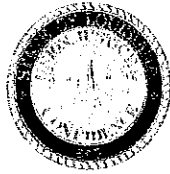


State of Louisiana



SCOTT A. ANGELLE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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October 27, 2010

Mr. Randall Luthi
President
National Ocean Industries Association
1120 G Street, NW Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005

Members of the National Ocean Industries Association,

I regret that I am unable to attend NOIA's annual meeting; however, I greatly appreciate this opportunity to share this message with folks who share my passion for a strong, safe, domestic oil and gas industry. I thank you for the work that you do every day in supporting the industry that fuels our nation and our economy.

Louisiana represents a slice of America blessed with bountiful natural resources. At the same time we explore, store, produce, refine, process or transport a third of the nation's oil and gas consumption, we provide over one fifth of the commercial fisheries catch for the lower 48 states. It is a place where we believe "We can have it all"; where we are proud to be America's Energy State and do it in such a manner that allows us to enjoy enough world class hunting, fishing, camping, trailing, and bird watching to also be called the Sportsman's Paradise.

The moratorium on deepwater oil and gas drilling in the Gulf of Mexico was a "knee jerk" reaction resulting in severe economic consequences for our coastal communities. Since early June, I have worked vigorously urging our federal government to lift the prolonged, senseless and unnecessary deepwater moratorium, as well as the shallow water de facto moratorium that we currently face. In coordination with a nonprofit entity that I formed, the Gulf Economic Survival Team, we have hosted rallies, initiated letter-writing campaigns, and conducted an on-line petition resulting in over 175,000 signatures opposing the administration's policy.

While the lifting of the deepwater moratorium on October 12 was welcome news, we fully realize that we have only crossed the 50-yard line with regard to getting our men and women back to work fueling America. Just as has happened for shallow water operations, new deepwater rules from the Department of Interior will no doubt result in permitting delays that will also inhibit our economic recovery from the actual moratorium.

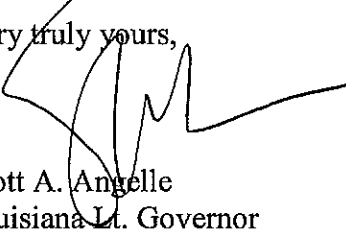
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I view my job as standing the State of Louisiana up as a mediator between industry and the federal government. Over the past few months, I have facilitated phone calls and meetings between the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement and industry; I have worked to develop streamlined solutions to the permitting process and I will continue to push the ball further down the field by working to eliminate the current bottlenecks in our federal permitting process.

We are confident we will drill again in Louisiana; we will fish again, and we will continue to be a slice of America that fuels and feeds the nation. I invite each of you to visit the Sportsman's Paradise, and I encourage you to consume Louisiana seafood at every opportunity. Please visit crt.la.gov/seafood to view the latest seafood safety reports.

Thank you again for the work you do to fuel America.

Very truly yours,



Scott A. Angelle
Louisiana Lt. Governor