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CORRECTED TRANSCRIPT
MAY 28, 2009

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
SURVEY OF AVAILABLE DATA ON OCS RESOURCES
AND IDENTIFICATION OF DATA GAPS
PUBLIC HEARING
THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
SURVEY OF AVAILABLE DATA ON OCS RESOURCES
AND IDENTIFICATION OF DATA GAPS
PUBLIC HEARING
THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009

U.S. Department of Interior Public Hearing
taken at U.C. San Francisco, 1675 Owens Street, Mission
Bay Conference Center, San Francisco, California,
commencing at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, April 16, 2009, before
Maryann P. Costa, RPR, RMR, CSR No. 5820.

1 THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009

9:00 a.m.

2 --oOo--

3 P R O C E E D I N G S

4 --oOo--

5 MR. AURAND: Ladies and gentlemen, please take your
6 seats. It is my pleasure to introduce the Secretary of
7 the Interior, Ken Salazar.

8 SECRETARY SALAZAR: I'm the Secretary of the
9 Interior. My name is Ken Salazar. I'm here today as
10 part of the journey that is taking us around the country,
11 from the Atlantic, to the Gulf, to Alaska, and out here
12 to the Pacific, as we move forward to try to draft a new
13 plan for the outer continental shelf.

14 I want to welcome and to make sure I recognize the
15 members of Congress and others who are here:

16 Senator Barbara Boxer, who you will be hearing from
17 in a few short minutes;

18 Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey, who is a great advocate
19 for all of you;

20 We call her the "madrina", which means godmother in
21 Spanish, and that's Congresswoman Grace Napolitano;

22 And I think Congresswoman Jackie Spear will be
23 joining us in just -- she's over here at the end, but, I
24 haven't seen her -- not yet? She'll be on her way.

25 Oregon Governor, Ted Kulongoski. Governor, thank

1 you for coming.

2 And Lieutenant Governor Garamendi, thank you for
3 being here as well.

4 And, joining us on the stage, here, are Brenda
5 Pierce and Bob Labelle. Brenda is with the U.S.
6 Geological Survey, and Bob is with the Minerals
7 Management Service. Give them a round of applause.

8 (Applause)

9 SECRETARY SALAZAR: I'm trying to see who was here
10 and who wasn't --

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Barbara Lee.

12 SECRETARY SALAZAR: I'm sorry. Barbara Lee.

13 Let me tell you what we are doing. We inherited,
14 back in January, a document which had been prepared by
15 the prior administration concerning the draft Outer
16 Continental Shelf (OCS) Program. It's a document which,
17 when you read it, is a very interesting document, with a
18 very profound document that talks about the future of the
19 United States of America and the Outer Continental Shelf.
20 And it is a document that was finally printed and
21 published in January, 2009.

22 Under the law that governs the Outer Continental
23 Shelf, every five years, the Minerals Management Service,
24 of the Department of Interior, comes up with a new
25 five-year plan; and that five-year plan sets forth how

1 MMS will move forward with respect to lease sales of the
2 Outer Continental Shelf for the next five years.

3 The plan which is currently in existence is a plan
4 that ran from 2007 through 2012. And so what happened
5 here is that the opening up -- the plan, essentially, was
6 expedited by two years. It was not supposed to be
7 reviewed again -- the process would have begun in 2010, a
8 new plan would have been put forward in 2012.

9 But, the prior administration decided that it should
10 move forward with a new plan in January, and they did,
11 and so now what we're working off of is what is called
12 the Draft Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas CC Program
13 from 2010 to 2015. It's the proposed draft plan -- the
14 PDP, if you will.

15 And so what we will do with this Proposed Draft Plan
16 is now provide information to the public, to interested
17 stakeholders, and then craft what will be a new plan that
18 would be put out, again, for public comment.

19 In February of this year, I decided to postpone the
20 effective date of this proposed plan. The proposal had
21 been to take comment for 60 days and then to have a
22 finalized plan put into place.

