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May 19, 2010

Dr. Jane Lubchenco
Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere and
Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Administrator Lubchenco:

To assist the Committee on Natural Resources in carrying out its oversight responsibilities related to the *Deepwater Horizon* incident, we request that you promptly provide to the Committee the following information:

- Unredacted copies of any and all documents related to potential impacts to threatened and endangered species, marine mammals, Essential Fish Habitat, critical habitat and fisheries as a result of energy development activities in the Gulf of Mexico, where such activities include but are not limited to leasing plans, lease sales, geological or geophysical exploration, exploration or development plans, and drilling permits; and
- Unredacted copies of all formal or informal consultations and official or unofficial comments under the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act related to energy development activities in the Gulf of Mexico, where such activities include but are not limited to leasing plans, lease sales, geological or geophysical exploration, exploration or development plans, and drilling permits.

With respect to the above requests you may restrict your search and production of documents and records to the last five years. We would appreciate it if you would produce the requested information in a timely fashion, and preferably before the hearing scheduled by the Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife on June 15, 2010.

Dr. Jane Lubchenco

May 19, 2010

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If you have questions regarding this request, please contact Jean Flemma, Staff Director, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, at 202-226-0200.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely,



NICK J. RAHALL, II

Chairman

Committee on Natural Resources