundreds of thousands of miles of airgun surveys off the east coast. Over the next eight years - according to the administration's own estimates - seismic exploration would injure up to 138,500 marine mammals and disrupt marine mammal feeding, calving, breeding, and other vital activities more than 13.5 million times.

Airgun booming - and oil and gas development more generally - threatens our fisheries and coastal economies.

Airguns have been shown to displace commercial species of fish horizontally and vertically in the water column on a vast scale - over thousands of square kilometers. The result has been to dramatically depress catch rates of species such as cod, haddock, and rockfish across areas as large as the state of Rhode Island, leading fishermen in Norway and other parts of the world to seek industry compensation for their losses.

This, of course, has negative impacts on commercial and recreational fishermen. Commercial and recreational fishing off the mid- and southeast Atlantic (not including New Jersey) generate about \$7.4 billion annually and

support 180,000 jobs. In North Carolina alone, there are nearly 26,000 fishing jobs, nearly \$1.8 billion in recreational fishing sales and more than \$695 million in commercial fishing sales. Fishermen in some parts of the world where seismic testing is already occurring are seeking industry compensation for their losses.

. Green-lighting seismic also poses threats to the \$20 million whale-watching industry in the mid- and southeast Atlantic. And if the administration takes the next step and opens up the coast to oil and gas drilling, the entire \$22 billion coastal tourism and recreational industries are at risk - just as they are in the Gulf of Mexico.

To reduce harm, BOEM must keep airguns out of sensitive environmental areas, promote use of greener alternatives, and require companies to share data.

. The sole habitat protection the administration has proposed - to protect the critically endangered right whale - is grossly inadequate given the distances noise travels. Under the administration's proposal, a survey can take place right on the edge of the right whale's only known calving grounds, completely filling it with disruptive sound. No other species (or fishery) would receive even this much protection.

. According to two expert reports, including one funded by the oil and gas industry itself, greener alternative technologies that could substantially cut the environmental footprint of airguns in many areas are already well into development and can be available for commercial use in three to five years, or less. Yet the administration is opening the floodgates now, in areas it doesn't even intend to consider for leasing until 2017. There is no reason to rush ahead with this dangerous activity before safer, greener technologies are available.

. Incredibly, the administration's plan would allow seismic operators to reshoot the same areas again and again, so they can repackage the same data to big oil companies. This is so even though the agencies' own independent experts have called for data sharing to minimize impacts. And so - on top of everything else - the administration is needlessly adding to the impact on wildlife and fisheries in deference to a wealthy industry's profit-squeezing business model.

Booming-and-drilling off our coasts makes no sense. Ultimately, if we care about our fisheries, our marine life, and our coastal economies, the right vision is offshore renewables, like wind farms. Scanning the ocean floor for wind farm development uses a technology that is orders of magnitude safer than high-intensity airguns. We call on the administration to choose Alternative "C" and to release an Environmental Impact Statement focused on the development of renewable energy.

Thank You,
Susan Davis

From: ripp06@aol.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: NO SEISMIC EXPLORATION!!!
Date: Friday, May 25, 2012 12:21:05 PM

Please keep off our waters here in theNortheast.. We do NOT need any more horrific intrusions and mishaps in our seas.. Please find jobs for CLEAN and SUSTAINABLE energy.. they ARE there..

From: Freasart@aol.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: NO SEISMIC TESTING
Date: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 8:02:30 PM

NO BIG BOOM TESTING IN MY OCEAN ALONG THE COAST OF NJ, PLEASE

DO NOT STRSS THE CREATURES THAT GOD PLACED IN THESE BEAUTIFUL WATERS.

CAROL FREAS

From: [Margaret Hartwell](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: NO seismic testing
Date: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 11:04:30 AM

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW SEISMIC TESTING OFF THE COAST OF NJ (OR ANYWHERE OFFSHORE).

i ASK YOU TO adopt Alternative C, which would prohibit seismic testing in our oceans. If allowed, seismic testing would result in the deaths of thousands of dolphins and whales.

THANK YOU.

MS.MARGARET HARTWELL
50 PARKER ST
MANAHAWKIN NJ 08050

From: [Virginia Baysden](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: NO SEISMIC TESTING
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 5:00:06 PM

or drilling on the east coast of the US.

If you value life and source of seafood you will ensure this does not occur.

We don't need dead dophins, no fish, etc.

What is needed is a non-invasive means for a non-fossil fuel. Non-disturbance of our ocean is vital.

From: [Stephanie Montalvo](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: No seismic testing, no DRILLING!!!
Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2012 9:46:36 PM

Have we not learned anything from the Gulf spill? Drilling for oil is not logical at all. When are we going to wake up and see that drilling is not the answer. We are smart, we can create energy without destroying the ecosystems that keep us alive. It is really just stupid to continue doing what you have always done and believe that you will have a different outcome! NO DRILLING!
Stephanie Montalvo

Internet Information & Sharing
thepost@me.com

Please remember the earth before printing this message. Thank you.

From: [Simone Healey](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: No Seismic testing
Date: Friday, May 25, 2012 9:10:37 AM

I am submitting written comment here, as well as the statement I gave in person at the Atlantic City hearing which I attended in person. No seismic testing, no offshore drilling, option C is the only acceptable option.

Simone Healey
40 Dean St
Glen Rock NJ 07452.

From: [Elizabeth Lipman-Stern](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: No to offshore drilling
Date: Monday, June 25, 2012 11:18:45 AM

Dear Mr. Goeke,

I am against offshore drilling for oil and gas. Not only is environmentally unsafe, it is an unnecessary process. We must educate people to reduce their consumption, to reuse and recycle and we must create clean energy sources that are renewable.

I say no to offshore drilling!

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Lipman-Stern
Brooklyn, NY

From: [Angelica E. Braestrup](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: NO to Seismic Testing on the Atlantic Coast
Date: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 1:16:42 PM

The Atlantic Coast of the United States is home to a vast array of marine animals and ecosystems, freshwater animals and ecosystems, and human communities who have invested millions of dollars in the health of the resources that sustain them.

Seismic testing is just the beginning of the acoustical and other environmental harms that will accrue to some of the nations richest fisheries, estuaries, and wetland regions if Atlantic waters are industrialized. Hurricanes, nor'easters, and the other legendary storm systems of the Atlantic coast will add to the potential for disaster. It has been two years since the tragic loss of life due to Macondo and the oil is still showing up on beaches and in the skin of swimmers and fish alike.

On behalf of myself, my beach and ocean-loving children, and the communities of the Atlantic coast who depend on healthy ocean resources, I urge you to first do no harm. Leave the oil where it is for future generations of Americans, when perhaps the technology will no longer include barbaric acoustical torture of our ocean neighbors.

Angelica E. Braestrup
Washington, D.C.
angelb510@earthlink.net

From: [Gwenny](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: No!!!!!!!!!!
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 6:58:34 AM

This is a Ridiculous idea. I am asking you to please reconsider your plans.

Gwen Stone
346 Cozumel
Laguna beach, ca 92651
714-296-4646

From: chancergould@aol.com
To: [G&GEIS; pamela.gould@dcma.mil](mailto:pamela.gould@dcma.mil); segould9@gmail.com
Subject: Ocean Exploration off the Mid-Atlantice
Date: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 11:27:34 AM

To Gary Goeke and Staff,

As a resident of NJ I feel the urgent need to make my sentiments known about the proposal for Atlantic Ocean seismic exporation and drilling. The only alternative to be considered is "ALTERNATIVE C" - NO SEISMIC TESTING ALLOWED. I have read the studies conducted by BOEM and investigated many other sources of information in addition. I am not one to write to government figures or agencies routinely, but this is an extreme concern for our generation and those to come and possibly for the long term health of the oceans and the planet and therefore any citizen with a brain and a conscience needs to speak out. There is no way to determine the long term affects on the oceans and the marine life that will be caused by such testing and drilling. We have not been at this science long enough to know the real affects. We could seriously damage the ecosystem, food chains (of which we are apart), and cause repairable harm. Not to mention that we could be destroying many other livelihoods (the various fishing industries and tourism and all the other professions that depend on these industries) and professions that have been a part of our heritage and human existence for the selfish short sightedness of an oil industry that has no stake in the outcome except increased profits. The oil industry has not been a good steward of our resources; the BP oil spill is just one example of the disregard for the risks in favor of profits. Theodore Roosevelt said it best - "Here is your country. Cherish these natural wonders, cherish the natural resources, cherish the history and romance as a sacred heritage, for your children and your children's children. Do not let selfish men or greedy interests skin your country of its beauty, its riches or its romance."

Please do not allow this harmful, destructive testing to place off our shores.

Pamela Gould
683 Bogert Rd.
River Edge, NJ 07661

From: [Kitty Mitchell](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#); [Gary Mitchell](#); [Marcy Brenner](#); [David Tweedie](#); [Caitlin Mitchell](#); [Cynthia Mitchell](#)
Subject: Off shore drilling
Date: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 4:59:19 PM

We want to do this to our seafood and our swimmers? Really?

<http://www.commondreams.org/headline/2012/04/18-1>

Catherine M. Mitchell
Ocracoke Island NC

From: [Larry Wright](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Off shore oil drilling
Date: Monday, April 23, 2012 1:54:27 PM

I am writing to say that there should be no more offshore oil drilling. We should focus on wind and solar energy more. I have many reasons for not wanting to see any offshore drilling but I'm sure you are not interested in them. So just let it be known that I am against any more off shore drilling anywhere.

Thanks for reading this(if you do).
Shelia Wright
Fairfax, Va 22032

From: [Norman Skipper](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Off-shore drilling a possibility off Florida"s coast
Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 5:58:24 AM

It creates high paying jobs, I am all for it. I have worked in the industry and safety and the environment are most important. Drill!!!
Norm skipper

From: [Gary Mitchell](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Off-shore drilling in Georgia
Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 6:18:47 AM

Dear Mr. Goeke,

After what happened in the Gulf of Mexico, I cannot understand how anyone would consider off shore drilling in the last clean waters off of our coast. I live on the Outer Banks of North Carolina and I know that any disaster that occurs in Georgia will affect us.

After the Gulf oil spill, a friend of ours who had a restaurant on Dauphin Island in Alabama moved back to Ocracoke, because her business was destroyed by the spill. The seafood was destroyed, the beaches were polluted and even the air was poisonous. The clean up was covered up by using poisonous chemicals to disperse in secret at night. The people there could hear the planes at night spraying and were threatened and physically prevented from photographing or viewing most of the clean up efforts. The chemical sprays have been causing respiratory illness in residents all along the Gulf coast.

