

# Mercury Public Affairs

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## MEMORANDUM

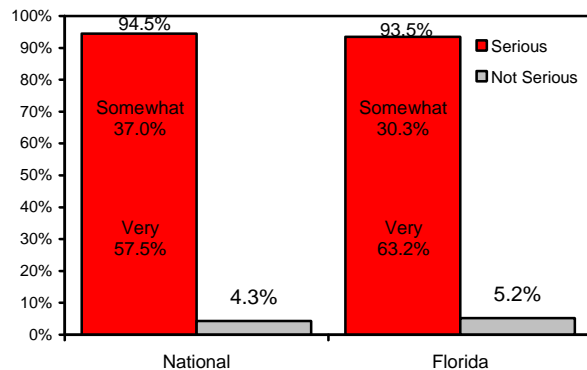
**DATE:** JUNE 13, 2006  
**TO:** CONSUMER ALLIANCE FOR ENERGY SECURITY  
**FROM:** MERCURY PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
**RE:** FLORIDA SURVEY RESULTS

Mercury Public Affairs (MPA) conducted a survey of 600 likely voters in Florida on May 31-June 1, 2006. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 4.0% at a 95% confidence interval. The national survey of 1,000 likely voters was conducted on March 20-21, 2006. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.1% at a 95% confidence interval. MPA is pleased to present the following key findings.

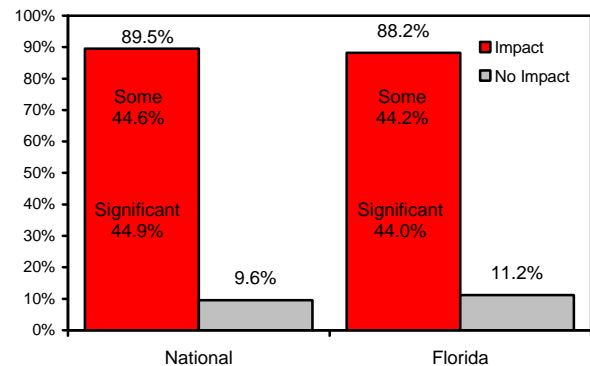
### HIGH ENERGY PRICES ARE NEGATIVELY IMPACTING FLORIDA FAMILIES

- The energy crisis has reached critical mass in Florida. Sixty-three percent of voters believe rising energy costs have become a very serious problem—slightly higher than voters nationally—and 88% say prices are straining their financial resources.**

In your opinion, how serious a problem is the rising cost of energy, including electricity, natural gas, oil and gasoline, in your community—very serious, somewhat serious, or not at all serious?



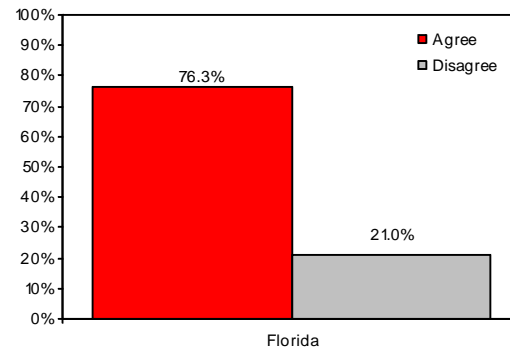
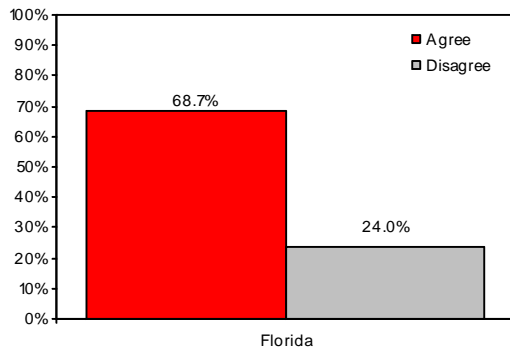
In your opinion, how much of an impact does the rising cost of energy have on your family's monthly budget—a significant impact, some impact or no impact on your budget?



- Higher energy costs are perceived as a tax on Floridians and a threat to economic growth and job creation in the state.

Agree/Disagree: High energy prices act as a tax on Floridians.

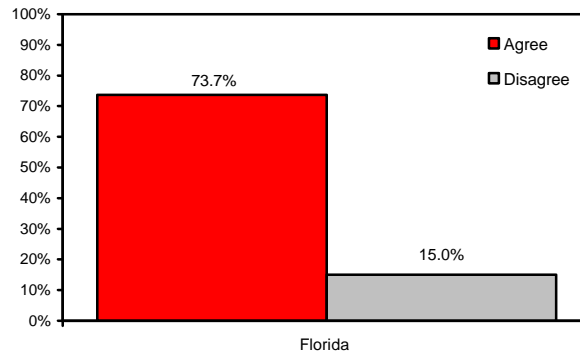
Agree/Disagree: The rising cost of energy is hurting Florida's economy and threatening jobs.



**NATURAL GAS VIEWED POSITIVELY AMONG FLORIDIANS**

- Natural gas is seen as a safe, reliable and clean source of traditionally low cost energy.

