

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

July 22, 2005

The Honorable Pete V. Domenici
Chairman
Senate Energy and Natural Resources
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman
Ranking Member
Senate Energy and Natural Resources
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Joe Barton
Chairman
House Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John D. Dingell
Ranking Member
House Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Sirs:

We appreciate your dedication to enacting a comprehensive energy bill. We share your interest in enacting a comprehensive bill that will ensure our country's energy security for decades to come. For this reason, we strongly urge you to not include any provision in the Energy bill conference report that alters the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) moratoria. Alterations to the moratoria that threaten our coasts include policies that allow for a costly and harmful seismic inventory of the OCS, especially in moratoria areas, and that weakens a state's influence in the Coastal Zone Management appeals process or a state's role in the siting of Liquified Natural Gas facilities. The inclusion of any language that accomplishes any of these objectives will threaten our support for the Energy bill conference report.

We believe we can provide for our country's energy needs without altering the 24- year-old OCS moratoria, performing a duplicative, expensive and invasive inventory using seismic technology and weakening a state's say in issues affecting a state's coastal zone. We look forward to working with you to meet our country's long-term energy needs and hope that you will consider our concerns when negotiating the final energy bill.

Thank you for your consideration of our views on these important subjects.

Sincerely,

Bill Nelson

Phil Hartung

Jeff Miller

Jim Davis