Since the clean up, seafood has officially been declared safe. My friend said she wouldn't eat it and she could not in good conscience sell it in her seafood restaurant. So she closed her restaurant on the Gulf coast and came back to North Carolina. If you don't know where your frozen seafood comes from, you shouldn't eat it either.

The Macondo well was an exploratory well. So to say we are only exploring, does not make it safe. Even the sonic exploration is harmful to sea life.

It is way past time for human beings to look for safe renewable forms of energy.

Thank you for listening,
Catherine M. Mitchell
Ocracoke Island NC

From: [Angela Franke](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: offshore drilling in NC
Date: Thursday, April 26, 2012 8:03:12 AM

The subject of offshore drilling in NC has been brought to my attention. These barrier islands along the coast are pristine and filled with wildlife. The people of NC do not want to see anything happen to these wonderful beaches and wildlife. Please reconsider testing and drilling for oil in the waters of NC. Alternative energy is the better choice. Please think about what the people want.

Thank you for your consideration,
Angela Robinson Franke

From: [Susan Savia](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Offshore Drilling North Carolina
Date: Monday, April 30, 2012 1:43:31 PM

Dear Mr. Goeke,

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my concerns about testing for off-shore drilling along the coast of North Carolina. After reading up on the impacts to marine life, I am strongly opposed to the high-intensity seismic air gun testing. Our coastal waters have dolphins, porpoises and some whales species, all of which are sensitive to the noise these air guns produce. The science is clear. These underwater blasts can hinder migration, feeding and communication. The Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement conducted by your agency clearly recognizes the expected negative impact on ocean dwelling mammal populations, even with the establishment of protective "exclusion zones."

I am concerned about the environmental impacts of this testing as well as drilling. It is so important to preserve our oceans for future generations and consider the ocean life and its habitat. We really should be focusing our efforts on sustainable and cleaner sources of energy before it's too late.

Thank you in advance for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,
Susan Savia

From: [Jennifer Downey](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: offshore drilling on the U.S. Atlantic and Gulf coasts -- public comment
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 1:34:03 PM

I am against offshore drilling for petroleum exploration and extraction. I believe that the health and well-being of the people of this planet, and our children -- not to mention the oceanic and coastal ecosystems -- are endangered by the extraction, production, and use of petroleum. Now it has come to my attention that seismic exploration for oil has been shown to cause death in dolphins -- and so I must extrapolate that it causes death in other marine life as well. This, to me, is unacceptable. I request that you please stop this practice.

Thank you.

Jennifer Downey, A.P., Dipl.OM.
Gainesville Community Acupuncture
726 NW 8th Avenue, Suite A
Gainesville, FL 32601
tel: (352) 745-2977
fax: (352) 335-0554

From: [jamie fitton](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Offshore Drilling
Date: Friday, May 18, 2012 6:27:53 PM

To whom it may concern.

Please no more exploration for oil. Please put any and all funds towards alternative energy development.

Thank you.
Jamie
139 Elm Street
Amesbury, MA 01913

Jamie L. Fitton

From: [Stephanie Usery](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Off-shore Drilling
Date: Monday, April 23, 2012 2:38:54 PM

Dear BOEM,

I lived in Savannah, Georgia for nearly 10 years and am deeply disturbed to hear of the drilling plans. Please count my voice against this proposition, we need a clean Earth more than we need oil. I do not wish to see oil rigs when I am boating in the ocean. I go there to escape the footprint of mankind.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Usery

Stephanie Usery : Graphic Designer : Social Media Marketing Expert : Artist : Friend

[UseryArt.com](#) :: [Exquisite Corpse Drawing Game](#)

"Be kind; everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle." - **John Watson**

From: [R. H. NEWMAN](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: OFFSHORE EXPLORATION
Date: Tuesday, June 05, 2012 4:59:49 PM

Gary Goeke
Chief, Regional Assessment Section
Office of Environment (MS 5410)
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

RE: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities

Dear Mr. Goeke:

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management should move forward expeditiously to finalize the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement with the proposed action. The Atlantic Ocean could hold tremendous potential for oil & gas development as well as for renewable energy, and the Bureau should proceed with a full survey of these resources and begin to plan for future development.

The federal government must allow for seismic studies to be conducted in an environmentally-friendly manner so that proper resource assessments can be made to support future lease sales. According to a 2006 Minerals Management Service assessment, the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf could contain somewhere between 1.12 billion and 7.57 billion barrels of oil and between 14.30 and 66.46 trillion cubic feet of gas. These estimates, however, are just estimates. The Atlantic can be a viable source of oil and gas development as well as renewable energy; however, much more exploration is needed to better understand what role offshore energy development in the Atlantic could play in our national energy strategy.

Exploration of the Atlantic is the first step towards accessing a potentially vital source of energy for American energy consumers. Coastal states and industry have expressed significant interest in tapping into these resources to bolster their states' economies, create jobs and boost our nation's energy security. According to a 2011 Woods Mackenzie study, oil and gas development in the Atlantic OCS could generate up to 140,000 jobs and \$14 billion in government revenue annually.

At a time of high unemployment and increasing budget deficits, the federal government should support efforts to increase American energy production. In addition to proceeding with exploration in the Atlantic, I would urge the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and the federal government to evaluate ways to move forward with leasing in the Atlantic now.

In addition new legislation should be pushed to restrict the spurious and delaying suits from the enviro-flakes. Anything developed by the government to further exploration will be hamstrung by these useless suits. Or is it the case that you like this?

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincere,

R.H. & C.D. Newman
Jacksonville, FL 32225

From: [Lisa Wisner](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Offshore testing
Date: Friday, April 27, 2012 8:49:55 AM

I am 34 years old and this "oil crisis" has been going since before i was born. As a child I never thought this problem would still be an issue into my adulthood. I was comforted by the presumption that the grown ups running things would solve it. I was wrong.

My family and I relocated to Wilmington, NC from Chicago, IL two years ago. The biggest draw for us is the beautiful North Carolina coast line. If there had been offshore testing with the possibility of drilling back then, we would never have made the move. This is true for many residents and vacationers. I don't see how it's practical to spend all this time and money on testing for oil and gas, which will inevitably lead to drilling and hydro-fracking, on an energy source that is polluting our air and water supply and is unsustainable. When I heard last night that a year has been spent in just preparing the proposed document, I was taken aback.

If we put half the effort into clean renewable energy and join the other countries who have already taken the lead, we could surpass them all and be leaders in something good. Renewable energy can provide more jobs, is of no harm to marine life and there for posts no threat the people and businesses who depend on that marine life, would much better prepare us for the future and give out kids a chance at a future independent of oil. We can't keep passing the same problems onto the next generation, our children and grand children.

I strongly support Alternative C and hope you take this into serious consideration.

Thank you,

Lisa Wisner
Wilmington, NC

From: [Rose Marie Eckert](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Cc: emee@oceana.org
Subject: Oil and gas exploration impact
Date: Thursday, June 21, 2012 7:49:07 PM

Please take the steps necessary to keep dangerous oil and gas exploration off our coasts and instead focus on developing renewable energy. Seismic testing has a huge environmental footprint. It is known that airgun noise is loud enough to mask whale calls over literally thousands of miles. It is estimated by the current administration that over a period of eight years seismic exploration would injure up to 138,500 marine mammals and disrupt marine mammal feeding, calving, breeding, and other vital activities. This is unacceptable.

In addition to the negative effects on marine mammals, oil and gas exploration off the coasts would undoubtedly lead to economic losses. Commercial and recreational fishing off the mid-and southeast Atlantic generates \$11.8 billion annually and supports 222,000 jobs. Fishermen in some parts of the world where seismic testing is already occurring are seeking industry compensation for their losses.

Offshore wind development will create more jobs and more energy than offshore oil drilling – energy that is guaranteed to stay right here in the U.S.

Please consider the impact of oil and gas exploration off our coasts and reject this program in its entirety.

Thank you for your consideration. Rose Marie Eckert

From: [jb](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Oil development on the southeastern Atlantic Coast
Date: Thursday, May 03, 2012 9:24:04 AM

To Whom This concerns:

Please reject any and all efforts by the oil industry and their friends to enter and/or expand the industry's activities in and around Florida's Atlantic as well as Gulf coasts.

Should the oil industry engage in a good faith effort to fix and/or repair a highway system that did little more and nothing less than enrich them and their investors, then I may change my mind. Until that unlikely time arrives, just say no to business practices that literally take life and limb to promote an otherwise irresponsible industry.

Sincerely,

Joel B. McEachern
1545 Sunset Circle
Mount Dora, FL 32757

From: [Ward Brown](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: oil exploration permits
Date: Saturday, June 16, 2012 10:10:54 AM

As someone living on the coast of South Carolina, I am totally against allowing even the exploration for oil and gas deposits. The devastation of the waters, coastline and salt marshes of the Gulf area due to the Horizon disaster has still not been fully realized. I would really prefer not to have tar balls floating up in the salt marsh behind my home.

As oil becomes harder and harder to extract, the price of crude goes higher and higher. This is fine for the oil companies, they can just charge more, since there is little alternative that consumers have. What is needed is a larger commitment to renewable energy sources, not more carbon based energy that continues to add to climate change.

Deep water drilling is simply not worth the risk of the damage that is possible.

From: [Casey Eckles](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Cc: [MaryBeth Burton](#); [Michael Heimbach](#); [Scott Burton](#); [Vicki Eckels](#); [Manijeh Caldwell](#); [Veezie Lu](#); [Kristen Hoss](#); [Cheryl Miller](#); [C SUNDQUIST](#); [EMEE@OCEANA.ORG](#); [valerie amor](#); [ACUDOC11@aol.com](#); [Tom Andrew](#); [Nanette Saylor](#); [Leona McAndrews](#); [lialisafrew@bellsouth.net](#); [David Goboff](#); [ROBERT and CLAUDIA KARP](#); [Dan Warren](#); [D'Artagnan](#); [Nikki Saraiva](#); [Johnny Yuen](#); [Charlene Francis](#); [Barry Heimlich FEI](#); [Doug Young](#)
Subject: OPPOSE Seismic Testing
Date: Sunday, June 10, 2012 1:32:58 PM

THIS testing involves sending extremely loud sound pulses through the ocean floor, is highly injurious for marine mammals, and is only necessary as a pre-cursor to offshore drilling. Oceana strongly opposes seismic testing, especially in areas that were previously protected from offshore drilling, like the East Coast. Public comments can be emailed to GGEIS@boem.gov through July 2, 2012.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS SEISMIC TESTING AND FIND IT APPALLING THAT WE CONTINUE TO OVERLOOK THE WELL-BEING OF ALL EARTH'S LIVING THINGS IN THE INSATIABLE QUEST FOR OIL THAT PRODUCES OBSCENE PROFITS FOR THE FEW. WE NEED ENERGY BUT IF ENERGY CORPORATIONS CARED THEY WOULD INVEST IN THE FUTURE, NOT THEMSELVES. WE THE PEOPLE MUST TAKE STAND TOGETHER FOR WHAT IS FOR THE HIGHEST GOOD FOR THE PLANET.