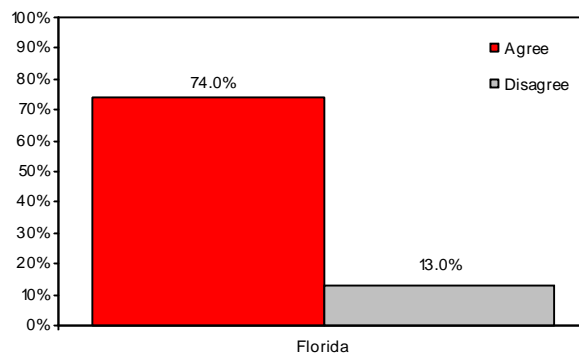
Agree/Disagree: Natural gas is a safe, reliable and clean source of low-cost energy.



**POSITIVE IMAGE OF NATURAL GAS HELPS DRIVE DEMAND FOR ACTION**

- An overwhelming majority of Floridians say current energy policies are limiting access to natural gas supplies--resulting in higher costs for consumers. Voters believe these policies need to change.

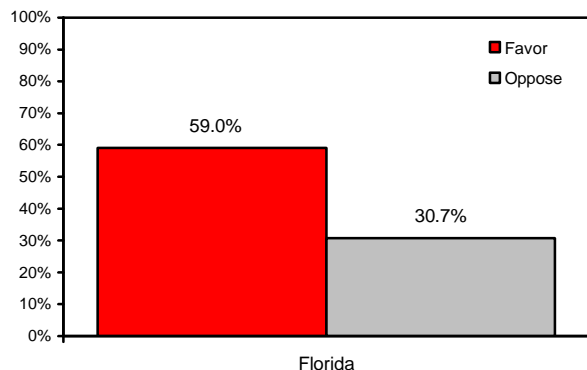
Agree/Disagree: America's current energy policies are limiting access to natural gas supplies while increasing the demand for natural gas--resulting in higher costs for Florida consumers. These policies need to change.



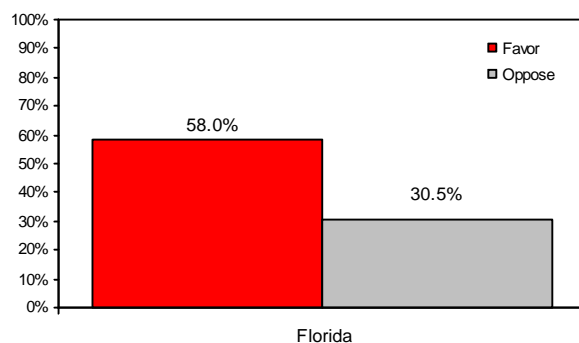
## MAJORITY SUPPORTS OFFSHORE DRILLING FOR NATURAL GAS NATIONALLY AND IN FLORIDA

- By a ratio of nearly 2:1, Florida voters support increased drilling for natural gas on the Outer Continental Shelf as well as for drilling off Florida's coastline.

In general, do you favor or oppose increasing offshore drilling for natural gas on the Outer Continental Shelf—an area defined as 20 miles or more off the coast of the United States?

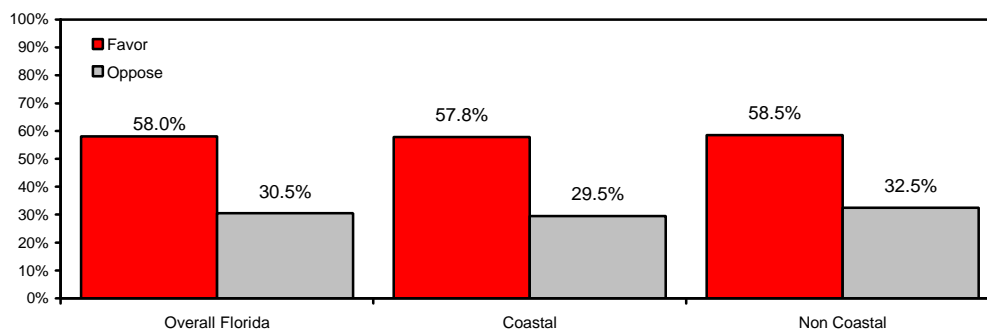


Do you favor or oppose increasing offshore drilling for natural gas more than 20 miles off the Florida coastline?



- Coastal counties and non-coastal counties are equally supportive of increasing drilling for natural gas off Florida's coasts.

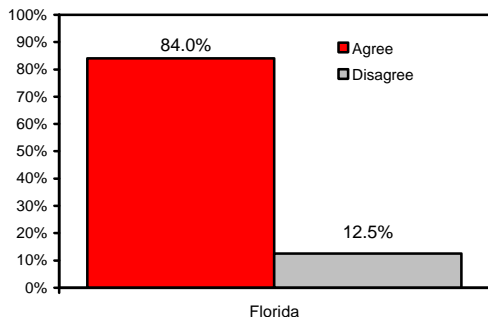
Favor/Oppose Drilling For Natural Gas Off Florida's Coastline By Coastal/Non-Coastal Counties



## ENERGY CRISIS IS PERCEIVED AS A NATIONAL SECURITY THREAT

- The national security issues surrounding the energy crisis continue to be a strong argument in favor of off shore drilling for natural gas. Floridians want to reduce their reliance on foreign energy by increasing domestic supplies of energy (natural gas).

Agree/Disagree: The country's current dependence on foreign sources of energy poses a serious risk to America's national security.



Agree/Disagree: Countries like Russia, Venezuela and Bolivia which have large domestic energy supplies are using their oil and natural gas reserves as tools to manipulate other countries, including the United States.

