

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 3534
OFFERED BY MS. CASTOR OF FLORIDA**

Page 69, strike lines 3 through 16 and insert the following:

1 “(i) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW OF PLANS.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall treat
3 the approval of an exploration plan, or a significant
4 revision of such a plan, as an agency action requiring
5 preparation of an environmental assessment or
6 environmental impact statement in accordance with
7 the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42
8 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

9 “(2) WAIVERS OR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS
10 PROHIBITED.—The Secretary may not grant any
11 waivers or categorical exclusions of the requirement
12 in paragraph (1) for the preparation of an environ-
13 mental assessment or an environmental impact
14 statement.

15 “(3) ADDITIONAL PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—The
16 Secretary shall require that an exploration plan—

17 “(A) be based on the best available tech-
18 nology to ensure safety in carrying out both the

1 drilling of the well and any oil spill response;
2 and
3 “(B) contain a technical systems analysis
4 of the safety of the proposed activity, the blow-
5 out prevention technology, and the blowout and
6 spill response plans.”.