I WILL BE ENCOURAGING EVERYONE WHO CARES LIKE I DO TO JOIN ME.

ceckels@bellsouth.net

From: [Steven Taylor](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Opposed to oil drilling in the Atlantic Ocean
Date: Tuesday, May 22, 2012 7:30:38 AM

I am opposed to oil drilling off the North American coast but will support alternative sources of energy such as wind, solar and geothermal.

Steven Taylor
Ayers Creek Adventures Kayak & Canoe

"Escape to a quiet world of abundant natural beauty."

www.ayerscreekadventures.com

443-513-0889

888-602-6288

8628 Grey Fox Lane
Berlin, MD 21811

From: [nature_gurl](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Opposed to Seismic Testing
Date: Saturday, April 28, 2012 9:11:20 AM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to express my opposition to the seismic testing along the New Jersey coastline. As a resident of the state and of the shore community Ventnor and as a naturalist and conservationist, I am vehemently opposed to this type of testing in our ocean. These tests will injure, upset, damage and/or kill many marine animals living in this area.

The data is there and the effects of this type of testing have been seen around the world, most recently in Peru.

Please do not test in our oceans. New Jersey needs our oceans for fishing, recreation, tourism and more. Please consider this when making your decisions.

Thank you,

Mary Lenahan
126 N Troy Avenue
Ventnor, NJ 08406

From: [Bud Long](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Opposition to seismic testing in Atlantic Ocean
Date: Thursday, May 03, 2012 11:40:03 AM

I would like to submit my comments regarding the proposed seismic testing for the Atlantic coast. First of all, as a coastal resident in Florida and an employee of local cruise line, I am opposed to any offshore drilling for oil along the Atlantic Coast. I do not wish to see our beaches and our local waters being put at risk of pollution and destruction by possible oil spills and even the normal leakage that occurs with any offshore drilling operation. Our economy and my livelihood would be in jeopardy if this was allowed. Also, the seismic testing itself has been shown to be harmful to many marine species. The testing is known to disrupt the communication and hearing of many marine mammals, fish, and other sea life. Their survival can be seriously compromised by this type of testing. I am strongly opposed to any attempts to use this type of testing along the Atlantic coast of the United States, and I am adamantly opposed to the allowance of any oil drilling that could impact the important tourism economy that we have spent decades in building here in Florida. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Bud Long
660 Alaska Rd
Merritt Island, FL 32920

From: [Cochran, Alyssa Taylor](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: opposition to seismic testing
Date: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 6:39:49 PM

As a resident of Wilmington, NC, I am opposed to seismic testing off our coast. It is dangerous to the marine life and we do not need oil rigs to ruin our beautiful coastline.

Sincerely,
Alyssa Cochran

From: [Barry](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: planed seismic testing
Date: Friday, June 22, 2012 9:12:46 AM

With regard to planned seismic testing, please note-

Over the next eight years – according to the administration's own estimates – seismic exploration would injure up to **138,500 marine mammals** and disrupt marine mammal feeding, calving, breeding, and other vital activities more than **13.5 million times**.

Commercial and recreational fishing off the mid-and southeast Atlantic (not including New Jersey) generates **\$11.8 billion annually and supports 222,000 jobs**.

Fishermen in some parts of the world where seismic testing is already occurring are seeking industry compensation for their losses.

As a lover of the Oceans I ask that you rethink this plan-

Thanks,

Barry Holeve

From: imdagit@comcast.net
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Please adopt Alternative C
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 7:18:51 PM

Please adopt Alternative C and please do not do seismic testing in our oceans.
Please protect the whales and dolphins.

Thank you,

Louise

From: [Eric & Leandra Ziecheck](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Please do not allow seismic exploration for oil in Atlantic Ocean
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 4:33:13 PM

Dear Mr. Gary D. Goeke,

Thank you for your service in a public position that I imagine has balance between what is good for all people and what is promised by strong financial institutions. I am writing in opposition of seismic investigation for oil off the east coast of the USA. In particular I am a resident of St. Johns County. I have lived, worked and played along the coast of Florida to include Brevard, Volusia, St. Johns and Duval counties.

Please do not allow seismic exploration in the Atlantic Ocean for offshore drilling. We have too much to loose. The monetary value of our tourism industry, fishing industry, seafood industry is growing into the billions of dollars each year.

I realize the challenging economic times as well as the eventual decline of our oil from within and around the globe creates a major crisis. However, I believe this is our tipping point to continue cultivation of alternative resources, behaviors and methods towards a better future.

The potential destruction to the natural resources along the Atlantic coastline will exceed the short value that oil will bring. We need to think fifty, one hundred to one hundred and fifty years with hopefully even many more productive years. The impacts that offshore oil drilling will create are not worth risking the opportunity for all life to flourish along the coastlines. Eventually the oil dries up but the coastlines will remain is some although dynamically changing. Our future depends on our decision making to do everything possible to continue protection of the natural resources and healthy ecosystems. In the long range the value and revenue generated from these healthy systems will exceed the immediate perspective for oil.

Please protect the coastlines, as well as the quality of life for all life. Please end the discussions for offshore exploration in the Atlantic Ocean for oil.

I have appreciated your time,

Eric Ziecheck

747 Needle Grass Drive

St. Augustine, Florida 32086

904-797-4839

From: [Kristin Kline](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Please Do Not Seismically Test In the Ocean!
Date: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 10:02:11 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

Please do not seismically test for oil and gas reserves in the ocean floor. The potential financial gain is greatly outweighed by the tragic loss of marine life that would ensue if you carried out your testing plans. Let's focus on other ways to create and conserve energy.

Gratefully,
Kristin Kline
964 Lambertson Street
Trenton, NJ 08611
609.989.8110 home
908.229.0978 mobile

From: [Dan Kahn](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: please no seismic testing!
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 10:56:47 AM

Please let's allow our cetacean cousins to evolve along with us, and give the rest of the planet a break, by ceasing our search for new fossil fuels - particularly when those searches are likely to have severe impacts on sea creatures.

Please eschew seismic testing in our oceans.
Thank You,

Dan Kahn

From: [Jacqueline Griffin](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Please please no drilling
Date: Thursday, April 19, 2012 12:55:05 AM

To whom it may concern at the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management,

I support Alternative C, no seismic exploration and no drilling off our coast. My name is Jacqueline Griffin. I am a 25 year old, Nursing school student....hard worker and Florida native. I grew up in the Everglades and am FREAKING out about what I am hearing about the drilling that could start to happen/is being talk about. Please, can we do SOMETHING so that my future kids and their kids and THEIR kids can have clean water to drink and play in....surf in....fish.....etc.

Thank you kindly for you time and efforts,

Jacqueline Griffin

352 318 7559

From: [Eric Ziecheck](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Cc: rippleeffectecotours@gmail.com
Subject: Please Sir, NO Seismic Drilling
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 4:31:54 PM

Dear Mr. Gary D. Goeke,

We are blessed with beautiful coastlines along the east coast of the USA. Many of these coastlines have dynamic and healthy ecosystems. One such ecosystem is the southern boundary of the National Estuarine Research Reserve, known as GTM NERR. This area is one of the "richest" areas for the "web of life" and "food chain". We also have the University of Florida's Whitney Marine Bio-Science Labs that provide worldwide research and relies on the healthy ecosystems that surround the Matanzas inlet and GTM NERR, as well as the Atlantic Ocean.

I realize the challenging economic times as well as the eventual decline of our oil from within and around the globe creates a major crisis. However, I believe this is our tipping point to continue cultivation of alternative resources, behaviors and methods towards a better future. Please do not allow seismic exploration in the Atlantic Ocean for offshore drilling.

Please visit St. Johns County and please contact me. I will provide you, family and or friends a first hand tour of the southern boundary of the Matanzas Basin also known as the GTM NERR. You will be able to see firsthand all the beauty that nature offers. We balance leisure with environmental education during our ecotours and we wish to have you as our guest..

We do not need to create man made harm to this area. Again, please do not allow seismic exploration in the Atlantic Ocean for offshore drilling.

Share the Ripple Effect with friends, thank you....

Eric Ziecheck
Assistant Manager
Stewardship and Education
eric@rippleeffectecotours.com
www.rippleeffectecotours.com
904-347-1565
101 Tolstoy Lane
St. Augustine, Fl. 32080
www.marinelandmarina.com

From: biomusicmm@aol.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: please stop seismic exploration
Date: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 5:03:42 PM

Hi, I'm Margo Wolfson, NJ resident, mother of three, teacher in community college. Writing to urge NOT to go forward with seismic exploration of the Atlantic. This threatens our future and will devastate marine communities on which our shore depends. It will harm marine mammals, turtles, harm fishing and diving, and just encourage more unsustainable energy use. For the sake of our future and our kids, please stop this before it starts.
Thanks.

From: [Linda](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement
Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 11:51:11 AM



To who this should concern,

I can't believe that I am again asked to write about the safety for our Marine Mammals. I am distraught over this decision.

Again, we are caught with our pants down in trying to push forward an idea brought forth in a package as a kinder and gentle approach in destroying our brother, the Ocean.

OK Hear this, you are sitting in front of your television listening to your favorite sports or TV program, suddenly a high pitched long annoying buzz comes aggressively into your living room. It is announced that this is a test. It is agitating and invasive. You have a choice to turn it off, leave the room, change the station. Marine life can not make that choice!!!! They have no where to go!!!

You say that, "overall impacts on marine mammals from seismic airgun surveys are expected to be moderate." What is moderate? MODERATE SCARES ME!!! That is telling me that there are impacts. ARE EXPECTED SCARES ME!!! Expected to me means we are not totally confident. We have so many attacks on the ocean right now. Over fishing (thank you Chicken of the Sea), oil spills, trash, pollution, and so on. When is enough ~ enough? This little thing won't hurt, this little impact is nothing, this won't cause pollution, we won't lose "hardly" any life in this.