23 I decided that, given the importance of the plan
24 that we were working on, that we needed to take
25 additional time, in the spirit of President Obama's

1 directive to me, as one of the members of his cabinet,
2 and the Secretary of Interior, he wants us to make sure
3 that we have an open and transparent government. He
4 wants us to make sure that, with respect to the
5 development of our precious natural resources, these are
6 not decisions that are going to be made behind closed
7 doors. And he wants to make sure what we do is we are
8 maximizing the opportunity for the public to give us
9 guidance on what it is that they want to do.

10 And, very importantly, as part of that input, we
11 must, and should, hear from those communities that are
12 going to be most affected by what happens off of their
13 shores.

14 And, as a consequence, I delayed, by 120 days, the
15 next step in the formulation of those plans; so, that
16 will end on September the 21st. And, at the same time, I
17 announced that I would go out to each of the regions, the
18 Atlantic, to the Gulf, to the Pacific, and to Alaska, and
19 have meetings where I would hear from the public --
20 elected officials, as well as members of the public --
21 and that's what we're doing here today.

22 The specific question -- there are general
23 questions, obviously, that go across each of the regions,
24 but -- a very specific question that all of you in the
25 Pacific should know about this with us, as we move

1 forward, is that, if you get a copy of the Proposed Plan,
2 and you go on the website, and you turn to this page --
3 which I have often looked at -- and you go to page 6 of
4 that, what you will find is, there are three proposed
5 lease sales in the Pacific and California.

6 It was proposed to be a Lease Sale 228 in Southern
7 California for the year 2012;

8 It was proposed to be a second lease sale in
9 Northern California in the year 2014;

10 And there is proposed to be a third lease sale in
11 Southern California, Lease Sale 243 in the year 2015.

12 And what the report does is, it has some estimates
13 relative to the oil and gas potential that is located in
14 the Outer Continental Shelf.

15 And you will be hearing from our experts at MMS and
16 USGS on a report that I asked them to prepare.

17 I made the announcement in February on how we plan
18 on moving forward with the process on the OCS. I also
19 said that, one of the things we had to do was to find
20 out:

21 What information we had;

22 That we had to bring together a synthesis;

23 And we have done that;

24 We gave them 45 days to do it.

25 I think we did it in 30 days or so, but -- it's a

1 good report that will show you some of the
2 information that we have, and it's information that's
3 specific to each of the regions.

4 It quantifies what the potential is for oil and gas
5 development. It also quantifies what we actually believe
6 is recoverable under different economic scenarios. It
7 also addresses the potential for renewable energy in the
8 offshore in each of the regions. It addresses the
9 realities such as the fact that, in the Atlantic, the
10 offshore is very shallow; in the Pacific, the offshore is
11 not very shallow. It addresses, as a major part of the
12 report, a third component, which looks at many of the
13 issues related to offshore development, including the
14 very important environmental issues which are of concern
15 to many.

16 So, you will hear from Brenda and Bob as they give
17 you the presentation of their report. Let me make just a
18 couple of other comments. There is no doubt that, in our
19 time, at the dawn of this century, that, really, the --
20 one of the signature issues that is so important to
21 President Obama, and so important to so many members of
22 Congress, and so important to the world community, is
23 that we move forward with a new energy frontier, and that
24 frontier has to address both new energy, and it also has
25 to address the reality of climate change, which is here.

1 And it is something which this president campaigned
2 on; it is something which President Obama has said will
3 be one of the big deliverables of our time.

4 And so we look at the Outer Continental Shelf as one
5 of those components in that new effort on energy and on
6 climate change. And we will be working in that regard,
7 within that general framework, as we move forward with
8 the finalization of the OCS and the process -- the
9 process that still awaits us.

10 But, what I wanted to do is go ahead and hear from
11 our California officials and Oregon officials and we'll
12 start out with Senator Barbara Boxer; and, then, from
13 there, we'll go to Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski.

14 I'll say this about Barbara, since she is -- you
15 know, when you're in the Senate, people become your
16 friends, your brothers and sisters. And I served with
17 Barbara. She was a great supporter of mine when I was
18 running in Colorado, when no one ever thought that I
19 could win. Well, Barbara was there with me every step of
20 way; and, at the end of the day, the time that I spent
21 with her in the U.S. Senate were four of the most
22 enjoyable years of my life. And I can tell you, as you
23 watch Barbara Boxer work in the United States Senate, you
24 never, ever have to doubt where she stands. You never,
25 ever have to doubt where her passions are. She's a

1 fighter for California and she's a fighter for the world.
2 Barbara Boxer.

