## **Victory for Our Coasts**

Dear Neighbor,

Last Thursday night, I led the fight to save the bipartisan, longstanding Congressional moratorium on new oil and gas drilling in sensitive coastal areas. Working with members of both parties, I co-authored an amendment to the Interior-Environment Appropriations Bill that reaffirmed the ban. I am very pleased to report that our amendment passed by a vote of 217-203, ensuring that our coast will continue to be protected from new offshore drilling. I believe that we must protect our coast-not only for its beauty-but because it is vital to our economic well being.



Click here to view my speech against offshore drilling

Rep. John Peterson (R-PA) had attempted to overturn the moratorium on new drilling in the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). If he had been successful, energy companies could have drilled for oil and gas as close as three miles from our pristine coast. I opposed his proposal, because it would have harmed our environment, undermined the economies of communities on the Central Coast, and offered no solutions to our energy crisis. Furthermore, the vast majority of offshore natural gas and oil reserves are located in areas currently open to drilling, and the industry already owns 4000 leases in the Gulf of Mexico that are lying dormant.

Our nation has 3% of the world's oil reserves, but consumes 25% of the world's oil. We cannot simply drill our way out of our energy problems. As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I have been working to increase energy efficiency, expand conservation, and develop renewable and alternative energy sources. Only a comprehensive energy policy can solve America's energy problems.

Thank you for your kind attention to these critical issues and please feel free to pass along this information to your family and friends. To sign up for future email updates on my work in Congress, <u>click here</u>.

Sincerely,

Lois Capps Member of Congress

Congresswoman Lois Capps is here to help you.

## Please feel free to contact any of our district offices anytime.

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