This is not only the whales, turtles, birds, fish, coral and so on home, it is yours!!!

Be proud, stand up, take a stand. Save the future.
Be different, come out of box, walk on water!!!
Do it for me, do it for you and most importantly
do it for the WORLD we live in.
It's water, take care of it.

God said, you are the steward!! Come on now US
NAVY, MAKE US PROUD!!!!!!

Thank you for listening and caring!!!!!!

Linda Horton
13621 SW 101 Lane
Miami, Florida 33186

305-710-1957
lindahorton1210@live.com



From: [Bill Stokes](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Prohibit Seismic Survey Ships
Date: Wednesday, May 02, 2012 1:34:32 PM

Geophysical operations used in petroleum exploration result in a number of adverse impacts on a wide variety of marine life and important seafloor fish habitat. Ship-based geophysical seismic surveys using towed multiple "airgun" arrays involve the use of very powerful explosive impulses occurring every 10-15 seconds, hour after hour, for weeks, and sometimes months, on end. In order to gather geologic profiles from seabed rock structures, seismic survey vessels tow long cables which trail 24 or more of these airguns - and multiple acoustic transducers - for the purpose of emitting and receiving intense sound waves to evaluate subsea geologic formations. The sound source is a repetitive series of explosions created by high-pressure gas airguns, which constantly send a sharp spike of loud acoustic pulses through the water and deep into the seafloor.

Airgun arrays produce noise at frequencies that are especially concentrated in the range from 20 to 150 Hz, which is within the communication and hearing range of many marine species, including the endangered great whales. This broadband noise can impact a wide range of marine mammals, fish, and other sea life. Geophysical survey ships crisscross each prospective seafloor target area numerous times to gather high-resolution seismic traces from their transducers along thousands of miles of seismic trackline.

Dramatic changes in the behavioral responses of fishes and marine mammals to loud underwater noises in the ocean have long been observed. For decades, commercial fishermen have reported numerous occurrences of a "startle" behavioral response in schools of fish from an area being targeted by seismic surveys, leading to losses in catch. Damage to the swim bladder (the flotation organ that many fish use to mediate their buoyancy and hear sounds) has also been reported in association with seismic survey activities.

Since fish rely on their ability to hear to find mates, locate prey, and avoid predators, their survival is seriously compromised by airgun damage. Interactions between seismic survey vessels and endangered whale, sea turtle, and fish populations are considered to represent an "incidental take" under the federal Endangered Species Act. These kinds of impacts, right on top of the lush seafloor canyons and delicate coldwater coral gardens along our coast, cannot be considered benign.

Bill Stokes
Realtor/Consultant
727-403-3571
Keller Williams Saint Petersburg
Tampa Bay's Largest - America's Second Largest
111 2nd Avenue NE - Suite 400
Saint Petersburg, Florida 33701
billstokes@kw.com www.stpeterealestatesales.com

From: [Lin](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: PROHIBIT SEISMIC TESTING
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 7:56:53 AM

PLEASE PROHIBIT SEISMIC TESTING

Please adopt *Alternative C* & prohibit seismic testing in our oceans. Government must stop being reckless with our environment.

L. Hibbs, Little Egg Harbor, NJ

From: [Anne Armstrong](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: proposal to open the Atlantic Ocean to seismic testing.
Date: Sunday, May 27, 2012 1:44:42 PM

I am strongly opposed to opening our Atlantic Ocean to any exploratory seismic testing. By allowing this dangerous and irresponsible procedure to be used, we will be putting into action an irreversible, devastating chain of events that threatens the very existence of all marine mammals, sea turtles, and fish. Even the Industry acknowledges that the testing could do great harm. Look at the connection between the thousands of dead dolphins washing up on Peru's beaches and the seismic testing being done there. We risk destroying our planet and its ability to continue to nourish and feed all of the earth's population. We need all of our oceans to be healthy and viable so both human and marine life as we know it can continue to exist.

All this under the guise of becoming energy dependant. The oil and gas that is collected doesn't necessarily stay in our country to be used here, it is often sold to the highest bidder. Look at how Mother Nature manages all life on this planet. Everything is used and recycled, allowing the chain of life to continue indefinitely. It is a perfectly balanced system.

When are we going to realize that by violating the Earth that Nature created, we put ourselves on a collision course with our own man made destruction.

Again I strongly oppose any exploratory seismic testing in the Atlantic Ocean, and in any of the other Seas and Oceans, and hope that you will not allow this unnatural procedure to take place.

Anne C. Armstrong 8 North Bay Avenue, Manahawkin, NJ 08050

From: [Boyd Patty \(DeIDOT\)](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Proposed drilling off the Delaware shores
Date: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 8:23:55 AM

I support Alternative C - the No Action Alternative required by the regulations implementing NEPA. Alternatives A & B would NOT adequately protect the Mid-Atlantic region against offshore exploration and subsequent extraction activities.

I am NOT in favor of offshore exploratory drilling and production, which can create significant quantities of waste that contain toxic and radioactive pollutants, all of which can contaminate fish and marine life consumed by humans (me and my family).

Offshore drilling will really not have any impact on gas prices, but it will have a negative impact on our coastal environment and wildlife, or in other words my state and home.

Patty Boyd
600 New Rd.
Wilmington, DE 19805

From: [BONNIE MONTELEONE](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Proposed Geological and Geophysical Activities in the Mid and South Atlantic Planning Areas
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 7:17:29 AM

Please listen,

We have the evidence that seismic testing kills marine mammals. Just because it took weeks for the bodies to wash in after the testing in Peru does not mean the testing had nothing to do with the death. Quoted from Derek Haper, Atlantic City, Atlantic City resident Tom Forkin testified while holding up a picture of a dozen dead dolphins he said washed ashore in Peru this month following seismic testing.

"When you look at the dolphins, there is blood pouring out of their ears," Forkin said. "Just think of the impact that is being done to the environment."

He was one of almost 30 people who told the three-person panel from the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management that they oppose the proposal. They outnumbered supporters nearly 10-1."

Off the coast of Hatteras, research on the abundance of marine mammals that pass through and congregate off the coast of North Carolina proves to be teeming with the very mammals that were severely impacted by the seismic testing near Peru. If an event happens like that here, especially on the heels of the BP oil spill, the people will be up in arms and the American people will bare witness to a crime against nature. We do not need to question the negative potential impact of such testing.

We have already seen what will happen if we continue with this testing. Marine mammals such as whales and dolphins take many years to reach sexual maturity with a 11-12 month gestation period giving birth to one calf. Much like humans, not like fish that spawn rapidly. It takes much longer for marine mammals to increase or replenish their numbers.

DO NOT DO SEISMIC testing. Put our tax dollars into alternative energy like wind, solar, and waste to energy.

Why are tax dollars paying for the dirty work for the oil and gas industry in the first place? These corporations receive the largest subsidies and are the richest companies in the world. Perhaps I have answered my own question. Greed and our government intertwined like a two headed snake. May we find a way out of the clutches of the oil industry and let it start with the US Department of Interior Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.

If we continue with the ocean abuse, perhaps the dolphin should be used for your logo. It was our government that nearly annihilated the bison and yet is used for your logo.

Bonnie Monteleone

Chemistry Department

University of North Carolina Wilmington

4210 Wilshire Blvd

Unit 304 B.

Wilmington, NC 28403

From: [Christine M. Csatory](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Public commentary seismic testing
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 11:54:14 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to bring to your attention that I have received feedback from several persons that your email address does not work; that the emails sent bounced back as undeliverable. I am involved with an environmental group concerned with the health of oceans and have posted your link several times to alert people to the possibility for public commentary. I advised them to try again.

A few Persons reported that it seems they were after all able to send an email. so I did not write you again earlier. However today once again I received feedback that emails have bounced back. So all in all it seems a rather questionable and dotty process to be able to ascertain how many emails you actually received or did not receive considering your email address did not receive all, many or even any of the comments sent.

I note that the current email that you provide is different than the earlier one you provided even last week, in that it is in capital letters and has a period point at the end.

I would highly recommend that you VOID your results, and give consideration to the idea that the chance for public commentary was unfair and hardly worthy of such a significant subject as opening up the entire Eastern Coast to Oil Exploration.

I would recommend that you extend the process and do so very publicly to allow all those that have put time and effort and care into expressing their concerns the possibility to reissue their sentiment.

Best regards,

Ch. Cs.

From: [Chris McCaffity](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#); [pat.mcelraft@ncleg.net](#); [thom.tillis@ncleg.net](#); [governor.office@nc.gov](#); [joshua.bowlen@mail.house.gov](#); [asktheleader@mail.house.gov](#); [sue_wink@hagan.senate.gov](#); [aaron_suntag@hagan.senate.gov](#); [americanvoices@mail.house.gov](#); [brittany_mchale@burr.senate.gov](#); [bradley_ryon@mail.house.gov](#); [briano@ncoffshorewind.org](#); [ballengerj@dnr.sc.gov](#); [carolyn_belcher@dnr.state.ga.us](#); [chad_tilley@burr.senate.gov](#); [colemank@email.unc.edu](#); [clark.alexander@skio.usg.edu](#); [dave.whaley@mail.house.gov](#); [eric.johnson@unf.edu](#); [eric_wilson@burr.senate.gov](#); [inshoreflorida@gmail.com](#); [john.boreman@ncsu.edu](#); [kmathis3@ec.rr.com](#); [kara_weishaar@burr.senate.gov](#); [katherine_hanes@burr.senate.gov](#); [lgould@ec.rr.com](#); [louis.daniel@ncdenr.gov](#); [melissa_midgett@hagan.senate.gov](#); [matthew_dockham@burr.senate.gov](#); [michelle.duval@ncdenr.gov](#); [moira_bagley@paul.senate.gov](#); [maryellen_simmons@mail.house.gov](#); [margaret_brooks@burr.senate.gov](#); [norman.sanderson@ncleg.net](#); [naturalresources@mail.house.gov](#); [phil.berger@ncleg.net](#); [polly_walker@burr.senate.gov](#); [patrick_brennan@hagan.senate.gov](#); [stratton.kirton@mail.house.gov](#); [sunrise@coastalnet.com](#); [senator@boxer.senate.gov](#); [senator@feinstein.senate.gov](#); [speakerboehner@mail.house.gov](#); [stephen_lassiter@hagan.senate.gov](#)
Subject: Public Comments for Proposed Geological and Geophysical Activities in the Mid- and South Atlantic
Date: Saturday, June 16, 2012 6:19:09 AM

Public Comments about the Environmental Analysis of Proposed Geological and Geophysical Activities in the Mid- and South Atlantic

My name is Chris McCaffity. I am a commercial fisherman from North Carolina. I have been dealing with multiple government bureaucracies and eco-charities funded in large part by global oil companies that are doing their best to destroy independent artisanal fishermen and advance a system of catch shares that would allocate our resources to a few well connected corporations. Many have speculated that the oil companies want to stop most commercial fishing and control any fisheries that are left to avoid law suites when oil spills occur. Based on my past experience I have ZERO confidence in government bureaucracy, eco-charities, or oil companies. I must object to any studies that will further the agenda of these entities. I also oppose doing these studies until we know if the UN's Law of the Sea Treaty (LOST) will be ratified by Congress. I respectfully ask everyone reading these public comments to ask your Senators to OPPOSE the UN's LOST scheme. The citizens of each state where resources are harvested from their offshore waters should be the ones to benefit rather than the dictators and terrorist nations that are part of the UN.