3 SENATOR BOXER: Oh, thank you, Mr. Secretary. I
4 hope you can put my entire statement in the record,
5 because I may divert from it from time to time --
6 starting right now -- to say to you how proud I am of
7 your achievements, and I think you're going to be such a
8 great Secretary of the Interior; and, since we are kind
9 of like brother and sister, I guess my message today is:

10 Listen to your sister.

11 In its final days in office, the Bush administration
12 offered a parting gift to the oil and gas industry,
13 Mr. Secretary, a plan to open up nearly all of our
14 nation's carefully-protected coastline to offshore
15 drilling;

16 Including, as you pointed out, 130 million acres off
17 California from San Diego to Santa Barbara and from
18 Monterey to Mendocino. When you halted that plan,
19 earlier this year, Mr. Secretary, you called the Bush
20 proposal "a head long rush of the worst kind". And I
21 can't tell you how proud I was of you at that moment.
22 You spoke the truth, and I couldn't agree with you more.
23 And we really do thank you for coming here today to hear
24 our voices.

25 For Californians, our coast is not only a God-given

1 environmental treasure and our legacy to our children and
2 our grand children. It is also one of our greatest
3 economic assets, just as it is ocean-related tourism and
4 recreation and fishing generate \$23 billion in economic
5 activity and, Mr. Secretary, 390,000 jobs, all related to
6 that coastal economy.

7 California is home to four national marine
8 sanctuaries. I will name them:

9 The Gulf of the Farallones;

10 Cordell Bank;

11 Monterey Bay;

12 And the Channel Islands.

13 They were approved by Congress and past
14 administrations to protect marine species and habitat.
15 Allowing new drilling off our coast when undue years of
16 hard work and investment to preserve those areas -- put
17 simply -- new drilling sites off our pristine coast would
18 be an environmental and economic disaster for our state.

19 And, if there's one take-away that I hope you will
20 leave this room with, it's that new drilling would be an
21 environmental economic disaster for our state.

22 Now, I can't speak for other states, and I know
23 Oregon is going to speak with eloquence on this, and
24 you're right. Some other states may feel differently.
25 Our state clearly is saying to you, today, no.

1 Mr. Secretary, the irony in all of this is that oil
2 companies, currently, hold 68 million acres of onshore
3 and offshore leases they have not developed. What is
4 this all about? Just putting some more assets on their
5 books?

6 America has to care more about its resources than
7 that. Now, the Energy Information Administration
8 estimates that, even if we drilled across all the areas
9 that were previously in the moratorium, it would meet one
10 percent of our daily oil consumption by 2030. Listen to
11 this: The equivalent of less than six gallons of gas per
12 vehicle per year.

13 And even they conclude, under the Bush
14 administration, that the impact on oil prices would be --
15 and I quote -- "insignificant" -- "insignificant".
16 That's what they said.

17 Mr. Secretary, you and I know raising fuel economy
18 standards, which I know our president supports, is a far
19 better way to go with far better results.

20 Some argue that drilling along our coast can be done
21 in an environmentally sensitive manner; but, our
22 experience in California tells us a different story. We
23 still remember the 1969 blowout at an oil rig near Santa
24 Barbara that spilled more than 200,000 gallons of crude
25 oil, blackening 35 miles of coastline, and killed 4,000

1 birds. And we all remember, those of us who were around
2 then, what that was like.

3 SECRETARY SALAZAR: When was that, Barbara?

4 SENATOR BOXER: Way back in 1969. But, the more
5 important point for me to make to you, today, is that I'm
6 going to show you a photo of a more recent 1997 rupture
7 at an offshore oil pipeline off Santa Barbara. More than
8 6,800 gallons of crude oil were released. This is after
9 the oil companies say, oh, they've no problem anymore.
10 They've got the technology. We still have these spills.
11 And we saw 17 miles of beaches fouled; 700 birds killed.

