

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 13, 2010

The Honorable Nick Rahall
Chairman
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

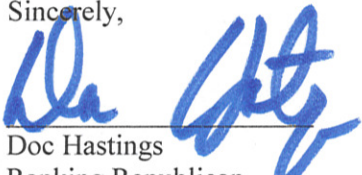
Dear Chairman Rahall,

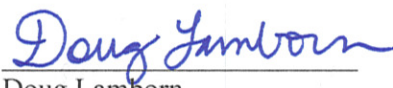
We call on you to schedule, at the soonest possible time, a Full Committee hearing on President Obama's March 31st announcement of a two year delay in the establishment of a new five-year Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) plan and elimination of numerous lease sales in the current 2007-2012 OCS plan. Our oversight responsibilities demand that the Committee act promptly to hold a hearing to examine the decisions made by the Administration to delay and obstruct offshore energy production and job creation. In these difficult economic times of nearly 10 percent unemployment and with the nation experiencing rising gasoline prices, it's critical that the Committee act to examine the Administration's actions and their impact on new job creation.

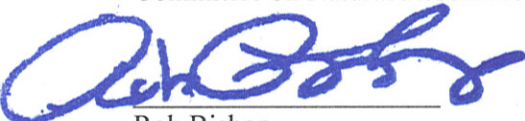
As witnesses at the hearing, we ask that you call Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, White House Advisor Carol Browner, and Minerals Management Service Director Elizabeth Birnbaum to testify. In addition, we would ask that a second panel be invited to discuss the impact of the President's actions on the economy, job creation and American-made energy production, and that this panel include the Presidents of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Manufacturers, National Ocean Industry Association, American Petroleum Institute, and Securing America's Energy Future.

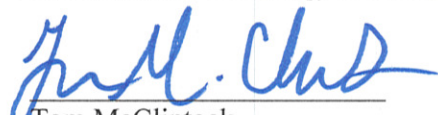
It is the Committee's duty and responsibility to conduct oversight on offshore energy production and we hope that you will act quickly to schedule this requested oversight hearing.

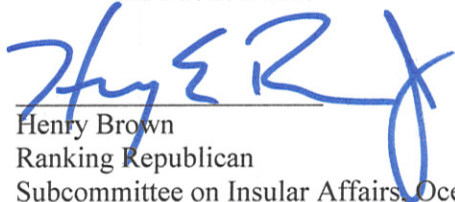
Sincerely,

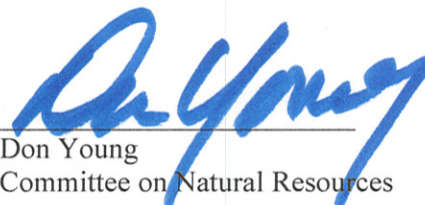

Doc Hastings
Ranking Republican
Committee on Natural Resources

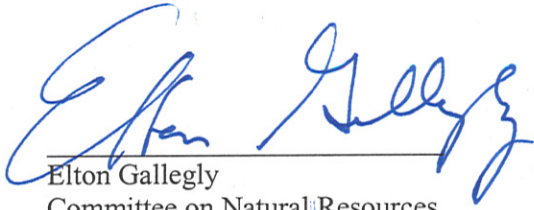

Doug Lamborn
Ranking Republican
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources


Rob Bishop
Ranking Republican
Subcommittee on Parks, Forests
and Public Lands

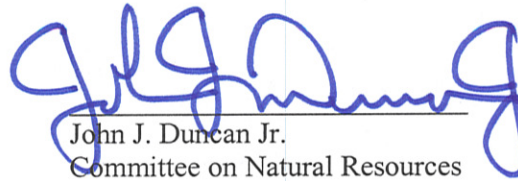

Tom McClintock
Ranking Republican
Subcommittee on Water and Power


Henry Brown
Ranking Republican
Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans
and Wildlife

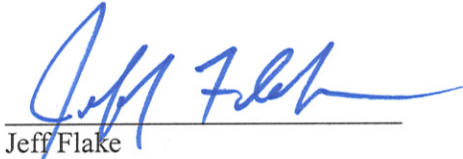

Don Young
Committee on Natural Resources



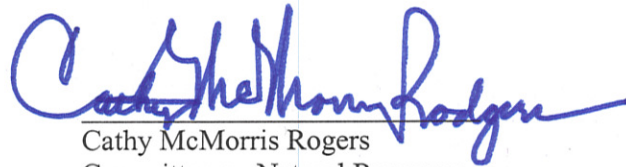
Elton Gallegly
Committee on Natural Resources



John J. Duncan Jr.
Committee on Natural Resources



Jeff Flake
Committee on Natural Resources



Cathy McMorris Rogers
Committee on Natural Resource



Louie Gohmert
Committee on Natural Resources



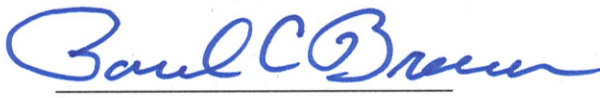
Bill Shuster
Committee on Natural Resources



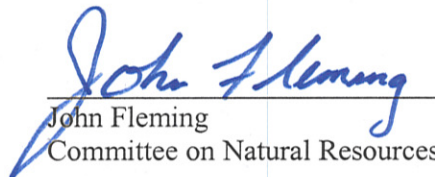
Adrian Smith
Committee on Natural Resources



Rob Wittman
Committee on Natural Resources



Paul Broun
Committee on Natural Resources



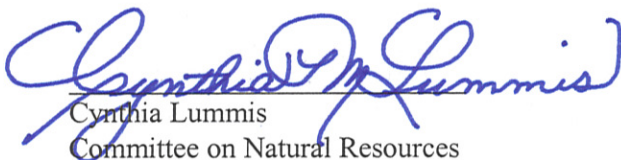
John Fleming
Committee on Natural Resources



Mike Coffman
Committee on Natural Resources



Jason Chaffetz
Committee on Natural Resources



Cynthia Lummis
Committee on Natural Resources



Bill Cassidy
Committee on Natural Resources