Please send any questions to: freefish7@hotmail.com Thank you.

From: [Kathy Mathis](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#); [pat.mcelraft@ncleg.net](#); [thom.tillis@ncleg.net](#); [governor.office@nc.gov](#); [joshua.bowlen@mail.house.gov](#); [asktheleader@mail.house.gov](#); [sue_wink@hagan.senate.gov](#); [aaron_suntag@hagan.senate.gov](#); [americanvoices@mail.house.gov](#); [brittany_mchale@burr.senate.gov](#); [bradley_ryon@mail.house.gov](#); [briano@ncoffshorewind.org](#); [ballengerj@dnr.sc.gov](#); [carolyn_belcher@dnr.state.ga.us](#); [chad_tilley@burr.senate.gov](#); [colemank@email.unc.edu](#); [clark.alexander@skio.usg.edu](#); [dave.whaley@mail.house.gov](#); [eric.johnson@unf.edu](#); [eric_wilson@burr.senate.gov](#); [inshoreflorida@gmail.com](#); [john.boreman@ncsu.edu](#); [kara_weishaar@burr.senate.gov](#); [katherine_hanes@burr.senate.gov](#); [lgould@ec.rr.com](#); [louis.daniel@ncdenr.gov](#); [melissa_midgett@hagan.senate.gov](#); [matthew_dockham@burr.senate.gov](#); [michelle.duval@ncdenr.gov](#); [moira_bagley@paul.senate.gov](#); [maryellen.simmons@mail.house.gov](#); [margaret_brooks@burr.senate.gov](#); [norman.sanderson@ncleg.net](#); [naturalresources@mail.house.gov](#); [phil.berger@ncleg.net](#); [polly_walker@burr.senate.gov](#); [patrick_brennan@hagan.senate.gov](#); [stratton.kirton@mail.house.gov](#); [sunrise@coastalnet.com](#); [senator@boxer.senate.gov](#); [senator@feinstein.senate.gov](#); [speakerboehner@mail.house.gov](#); [stephen_lassiter@hagan.senate.gov](#)
Cc: [Chris McCaffity](#)
Subject: Public Comments for Proposed Geological and Geophysical Activities in the Mid and South Atlantic
Date: Sunday, June 17, 2012 3:51:34 PM

Public Comments concerning the Environmental Analysis of Proposed Geological and Geophysical Activities in the Mid and South Atlantic

As commercial fisherman from North Carolina we are aware that multiple government bureaucracies and eco-charities funded in large part by global oil companies are doing their best to destroy independent artisanal fishermen and advance a system of catch shares that would allocate our resources to a few well connected corporations.

Many have speculated that the oil companies want to stop most commercial fishing and control any fisheries that are left to avoid law suites when oil spills occur.

Based on past experiences we have ZERO confidence in government bureaucracy, eco-charities, or oil companies; and must object to any studies that will further the agenda of these entities.

We also oppose doing these studies until we know if the UN's Law of the Sea Treaty (LOST) will be ratified by Congress. We respectfully ask everyone reading these public comments to ask your Senators to OPPOSE the UN's LOST scheme. The citizens of each state where resources are harvested from their offshore waters should be the ones to benefit rather than the dictators and terrorist nations that are part of the UN.

Sincerely,

*Capt. Gilbert & Kathy Mathis
Commercial Fishery Advocates
5120 Midyette Avenue
Morehead City NC 28557
252.726.7485 ><>*

No virus found in this message.

Checked by AVG - www.avg.com

Version: 2012.0.2180 / Virus Database: 2433/5072 - Release Date: 06/15/12

From: solarwave444@aol.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: public comments
Date: Wednesday, May 02, 2012 6:52:39 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

As a former Department of Interior employee for seven years with the federal park service, I would like to strongly voice against the seismic testing off the Atlantic coast.

There are mountains of research evidencing this as extremely damaging to marine life. This is absolutely terrible and pointless.

In no way form or fashion should marine life suffer just because a few greedy thoughtless humans want to exploit natural resources for their own personal greed and gain. It's simply evil in every way.

"As you know, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) has been holding public hearings on the East Coast on the proposed seismic testing for oil and gas and mineral sands. Evidence shows that such testing with airguns causes death and severe injury to marine mammals such as whales and dolphins and would displace and depress the catch rates of various species of fish."

Thank you for inviting, and listening to, public comment on this issue.

Patricia Kirby
1111 Spencer Ave.
Clearwater, FL 33756

In the interest of personal safety, my address is not for public release. Thank you.

From: tagibbsco@comcast.net
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: re. EIS for mid atlantic offshore exploration
Date: Friday, June 15, 2012 8:29:45 PM

To Whom It May concern, It has been brought to my attention that # tentative exploration plans are in the works for the area mentioned: A, B & C. I am in Favor of ONLY "C" .. The potential both for the IMPACT on Marine life as well as the Latent damage from Fossil Fuel Extraction is not in the long term interest of our country. Currently China is out spending the Us of A on renewable energy and as a decedent of the settlers of this Nation I find this Fact an Embarrassment! FURTHER MORE, fossil fuels are on the way out globally, I hope your committee takes this into consideration.

Thomas Ashley Gibbs, CA

From: 67Sooner76Duck@gmail.com
To: cta@consumerenergyalliance.org; [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: RE: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities
Date: Thursday, May 24, 2012 3:32:03 AM

Gary Goeke
Chief, Regional Assessment Section
Office of Environment (MS 5410)
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

RE: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities

Dear Mr. Goeke:

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management should finalize the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement with the proposed action. The Atlantic Ocean could hold tremendous potential for oil & gas development as well as for renewable energy, and the Bureau should proceed with a full survey of these resources and begin to plan for future development. The federal government must allow for seismic studies to be conducted in an environmentally-friendly manner so that proper resource assessments can be made to support future lease sales.

At a time of high unemployment and increasing budget deficits, the federal government should support efforts to increase American energy production. In addition to proceeding with exploration in the Atlantic, I would urge the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and the federal government to evaluate ways to move forward with leasing in the Atlantic now.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,
Ray Taylor
20120 Larkspur Ln Unit 84
West Linn, Oregon 97068

From: [April Gornik](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: RE: proposed seismic testing off NJ
Date: Tuesday, May 01, 2012 10:44:34 AM

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been working the last couple of years with Clean Ocean Action, to help protect the New York/New Jersey Bight from industrialization and ruin. The ocean directly offshore our two states has the greatest biodiversity in the Atlantic, and our fishing industries need our help and support. Seismic testing is only being done to see if oil is available, and no one wants oil wells and the potential for oil spills happening in our oceanic backyard.

I am totally opposed to such testing.

April Gornik
Sag Harbor, NY

From: [Stephen Veale](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: sea mapping
Date: Saturday, April 28, 2012 12:27:20 PM

As a lifetime resident of N.J., I would hope that the bureau decides to oppose the Federal Governments proposal to map the ocean bed off of our East Coast, for oil and natural gas. I feel that the methods used would be detrimental to our environment and sea life.

Regards,

Stephen Veale
2271 Franklin Drive
Vineland, N.J.
08361

From: [Laurel Stanley](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: seismic testing Atlantic comment
Date: Thursday, May 03, 2012 4:20:07 PM

Hello,

The federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) has proposed seismic testing for oil and gas and mineral sands in the Atlantic Ocean, in a large offshore area from New Jersey to Florida's space coast. Evidence shows that such testing with air guns causes death and severe injury to marine mammals such as whales and dolphins and would displace and depress the catch rates of various species of fish. Please do not approve this testing, due to the adverse impact on marine mammals and fish. Other risks include pollution from oil exploration and development.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Laurel Stanley
5663 Drake Loop Rd.
Middleburg, FL 32068
904-282-3133
duckpond24@yahoo.com*

From: [D.DeVan](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: seismic blasting
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 3:23:20 PM

To Whom it May Concern:

Please choose Alternative "C" - the "no-action" alternative. The seismic blasting is very damaging to our fishing industries, our sea mammals and sea turtles and our economy in North Carolina. I am opposed to oil and gas exploration.

Thank You,
Dru DeVan

From: [PASSARGE, ELKE](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic Blasting in the Atlantic:
Date: Monday, June 04, 2012 9:09:51 AM

Do we want the dolphins in our Atlantic waters to suffer the same fate as those in Peru?? At least 900 dolphins were killed there. The cause of death points to sound waves from seismic tests used to locate oil deposits. Please see this article as printed in the NY Times:

<http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/05/28/expert-links-dolphin-deaths-to-sonar-testing/>

I do not agree with the plan by the Obama Administration's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to open up the Atlantic Ocean to a decade of seismic surveys. These surveys send powerful soundwaves deep below the seafloor in an attempt to locate oil and gas reserves. The deafening blasts threaten marine life (from whales to shellfish), and will be detrimental to our NY/NJ diving, boating, tourism, and fishing economies.

Regards,
Elke

From: [Stephanie Sweeney](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: seismic exploration & offshore drilling
Date: Thursday, April 26, 2012 8:03:22 AM

As a Rodanthe, NC resident I oppose seismic exploration & offshore drilling. If you came to the Outer Banks of NC you would see many residents with bumper stickers saying "stuck here on purpose." We all live here because we love the coast. You would be destroying these coastal cities for their residents as well as decreasing the amount of tourism here, which is the life blood of our community. As you know, offshore drilling can release things like arsenic, mercury & lead back into our oceans. This could make our ocean unsafe for tourists & locals to surf in or to fish from. These are two of the main draws to our area. It is amazing that the senate could choose to close some of our beaches to driving & pets & kiteboarding to save some birds, but also allow seismic exploration where they know that it will disorient whales & harm sea mammals! These are reasons the average American is so frustrated by the government. Allow seismic exploration but not allowing driving on the beach is hypocritical of the government. You can't have it both ways. The increase in oil prices has pushed many Americans towards alternative fuel vehicles. There are now many options of electric cars out there. Let oil prices increase and other industries using oil will follow suit finding alternative fuel. Don't sacrifice our beaches & marine life for oil.