12 And, by the way, we're not just talking about the
13 problem of major spills here. We know that routine
14 drilling produces, toxic contaminants, the NAS -- the
15 National Academy of Sciences -- estimates that small
16 spills and discharges released an average of two million
17 gallons of oil per year during the '90's. That's 25
18 percent more oil than was released from tanker accidents.

19 And we know, of course, that more offshore drilling
20 leads to more tankers transporting oil, and that
21 increases the risk. So, there are other problems besides
22 the risk of oil spill.

23 For example, the oil rigs pipelines and other
24 infrastructure displace other coastal businesses and
25 devalue coastal properties. Californians understand

1 these risks. Because I know you wanted to hear the
2 voices, I have a few quotes from Californians. Some of
3 them are out there today in the audience.

4 Last fall, I received more than 300 letters from
5 businessmen and women all across our country -- across
6 our state -- concerned about efforts to expand drilling
7 along our coast. So, here's one:

8 Zeke Grader, who I know is right here looking at me.
9 We're in this since the 70's. Zeke, will you stand up?
10 He's from the Pacific Federation of Fisherman. And Zeke
11 Grader is working so hard to keep the fishing industry
12 viable, Mr. Secretary. This is what he wrote:

13 He said -- he wrote of the impairment that drilling
14 would have on the jobs and businesses of his members in
15 the fisherman's association and their communities and
16 their ability to produce a healthy food product for the
17 nation -- very important.

18 Charles Ailers, President of the Anaheim-Orange
19 County Visitors and Convention Bureau quote -- and this
20 is Orange County -- quote:

21 "This issue really unites us across party lines. If
22 our coastline's beauty and environmental integrity are
23 compromised", he says, "it will cost our state millions
24 of dollars in terms of jobs, sales tax, and investments".

25 Bob Faulkner of Faulkner Advertising in Santa

1 Barbara wrote:

2 "How important a pristine environment is to the
3 vitality of this tourist-oriented community."

4 He writes: "We Santa Barbarians know from
5 first-hand experience the destruction that an oil slick
6 can bring".

7 So, Mr. Secretary, I think I'm preaching to the
8 choir, but, you're a very fair person, and you won't tell
9 us right now what your decision is, but, I hope you'll
10 agree that, instead of putting our California coast and
11 our economy in jeopardy, we need to focus on making
12 serious investments to get us to America's new energy
13 future. We need to look to green technologies that will
14 create new jobs, reduce our dependence on oil, and help
15 us fight global warming.

16 And I want to speak for just a minute in a different
17 hat, which is as Chairman of the Environment and Public
18 Works Committee of the Senate. I can say to you with
19 utter confidence that what we need now is not to drill in
20 these pristine areas and risk our coastlines, but, to
21 transform and jump-start our economy, moving toward clean
22 green energy.

23 And to those who say, wait a minute, this isn't the
24 time, we're in a recession, I've had a series of hearings
25 on this, and I can tell you, from the business

1 communities, from the labor communities, from the
2 environmental community, from local officials, from
3 governors, what we're hearing is very clear:

4 That, in this recession, as we're looking for a way
5 out of it, the way out of it is to embrace this new green
6 agenda; not drill in pristine areas off our coast.

7 I want to say to all of my colleagues -- oh, you
8 don't have to stand up -- I just -- I'm winding down --
9 Mr. Secretary, we wish you could stay here for days and
10 days and days to show you, not only the beauty of our
11 coast, but the entrepreneurs and the scientists who are
12 pioneering these clean energy solutions, from more
13 efficient batteries to para new fleet of electric cars,
14 advances to solar and geothermal, that will transform the
15 way we produce and use energy.

16 Our Conference of Mayors -- U.S. Conference of
17 Mayors -- estimates that, by 2038, industries associated
18 with renewable energy and energy efficiency could produce
19 4.2 million new jobs and account for as much as ten
20 percent of job growth over the next 30 years.

21 So, instead of putting, you know, nationwide,
22 millions of coastal jobs at risk by drilling, we could
23 create an additional 4.2 million green jobs and be far
24 better off.