Thank you for your consideration,
Stephanie Sweeney

From: [Alberta Fuller](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic Exploration of the Ocean Floor along the Atlantic Seaboard
Date: Monday, May 14, 2012 2:28:06 PM

Dear Sir/Madam:

I strongly object to any seismic waves being employed to search for possible gas/oil drilling sites. We as a nation must seek to use renewable non-polluting sources of energy and the time to do so is long overdue. I urge you not to approve this unacceptable project which only serves the needs of know polluters.

Thank you for reading my concerns.

Cordially,
Richard P. Fuller, Citizen

From: [Mary Riddle](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: seismic exploration
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 10:58:32 PM

this practice will destroy, and is already destroying, ocean mammals. no one has the right to do this. they have just as much right to exist as we do. we need to focus on other cheaper, greener, readily available energy sources now or we will destroy the earth as a habitat for mankind. wake up!

From: [Ernest Eich](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic oil search - against
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 7:30:41 AM

To those concerned- we cannot envision all the ramifications of using this method to search for oil. I urge you to disallow seismic exploration from our oceans permanently. Others will certainly write lengthy tomes for you, but it is simply a mistake.

Ernest Paul Eich, IV
Charlotte, NC

From: [Sue Kuta](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic Testing - Alternative C
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 10:18:24 AM

Please adopt Alternative C, which would prohibit seismic testing in our oceans. If allowed, seismic testing would result in the deaths of thousands of dolphins and whales.

Sincerely,
Susan Kuta

From: phyllisandlee@comcast.net
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic testing
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 11:11:29 AM

Gentlemen:

I strongly urge you to vote for Alternative C in the vote for testing of our oceans. If allowed, seismic testing would result in the deaths of thousands of dolphins and whales.

Please give you vote extremely careful and thoughtful consideration.

Phyllis Ryan
10 E 24th Street
Barnegat Light, NJ 08006

From: [Philip Litow](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: seismic testing
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 2:20:32 PM

Please do not proceed with this harmful procedure. The results will be disastrous.

From: [Robuck, Anna Ruth](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic Testing commentary
Date: Thursday, April 26, 2012 12:21:28 PM

To whom it may concern:

I would like to take a moment to send my comments about the proposed seismic testing surveys suggested by the Department of the Interior. I am unable to attend the Wilmington meetings, yet I would still like my concerns to be noted. I am a Masters student in Marine Science at UNCW, and based on my scientific experience, the seismic testing off the coast should not be undertaken until quantitative knowledge exists about how these surveys impact marine life. Presumably, the impacts will be negative, yet this needs to be definitively figured out before blasts of air are shot willy-nilly into the waters. North Carolina and the Wilmington area are so dependent on tourism; people flock to our coast to enjoy the beautiful waters, diving, fishing, and boating opportunities. Seismic testing that disturbs the marine ecosystems that our tourism is based on will only hurt local economies in an already rough economic time. For example, who wants to invest in expensive dive trips when all the fish are gone, having fled from the seismic testing disturbance? The ecosystem and economic impacts of a seismic testing survey need to be quantitatively considered; when this is done, I believe it will prove extremely deleterious to conduct these surveys.

Furthermore, the long-term solution of offshore drilling is something that does not "co-exist" with North Carolina's current coastal economy. Yes, more oil reserves could be found and used, but what's the point of that oil if it can't be drilled safely and without damaging local ecosystems? Congress has taken NO steps to make offshore drilling safer or to ensure the prevention of future disasters like Deepwater Horizon. Even one oil spill off our coast would devastate coastal economies, seriously degrade marsh and wetlands that are vital to our coast as hurricane buffers, and decimate marine life to unknown degrees. Offshore drilling is not a viable solution to the current energy question, as the oil would come at too high of an economic and ecosystem price.

Seismic testing should not proceed off the North Carolina coast.

Thank you,

Anna Robuck
Wrightsville Beach, NC

From: [Kensie Whitfield](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic Testing for Oil
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 6:04:56 AM

to whom it may concern,

Please stop the seismic testing for oil that is going along the East Coast. I don't want the dolphins and other sea mammals to perish due to our quest for cheap sources of energy.

--

Kensie Whitfield

From: [Ginger Taylor](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: seismic testing in the Atlantic
Date: Wednesday, May 23, 2012 12:39:43 PM

Dear Mr. Goeke:

My name is Ginger Taylor and I attended the public hearing you held in Wilmington, NC regarding seismic testing on the East Coast.

I do not support seismic testing off the east coast, so if I have to choose an option, it would be alternative C. However, I have reservations about even supporting that. Please consider my comments below.

I am 40 years old, a resident of NC and a licensed clinical social worker. In addition to my job, I volunteer with Wrightsville Beach Sea Turtle Project and the Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Hospital.

Although I am not a mother, I try to hold true to the belief that as an adult, I too am responsible for children and the legacy that we leave behind. I believe that although BOEM did a comprehensive EIS, that the unknown of how our Oceans and it's inhabitants will be affected by seismic testing is just too great of a risk to take. I also believe in an old Cherokee saying that goes like this: *"Every action should be taken with thoughts of its effects on children seven generations from now."*

I am concerned about the health of our Oceans and all marine life, but because of my volunteer work, I know more about sea turtles than any other marine life.

When I look at the mitigation measurements you have put in place in Alternative B, it is simply not enough. Again, I DO NOT support alternative B, but if this is the option that your department chooses, please consider my concerns listed below:

1. The protection measures in B only protects along the Florida Coast of Brevard County b/c this is where the majority of loggerhead sea turtles nest. This is a problem b/c it does not protect all nesting sea turtles and all turtles are either threatened or endangered. We know that sea turtles may nest in the same region, but they are swimming all along our coast; therefore we need to protect the entire coast.

2. Recent DNA tests confirm that sea turtles do not always nest on the same beach and some of the Florida turtles may also nest in states north of Florida and vice versa. Without protection along the entire coast and ocean, you may see a drop in the Florida nests as well.

3. The sex of the sea turtle is determined by the temperature of the sand and thus more males are born in the northern states, where the sand is cooler. The male turtles are necessary to fertilize the eggs of the nesting female turtles in Florida. Of note, the EIS reports that seismic testing is negligible on hatchlings. My thought is that we really do not have enough information to determine this risk and the risk of not understanding the consequences better is too great for all of our aquatic life.

4. At the Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Hospital, we work hard under state and federal permits to rehab these threatened and endangered creatures. This is no easy or inexpensive task. We have given much care to rehab nearly 350 sea turtles without the aid of any tax, state or federal dollars, but all on private donations. If you determine to do seismic testing and do not protect all coastal areas during nesting season, then that means that all sea turtle rehab centers in NC, SC, and GA would be

releasing rehabilitated endangered and threatened sea turtles into unprotected waters. Please understand that some sea turtles may take as long as 2 -3 years to fully rehab before being released.

Please do not ask any marine animal rehab center to put animals in this type of jeopardy upon release to their natural habitats. Please feel free to visit the hospital on line at www.seaturtlehospital.org.

5. While primarily loggerheads nest on our coast, we also have the occasional green, leatherback and even kemp's nest. Again, even if sea turtles do not nest on our coast, they are swimming off of our coast.

6. There is recent research that supports that sea turtles will change their behavior when air gun are deployed. (This research is included in your EIS statement) Again, I offer that not enough is known and the risk of the unknown on all of our ocean life, not just sea turtles, is just too great.

I, personally cannot support activity that would not put measures into place to protect all sea turtles, (and marine life) not just the ones nesting on the coast of Bravard County, Florida (even though they have a much higher population in Florida).

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Also, please add my name to any email list that notifies the public of any hearings or such that will be taking place regarding this important issue of seismic testing.

Any comment from you is greatly appreciated.

--

Ginger Taylor

Every action should be taken with thoughts of its effects on children seven generations from now. ~Cherokee saying

From: [Kendra Karstens](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: seismic testing in the Atlantic Ocean
Date: Monday, April 30, 2012 10:22:21 AM

Good Morning

I am emailing to voice my opinion about the proposed seismic blasts in the Atlantic Ocean from New Jersey down to Florida. I have been a resident of Cape May Court House, NJ for my entire life. I value and cherish our ocean waters and the creatures that live in them. I fear that these proposed blasts will kill innocent sealife all for the sake of oil and gas exploration. It is not fair to risk the lives of sea animals in exchange for human greed! There are green ways to make energy (solar, wind, etc.) without hurting innocent animals. The Gulf of Mexico oil spill has devastated that area killing sealife, hurting the fishing & tourism economy, and injuring oil spill clean up workers. To this very day there is still oil in that gulf causing fish being caught with lesions and oozing sores, shrimp being born without eyes, crabs being born without claws - all thanks to the toxic effects of exposure to oil! Workers hired to clean up the spill are being diagnosed with respiratory illnesses, nervous system damage, etc. That is something I do not want for the Jersey shore or anywhere in the world! It saddens me that the world doesn't take sealife preservation seriously enough until a tragedy hits and our oceans become poisoned. I strongly disagree with the use of seismic booms in the Atlantic Ocean and want to convey the message that we need to take care of our planet and preserve what we have before it's too late! The use of cheap oil does not outweigh what the ocean gives to us - not to mention putting innocent animals at risk.

Thank You,
Kendra Karstens
1304 Cherry Street
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

From: c.rue@att.net
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic testing in the Atlantic
Date: Monday, May 07, 2012 12:43:36 PM

Mr. Gary D. Goekey,

I am writing in support of Alternative "C" and to ask that the agency release an Environmental Impact Statement focused on the development of renewable energy only. Seismic airgun activity for oil and gas exploration has a huge environmental footprint and the intense noise is loud enough to mask whale calls over literally thousands of miles, interfering with their capacity to communicate and breed. Over the next eight years - according to the administration's own estimates - seismic exploration would injure up to 138,500 marine mammals and disrupt marine mammal feeding, calving, breeding, and other vital activities more than 13.5 million times. Airgun noise also affects fish behavior and fisheries on a broad scale, displacing commercial species of fish over thousands of square kilometers. BOEM must keep airguns out of sensitive environmental areas and promote the use of greener alternatives. Thanks for this chance to support Alternative "C". I am a resident of Jacksonville Beach Florida and this would destroy any fishing industry we have left besides damaging the already fragile sea turtle population. All of our resources should be focused on future renewable energy resources. We should have started getting off the oil in the 1970s. The damage that carbon dioxide that has been released into environment may be not be reversible. It is time to stop future damage.