25 As President Obama said in his first address to

1 Congress:

2 "We know the country that harnesses the power of
3 clean, renewable energy will lead the 21st Century."

4 That is why I'm so pleased that this hearing is also
5 touching on the issue of offshore renewable energy.
6 That's something we need to look at. Our beautiful
7 coastline and our coastal economy are too precious to
8 risk by allowing new oil and gas drilling, especially,
9 when we know the answer to America's energy needs is
10 investment in new, cleaner technologies, renewable
11 energy, and energy efficiency.

12 So, my last chance to say, thank you, Mr. Secretary,
13 for coming here. Thank you for bringing your qualified
14 staff. Thank you for hearing all of these voices. We
15 are proud that you are Secretary of the Interior, and we
16 know we'll be proud when we hear your decision on
17 offshore drilling off the State of California. Thank
18 you, very much.

19 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you, Senator.

20 And, now, Governor Ted Kulongoski, who has not only
21 been with me in Washington, but, thank you for coming
22 down to California today to be part of this hearing.

23 GOVERNOR KULONGOSKI: Secretary Salazar, thank you,
24 very much, for allowing me to be with you, today, and
25 allow me, again, to thank you for your commitment to

1 protecting our nation's natural and cultural heritage.

2 The careful stewardship that you and President Obama
3 advocate, today, will assure access to America's beauty
4 and natural resources tomorrow and long into the future.

5 In particular, I want to thank you for allowing six
6 additional months for public discussion about the
7 previous administration's plans to expand oil and gas
8 leasing and development on our Outer Continental Shelf.

9 I deeply appreciate your presence at these meetings,
10 your decision to include renewable energy, and your
11 discussions and your commitment to using the best and
12 latest science to inform pending policy decisions.

13 I share President Obama and your vision that energy
14 independence is fundamental to our national security, our
15 economic stability, and our environmental responsibility.

16 Governor Schwarzenegger, Governor -- Washington
17 Governor, Greg Moore, their predecessors, and I, have
18 worked closely for several years to advance a regional
19 plan to curb global warming and lead America toward
20 energy independence.

21 The result of this hard work included:

22 The adaption of California emission standards up and
23 down the West Coast;

24 It also led to each state to adopt renewable
25 portfolio standards;

1 Strengthen cash credits for renewable energy;
2 And increase public investment in research and
3 technologies for clean energy;

4 To grow a strong, renewable energy industry.

5 This three-state collaboration evolved into the
6 Western Climate Initiative, which expanded beyond
7 California, Oregon, and Washington, to include seven
8 western states and four Canadian provinces. Together, we
9 are implementing a regional strategy to reduce greenhouse
10 gases.

11 Following up on the success of our collaboration on
12 energy and climate change, Governor Schwarzenegger,
13 Governor Greg Moore, and I, signed an agreement on ocean
14 health in 2006.

15 One of our first actions under that agreement was to
16 write a letter to oppose any weakening of the federal
17 moratorium on oil and gas leasing off the West Coast. We
18 stated then, and we continue to believe, that the risk to
19 the coast of new oil and gas development are far greater
20 than any potential benefits.

21 By the Federal Government's own analysis, it will
22 take decades for any new extraction of oil and gas from
23 the west coast Outer Continental Shelf to have meaningful
24 impact on total production or price.

25 Our ocean health collaboration has been focused on

1 alternative energy development on the West Coast, in a
2 way that sustains our ocean health.

3 As we stated in our letter of September the 12th,
4 2008:

5 "While we do not support any new exploration of oil
6 and gas from the oceans on our coast, we do support
7 sustainable and environmental and responsible renewable
8 energy developments along the West Coast."

9 For example, at Oregon State University in
10 Corvallis, one of the premier wave energy laboratories in
11 the nation. We are working with the emerging wave energy
12 industry and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to
13 deploy a limited wave energy system. The goal is to test
14 its feasibility, commercially, technologically, and
15 environmentally.

16 I spotlighted wave energy because it demonstrates
17 how we can utilize a valuable resource -- our oceans --
18 to responsibly increase our energy security and lessen
19 our dependence on foreign oil.

20 Mr. Secretary, I hope that, under the leadership of
21 President Obama, you, and the Department of Interior, we
22 will continue to explore wave and other forms of
23 renewable energy and forego any attempt to drill
24 offshore.

25 Thank you for your invitation today. Thank you for

1 your leadership; and thank you for the opportunity to be
2 with you and the Senator and the other residents of
3 California. All you hear about Oregon is not true.

4 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you. Thank you, very
5 much, Governor; and thank you for coming to California
6 today. We appreciate your comments.

7 Lieutenant Governor Garamendi?

8 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR GARAMENDI: Thank you, very
9 much, Mr. Secretary;

10 And, Governor, thank you, very much, for bringing
11 the good message from the north;

12 And Senator Boxer, once again, the leader in
13 protecting California from many different things.

14 I am the Lieutenant Governor. I'm also the Chairman
15 of the State Lands Commission, and had the pleasure of
16 being the Deputy Secretary at the Department of the
17 Interior for three years under Bruce Babbit.

18 I know the task that you have and I really welcome
19 your participation coming here to listen to us today.

20 It was 40 years ago that we had the Santa Barbara
21 oil spill.

22 100,000 barrels or more of oil were spilled;

23 35 miles of coastline fouled;

24 Thousands upon thousands of birds;

25 And 200 square miles affected by that spill.

1 Ever since that time, California has said no --
2 no -- to new oil drilling off its coast; and we repeat
3 that today.

4 The State Lands Commission is responsible for all of
5 the state lands for three miles off our coast. And the
6 State Lands Commission has held a very firm position for
7 all these years against new leases off the California
8 coast. As recently as two-and-a-half months ago, a new
9 lease proposal came before the State Lands Commission,
10 and the State Lands Commission rejected that lease on a
11 two to one vote. My colleague, John Chiang, voted no; I
12 voted no; and the Governor's representative was on the
13 other side. We have clearly stated over and over again,
14 again in a resolution passed last week at the State Lands
15 Commission, that we oppose new federal leases off the
16 California coast, just as much as we oppose new leases
17 within the California jurisdiction.

18 We value the California coast. It is extremely
19 important to the economy of California. Some \$45 billion
20 of economic activity occur along the coast and, directly
21 related to it, tourism, and all of the other economic
22 activities.

23 But, it's far more than that. It really is a
24 spiritual thing for Californians. And we do not want it
25 fouled.

1 And we would ask you to rescind the Bush
2 administration's proposals and stop the billions of
3 dollars that would be spent if new leases were to be
4 approved off the California coast. Those billions could
5 far better serve California, the nation, and the world --
6 and, certainly, our world environment -- if that money
7 were spent on renewables.

8 The Senator has spoken to several projects. The
9 Governor has spoken of other projects, all of which are
10 not only viable, they are underway. We could use those
11 billions to advance renewable resources; that's where the
12 investment should be made.

13 We know that you're headed in that direction,
14 Mr. Secretary. Please continue. Please reject the
15 proposal for new leases off the California coast.

16 Thank you, very much.

17 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Congresswoman Lynne Woolsey,
18 thank you for being here.

19 CONGRESSWOMAN WOOLSEY: Thank you, very much,
20 Mr. Secretary, for holding this important meeting --
21 hearing -- today.

22 In the name of environmentalists, the
23 conservationists, the fishers, the local governments in
24 Marin and Sonoma County, we welcome you to our
25 spectacular coast; and we invite you to Marin and Sonoma

1 Counties at your very earliest convenience to visit the
2 areas I'm going to talk about today.

3 National security, a strong economy, a healthy
4 environment, depend on making the right decisions
5 regarding energy for the right reasons. Big oil has
6 campaigned relentlessly to open up new offshore oil
7 tracts and political sloganeering in some quarters
8 actually replaced sound policy.

9 Yet, the facts are clear:

10 We could start the lease sales process tomorrow. It
11 would be at least ten years before a gallon of gas is
12 produced. We could add new drilling platforms off our
13 entire Outer Continental Shelf and the United States oil
14 production would go up about 7 percent by 2030, providing
15 neither energy security nor stable gas prices.