Respectfully,

[Candice Rue]

[1244 N. 18th St.

Jacksonville, Beach FL 32250]

From: IminEQ@aol.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic testing on East Coast
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 3:57:35 PM

I believe it is foolhardy to unabashedly develop off-shore oil sources given the collateral damage and effects and the fact that we should be using more resources to develop renewable sources of energy.
-Matthew, New York

From: [Mary Wilding](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic Testing Proposal
Date: Saturday, May 12, 2012 8:26:01 PM

I am writing as a very concerned resident of New Jersey who strongly supports a denial of the requests to allow seismic testing in the Atlantic Ocean from the Delaware Bay to Central Florida. I am opposed to both the search for oil and the resulting offshore drilling in the Atlantic with the risk of spills, discharges and disasters. In the two years since the BP spill, which of the proposals recommended by the National Commission on the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling have been put in place? To my knowledge, none have. The effects of that spill speak for themselves.

Now there is a proposal to conduct seismic testing which is likely to have devastating effects on marine life. What studies have been done here on the roughly 1000 dolphins found off Peru with air bubbles found in their blood likely caused by rapid ascent from the ocean depths in response to being startled by the loud explosions during seismic testing there? What studies have been conducted regarding the concerns of those in the scientific community that believe the airgun blasts will disrupt social communication of fish, whales, dolphins and turtles, therefore interfering with finding mates, food or identifying predators, as well as migration patterns, or the belief that the 120 and 300 Hz sound waves generated during the seismic explosions causes temporary or permanent hearing loss, serious injury from tissue trauma and hemorrhaging?.

The proposed seismic testing would affect an area of 330,032 square miles, to a depth of 18,468 ft. with sound waves traveling much further. Knowing what damage could result to sea mammals and other marine life would seem to be the responsible course of action IF testing would serve any purpose other than locating oil before a disaster occurs.

Thank you for considering my opinion.
Mary C. Wilding.

From: [TERESA HAGAN](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: seismic testing
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 7:06:37 AM

We urge the adoption of Alternative C to prohibit all seismic testing in our oceans. Thank you, Teresa Hagan and Michael Lipton

From: [Anne Walsh](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic testing
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 9:14:42 AM

Please adopt alternative C.
Consider oceanic wildlife and the potential impact.

Anne Walsh
annie_t@verizon.net

From: [Cooper Pillot](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic Testing
Date: Wednesday, May 23, 2012 11:32:39 PM

Dear Mr. Goeke,

On behalf of myself and my Environmental Studies class at Friends Seminary, I strongly oppose the harmful seismic oil and gas exploration program that is proposed for the Mid Atlantic and South Atlantic areas. The seismic activity is not only detrimental to marine wildlife, but it is also the first step toward harmful offshore drilling and spilling off our coasts.

The intense blasts of airgun arrays are some of the loudest underwater sounds humans make, short of explosives. This is exceedingly disruptive for all marine animals that rely on hearing to feed, mate, travel, communicate and many other behaviors for survival. Airgun noise is loud enough to mask whale calls over thousands of miles, destroying their capacity to communicate and breed. It can drive endangered whales to abandon their habitat and stop searching for food. Closer interactions with airguns can cause hearing loss, injury and death. The south Atlantic is the only birthing area for one of the most endangered whales in the world, the North Atlantic right whale, and these airguns pose serious threats to their future.

Airguns also displace commercial species of fish as far as thousands of square kilometers away from where they are used. This has reduced catch rates of species such as cod, haddock, and rockfish across the ocean, leading fishermen in Norway and other parts of the world to seek industry compensation for their losses. This poses a huge threat to commercial and recreational fishing off the mid- and southeast Atlantic that generate \$11.8 billion annually and support 222,000 jobs.

Seismic exploration is the first of many dangerous and polluting steps in offshore oil and gas development. For all the threats that offshore drilling imposes on our oceans and coastal economies, there is very little reward. According to the U.S. Energy Information Agency, fully developing all of our recoverable offshore oil reserves everywhere would only lower pump prices by 3 cents – and would take twenty years to do so.

I urge you to choose Alternative “C” (the “no-action” alternative) which will keep dangerous oil and gas exploration off our coasts, and instead focus on developing renewable energy.

Sincerely,
Cooper Pillot
Friends Seminary
222 East 16 Street

New York, NY 10009

From: [Donna Kuiken](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: seismic testing
Date: Friday, May 04, 2012 3:05:59 PM

I am appalled at the thought of this proposal to do seismic testing in the Atlantic Ocean, which would then lead to drilling for oil.

Please consider the damage to the marine life that would be affected by this type of testing. It is clear, from what I have read that you still have many questions for which there are no answers. At least get the answers before even trying to proceed with this action.

Concerned citizen,

Donna Kuiken

From: Jenspeech30@yahoo.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Cc: Jenspeech30@yahoo.com
Subject: Seismic testing
Date: Monday, May 28, 2012 5:19:20 AM

My opinion on the seismic testing is don't do it!!! The effects, both level A and level B harassment would be devastating to the marine population. These are intelligent, wonderful, and in many cases endangered animals (such as the baleen and blue whales). Talk about leaving a footprint!! It is more like stomping out and devastating our most special and beautiful places and their inhabitants. It is only a temporary solution to energy problems anyway. The real future in clean energy lies in solar, wind, and battery powered sources , which would prevail if big oil, automakers, the politicians, pacs and lobbyists that support them would look to the greater good. Sadly, right now they just look to the greater greed.

Please do not let it be at the expense if our marine ecosystem and the creatures in it!!

Jennifer Otero
Upper Montclair NJ
Sent from my iPhone

From: [kym davidson](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic Testing
Date: Thursday, May 03, 2012 11:48:29 AM

As a concerned citizen, beach resident and sea turtle volunteer, I am strongly against seismic testing off the NC coastlines and anywhere our sea life will be negatively impacted. Would you want this in your living room???

Thank you for considering everyone and everycreature involved,

Kym Davidson
3 Colonial Dr
Wilmington NC 28403

From: [brandi blazier](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: seismic testing
Date: Tuesday, May 01, 2012 8:52:30 AM

This testing could seriously threaten marine life! I, myself, am completely opposed to such things! Please do NOT let this happen.

Sincerely,
Brandi Blazier
131 13th Ave N
Jacksonville Beach, FL
32250

From: [valerie amor](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic testing
Date: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 4:26:13 PM

Seismic testing is only necessary for determining advantageous locations for oil and gas drilling. It is a destructive and disruptive activity that negatively affects the surrounding environment, fish and marine life. The extraction of fossil fuel is a waste of our time and resources as a nation. We must look to benign forms of energy to meet our demands.

I am strongly opposed to seismic testing and ask that this not be undertaken any further.

I ask that the BOEM cease from authorizing this activity.

Valerie J. Amor , LEED AP BD+C, Assoc. AIA, Lic. FL RE Broker
[954.701.0698](tel:954.701.0698) valeriejamor@gmail.com

Drawing Conclusions LLC

Visionary - President | CEO | Founder

Sustainable architecture firm + LEED consultant/instructor

Eco Logical Real Estate + Community Builder LLC

Principal | Owner .. Licensed Florida Real Estate Broker

[Fort Lauderdale Green Culture Examiner](#) | [National Green Living Examiner](#)

From: [Jenny](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: seismic testing/east coast
Date: Thursday, April 26, 2012 6:23:06 PM

I can't believe that we are fighting this, AGAIN. We just dealt with this a couple of years ago. When will our fragile coastline be left alone? Please stop this insanity and give the marine life, and the human life, a chance to live in peace. I am a volunteer with the Wrightsville Beach Sea Turtle Project. We see so much damage on a daily basis from litter, boats, pollution, and the total disregard by human beings for anything sacred in nature. I am a native of Wrightsville Beach/Wilmington and I have seen so much destruction of my beautiful hometown over the last decades. My son cannot eat the seafood from the waters that I ate from as a child. He cannot swim in certain areas because of pollution. We see all types of marine life washing onto our shores dead. All we can do is cry and sadly bury them in the sand. What do we have to do to convince the Department of the Interior and President Obama that this is NOT the answer! I expected this from a republican administration. I am totally dismayed that this is happening under a democratic one!

PLEASE tell us what we can do. How can our voices be heard. Does anyone care at all about anything other than a dollar and a gallon of gas?

Thank you.

Jenny Johnston
1911 Knollwood Rd.
Wilmington, NC 28403

From: [Christopher Brickman](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Seismic/acoustic testing offshore
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 8:45:18 AM

No more seismic/acoustic testing for oil drilling in the oceans! Stop killing the dolphins! These tests should be banned completely, worldwide, as they are so extremely harmful to dolphins and other wildlife. I Will actively work against any politician who supports these tests. Thank you. Sincerely,
Chris Brickman
Sauk City, Wi
United States of America

Sent from Yahoo! Mail on Android

From: [lynn_andrews](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Sonar Testing
Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 11:04:36 AM

I implore you, DO NOT allow sonar testing in the waters off the East Coast. The already existing data that PROVES Whales and Dolphins suffer horribly from the impact of underwater sonar should be enough to convince the biggest skeptic of the irreversible damage caused to these animals; and if this alone isn't enough - LOOK AT THE CURRENT SUFFERING OF THE PEOPLE AND THE ECONOMY OF Louisiana and the panhandle of Florida from the 2010 oil spill. On April 13, 2012, The Wall Street Journal wrote a scathing, honest assessment of the ongoing damage caused to all life forms from their unprecedented Deepwater Horizon Oil Disaster. It's in EVERYONE'S BEST INTEREST except Big Oil to say no to this testing.

Sincerely,
Lynn Andrews
Author, Culinary Expert, Planet Earth Supporter

From: [Mary Lou Comber](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Sonic Blasting in the Atlantic
Date: Thursday, June 07, 2012 9:29:38 AM

Please use all your power & influence to prevent this atrocity from happening in our ocean.

From: karin@manycycles.com
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Stop East Coast Seismic Testing
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 12:51:22 PM

We need healthy oceans much more than we need more oil, and certainly more than we need oil in any particular way. Please say "no" to seismic testing on the East Coast. Please protect precious dolphins and whales.