16 So, let me talk a little bit about the coastline
17 that I know best, the blue waters just north of the
18 Golden Gate in Marin and Sonoma Counties.

19 Mr. Secretary, these waters are some of the most
20 biologically productive on the planet. They're located
21 in the California upwelling zone, one of only four zones
22 on earth that collectively produce 20 percent of the
23 world's fish, even though these waters make up only one
24 percent of the world's oceans.

25 It produces a food web that provides nutrition to

1 thousands of species, including the blue whale, the
2 largest creature ever to exist. So productive is this
3 environment that it supports 36 species of Marin
4 mammals -- marine mammals -- including the king predators
5 of the seas, orcas; and including great white sharks as
6 well as the largest sea bird colony in the lower 48
7 states.

8 Through these waters, Mr. Secretary, migrate three
9 threatened salmon species, which is the final hope of a
10 restored fishery, and the thousands of families that
11 depend on it.

12 The Marin coast is permanently protected against
13 offshore drilling because of its inclusion in the Gulf of
14 the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine
15 Sanctuary. Sanctuary protection ends, however, at Bodega
16 Head in Sonoma County.

17 According to NOAA, the Marine Resources Office of
18 Sonoma County and Southern Mendocino, equal or exceed the
19 biological richness within the present sanctuaries; in
20 fact, Point Arena is in southern Mendocino, has the most
21 intense upwelling in North America and drives the
22 conveyor belt of food south and through some of the most
23 biologically diverse and abundant waters on this planet.

24 In the event of an oil spill, this same natural
25 conveyor would carry an oil slick south into three

1 pending state marine protected areas, into the San
2 Francisco Bay, and into three National Marine
3 Sanctuaries.

4 The Point Arena Basin, that you are considering for
5 oil and gas exploration, could be turned from a
6 wellspring of life into a death plume.

7 The Minerals Management Service estimated, at that
8 time, the entire Point Arena Basin holds 2.1 billion
9 gallons of oil. This may seem like a lot of oil; but, we
10 know better. It is not more than a drop. We're talking
11 here about, perhaps, a little more than three months of
12 national oil consumption -- maybe 100 days -- 100 days --
13 of oil to risk some of the most biologically productive
14 waters on the planet to oil spills, lethal underwater air
15 blasts, and releases of toxic substances like mercury,
16 lead cadmium, benzene, and arsenic, into our waters; as
17 well as poisonous and greenhouse gases into our
18 atmosphere.

19 Mr. Secretary, last year, the U.S. House of
20 Representatives passed my legislation to add the coast
21 from Bodega Head to Point Arena to the Gulf of the
22 Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries.

23 Despite Senator Boxer's efforts, the bill stalled in
24 the Senate; but, this Congress, I've reintroduced HR223,
25 and, Senator Boxer has reintroduced a companion bill,

1 S212.

2 And, nowhere, does our coast deserve dirty drilling,
3 seepage, and, oil spills, but, this shimmering band of
4 coast must be protected. Two ocean commissions have
5 reported the accelerating pace of the human-caused
6 destruction of biodiversity and abundance in the oceans.

7 Mr. Secretary, isn't it time to ponder what we're
8 creating for our future?

9 Isn't it time to ponder what we are thinking when we
10 start to solve problems by creating more problems?

11 Isn't it time to start down the path of green
12 technology, clean, renewable energy, and negra barrels of
13 oil?

14 The oil we can save through conservation and energy
15 efficiency?

16 And, Mr. Secretary, I'd like to add, isn't it time
17 we roll back the Bush administration's revisions of the
18 Endangered Species Act policy?

19 Mr. Secretary, simply put:

20 There is another way. Why would we risk so much for
21 so very little?

22 Thank you, again.

23 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Congresswoman Lee?

24 CONGRESSWOMAN LEE: Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

25 First of all, let me just say, as a representative

1 from California's 9th Congressional District, which is
2 located in the East Bay, it's really a pleasure to
3 welcome you to California, and, to the beautiful Bay
4 Area. Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you
5 today, as well as for hosting this public hearing.