Karin Fisher-Golton
East Richmond Heights, CA

From: [Nancy Meehan](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Stop off shore drilling! Siesmic testing will imperil marine life. We need Clean Energy NOW! Do you own common sense or has Profit taken over?
Date: Friday, June 22, 2012 9:12:44 AM

Stop drilling our coasts! No seismic testing! Clean Energy Now!
All you people are NUTS! All you care about is profits! Disgusting & inhuman!
Stop ruining OUR earth!
Our oceans are stressed to the max, with all the pollution, oil spills, chemical contamination not to mention species contamination. We need to clean them up, not further destroy them. We eat from the sea - we get oxygen from the sea. Where is your common sense?
I am sick of the corporate influence destroying our environment!

Nancy Meehan
285 Fairway Dr.
Santa Rosa Beach, Fl. 32459
850-660-1132

From: [Matt Classen](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Stop offshore seismic testing
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 5:58:48 AM

Hello,

I am writing to demand a stop to all offshore seismic testing, with the most immediate case for the one planned off the east coast.

Underwater seismic testing has been shown to kill wildlife, especially dolphin populations.

<http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/05/28/expert-links-dolphin-deaths-to-sonar-testing/>

The Obama administration, as well as state governments, need to pursue alternative, clean energy with enhanced vigor.

Matt Classen

From: [Caroline](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Stop seismic testing along the east coast
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 1:23:02 PM

I am sending this email to implore you to please stop all seismic testing along the east coast and in any of the earth's oceans. After reading reports on the death of dolphins associated with the testing it is obvious to me that this is a harmful practice.

Thank you,

Carol Orr
159 Princeton Ct.
Advance, NC 27006

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Michael King](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Stop Seismic Testing offshore
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 10:11:28 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

Our oceans and the ecosystem that we have millions of animals depend on are stressed enough. Thanks to rising acidity in our water, oil spills, human consumption and waste of plastic, now is not the time to add another element of human destruction. Our government never does enough research. We allow fracking to continue despite several state's EPA's declaring that study is required because the practice may not be safe seismically or from a ground water perspective.

Peruvian scientists have already done research on the over 900 dolphins that were killed as a direct result of offshore seismic testing. Please consider the environment and the lives of innocent dolphins. Our ecosystem is at a tipping point and it begins with our oceans, do what the government should do and protect it and us. Say no to seismic testing!

Thank you,
Michael King
234 College Drive
Ventura, CA 93003

From: [Donna McAveney](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: STOP THE DRILLING ON THE EAST COAST
Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2012 12:20:54 PM

Dear BOEM;

I do not approve of this G&G programmatic oil and gas exploration you are planning on the continental shelf. I want it stopped. DOWN WITH PEIS!

The damage that will be done to the marine life will be devastating. How could you approve something so damaging to innocent mammals and marine life? I do not believe that no matter what kind of alliance you have with the Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, that you will provide a safe environment for the underwater life. Clearly you cannot protect them from the sonic booms that will reverberate throughout the water at a much heavier volume. Your words of pontification of proposed work and justification of such do not fly.. You leave out the facts of blowing the whales and dolphins eardrums out.. and all the other marine life. The agony they will be in to stop the pain, leading to beaching themselves to end the misery. You make no mention of the lobsters, the scallop beds, shrimp and fish of all kinds that will be moved hundreds of miles out of their normal feeding grounds - which in turn will affect the commercial fisherman to lose their jobs, pay more to travel further to fish, in turn having the price of seafood skyrocket! There is nothing good that can come out of this exploration. On top of that you are affecting a huge portion of the east coast.. which can only hurt many of the states lining this proposal. No where on your site do you mention the negative outcomes that will affect us all and more then us - the marine life up and down the east coast. SHAME ON YOU!

Please advise what I can do to have a say in this and have it stopped. Thank you.

Concerned Citizen;

Donna M McAveney
13 Crest Hill Dr
Sussex,

From: [Cecil Bozard](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Stop the proposed Atlantic PEIS
Date: Monday, June 25, 2012 10:21:42 AM

Dear Mr. Goeke:

It is very disappointing to learn of the proposed PEIS to assess the viability of the Mid- and South Atlantic Ocean for potential oil and gas exploration. Have we learned nothing from the past? Despite assertions to the contrary by politicians and oil interests, the impact of the Gulf calamity is still being realized. Shrimp are being born with no eyes. I personally visit this area every year, and no longer consume shrimp, oysters or fish. Meanwhile, BP continues to paint this as an "over-and-done-with" situation, touting their "commitment to the Gulf." Despicable.

Recent tests on bluefin tuna that have migrated to the Pacific coast from Japanese waters tested surprisingly high for radioactivity; the fish had not burned off this radioactivity during the long trip to California as expected. Scientists assure us that these levels are well below safety limits. But what of the fish that aren't caught off the California coasts that may be served in our sushi restaurants? And what of the debris now washing up on the Pacific coastline, carrying thousands of invasive species? How long before the impact of this accident is fully realized?

Local Atlantic seafood is the only seafood that my family can still enjoy without a subconscious fear of contamination. Oyster roasts and lowcountry boils are more than meals; they are our culture. They help establish a stronger sense of community throughout the Atlantic states. There is simply no way to overstate the importance of fishing and tourism to our coastal states. It is very dismaying that so many of our citizens would be supportive of drilling activity in our oceans, all because of an extremely misguided belief that such drilling will mean a significant drop in what they pay at the pump. Shame on those who propagate such falsities. There is but one truth as to who stands to gain geological and geophysical exploration in the Gulf: the oil companies themselves. To them, everything else is expendable, whether it be the safety of their own workers, the environments in which they operate, or the cultures and livelihoods of coastal Americans.

Please, do everything in your power to stop this PEIS. Keep beautiful ocean horizon free from the blight of oil platforms, and free from the risk of contamination. There is no undoing this decision. Make the right one now.

Sincerely,
Dr. Asbury Cecil and Barrie Bozard
Mt. Pleasant, SC

From: [Nancy Daniel Reinitz](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: STOP!
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 6:35:51 PM

STOP SIEMIC TESTING ANYWHERE BUT SPECIFICALLY ALONG THE EAST COAST OF THE US WHICH IS IN THE PLAN...STOP IT, STOP IT, STOP IT!!!

NDR

From: [angela.fischer](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Submission against seismic testing and oil exploration in the mid and Sth Atlantic region
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 7:41:52 AM

TO: Mr. Gary D. Goeke, Chief, Regional Assessment Section, Office of Environment (MS 5410), Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394
FROM: Angela Fischer, Tweed Street, George Town 9812, Invercargill, New Zealand
DATE: 30.05.12

RE: Submission against seismic testing and oil exploration in the mid and Sth Atlantic region

This submission is firstly to oppose seismic exploration testing in the mid and South Atlantic regions due to the negative impact it has on whales and dolphins. To support the "opposing" view of seismic exploration in the ocean, I refer to the test results of Dr. Llanos that indicate seismic oil exploration was the cause of death for one thousand dolphins along the coast of Peru in March 2012. Necropsy results from Dr. Llanos indicated that the dead dolphins had acoustic trauma to the periotic bones surrounding the ear, and were caused by loud sonar or explosive blasts. Other dolphins caught by fisherman did not have the same fractures to the periotic bones which indicate the fisherman did not cause the fractures to the dolphins washed up on shore. I do not support the Government opinion saying otherwise. (New York Times, May 2012). Greenpeace mention in their feature story for September 2003, that dolphins, whales and seals can be harmed significantly by sonar blasts reaching 180 decibels and that sonar guns used to blast ocean floors when seeking oil or gas can reach up to 260 decibels, and said "without their heightened sense of hearing, marine mammals cannot find food, avoid predators or communicate with each other" (Greenpeace, Sept 11, 2003). The Polarcus Alima, an oil exploration vessel for OMV and Shell explored the Southern East Coast of New Zealand in 2011 and 2012, had 5 marine mammal watchers on board to reduce the total deaths of whales or dolphins caused by sonar explosions, which indicates, oil exploration companies are aware of the damage seismic testing has on marine life. (NZ Herald, Dec. 2011). Secondly, this submission is to oppose off shore drilling for oil or any large scale extraction of any other resource (with exception of water to produce electricity) due to the environmental risks and the damaging effects an accident can have on the ocean and the surrounding ecosystems, communities, and wildlife. An Example of an off shore oil accident that has caused wide spread destruction to ecosystems and communities is that which occurred in the Gulf of Mexico in April 2010 when around 750 million litres of crude oil poured into the ocean over a period of 3 months killing more than 6,000 birds, 600 sea turtles, 150 dolphins and thousands of fish. (ABC Environment, Feb 2012). Alternative sources of clean renewable energy should be considered instead.

Regards,

Ange Fischer

New Zealand

References;

Greenpeace, (2003). The Dangers of Seismic Testing. Retrieved from

<http://www.greenpeace.org/usa/en/news-and-blogs/news/the-dangers-of-seismic-testing/>

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New York Times, (2011), Expert links dolphin deaths to sonar testing.

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ABC Environment, (2012). Is there life after and oil spill.

Retrieved from <http://www.abc.net.au/environment/articles/2012/02/27/3437955.htm>

From: [Tamara Tank](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Testing
Date: Monday, June 11, 2012 3:19:32 PM

To Whom it may concern, Please do not allow the seismic testing on the east coast. The people who live along the coast and quite frankly, the rest of the country can not afford to recover from the backlash of this and other enviromental catastrophe's as a result from testing or drilling. sincerely, Terry Ratelle

From: [Richard Charter](#)
To: [G&GEIS](#)
Subject: Thank You
Date: Thursday, June 28, 2012 9:56:27 AM

Thanks, very much.

Richard

Mr. Charter,

An "Out of Office" autoreply was necessary in the Microsoft Outlook environment to provide a short message acknowledging receipt of the comment, but you have to open it to see the message. Comments are still being received until July 2.

NEPA Coordinator

From: Richard Charter [mailto:waterway@monitor.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2012 1:30 PM
To: G&GEIS
Subject: quick question

Dear Gary:

Earlier this week individuals attempting to provide written comments on the proposed Atlantic Coast seismic surveys received a reply "bounceback" saying:

Out of Office AutoReply: Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G & G Activities

Can you please clarify how the comments are being collected at this time, since the written comment period was reportedly extended until July 2?

Thanks very much.

Richard

--

Richard Charter

Senior Fellow

The Ocean Foundation

707 875-2345

707 875-3482

email: waterway@monitor.net