6 I'd also like to applaud you for your comprehensive
7 approach to addressing the issue of energy and resource
8 development in the Outer Continental Shelf.

9 I'm greatly encouraged by your reliance on
10 science-based evidence; and, most importantly, your
11 willingness to weigh more than industry concerns by
12 soliciting meaningful and constructive engagement from
13 the public.

14 So, thank you, very much, Mr. Secretary. This is a
15 new process. Democracy is alive, finally, once again.
16 Thank you.

17 Of course, these practices, largely absent in recent
18 years, are certainly responsible for a welcoming and
19 transparent atmosphere that we have here today, as we
20 work to develop a more responsible and enlightened energy
21 policy for America's future.

22 For more than 25 years, the Congress and the
23 president maintained a bi-partisan agreement to ban any
24 new drilling off of our shores, because we believed that
25 it was more important to safeguard the health and beauty

1 of our coastal environmental for future generations to
2 enjoy.

3 The moratorium on drilling in the Outer Continental
4 Shelf which, unfortunately, was allowed to lapse in 2008,
5 long stood as a shining example of our commitment to
6 balancing America's energy needs with protection of our
7 nation's most pristine and environmentally sensitive
8 areas.

9 I continue to believe that the best and most
10 responsible path forward is one in which our coastlines
11 remain free from offshore oil and gas drilling, and, our
12 demand for fossil fuels is diminished through the use of
13 renewable energy sources and the deployment of energy
14 efficient technologies.

15 Offshore drilling poses too great a risk for our
16 coastal communities, our economies, and our ecosystems.
17 At a time when our nation's coasts face significant
18 challenges ranging from an ever-expanding population to
19 the threat of rising sea levels, and increasing and more
20 powerful natural disasters as a result of global climate
21 change, we cannot afford to sacrifice the long-term
22 health of the environment for short-term economic or
23 political goals or interests. We can't afford to do it.

24 As a result of both Hurricanes Katrina and Rita,
25 nearly 750,000 gallons of oil were spilled offshore, and,

1 more than eight million gallons were spilled from onshore
2 facilities in the Louisiana Delta. Even a medium-sized
3 spill can be an economic catastrophe with long-term and
4 far-reaching impacts on marine environment and on coastal
5 areas depending on tourism or fishing as a major economic
6 driver.

7 Proponents of fossil fuel production off our coast
8 have, no doubt, assured you that recent technological
9 advances have reduced or eliminated the threat of spills
10 and other significant environmental concerns.

11 However, as my constituents and all those
12 surrounding the San Francisco Bay know, in fact,
13 throughout the State of California, know too well,
14 following the massive oil spill in the San Francisco Bay
15 by the Costco Busan shipping vessel in November of 2007,
16 it's more often not only human error that leads to these
17 disasters.

18 On March 24, 2009, the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill
19 Trustee Council highlighted enduring consequences of such
20 accidents in a report marking the 20th anniversary of the
21 worst oil spill in U.S. waters. The Council reported
22 that lingering oil continues to be found more than 450
23 miles away and it's estimated to persist in an amount of
24 20,000 gallons. This unfortunate black mark on our
25 nation's effort to protect the global environment

1 continues to illustrate the importance -- the
2 importance -- of adequate and preventative environmental
3 safeguards in environmentally sensitive areas.

4 I can't stress enough the importance of preventative
5 approaches to safeguarding our environment; and, in doing
6 so, remaining good stewards of our communities and our
7 planet.

8 Simply put:

9 I cannot support a policy that would jeopardize our
10 environment and marine life, the health of bay, and the
11 people whose economic livelihoods depend on it.

12 We, as a nation, find ourselves in a moment of great
13 opportunity; an opportunity to move America beyond its
14 addiction to oil and fossil fuels and to rebuild our
15 economy on the foundation of a comprehensive and
16 sustainable energy strategy, based on a truly clean and
17 renewable source of energy -- sources of energy.

18 In 2007, the Department of Energy, under the Bush
19 administration, studied the potential returns from
20 opening the Outer Continental Shelf to development for
21 oil and natural gas production. They concluded that
22 access to the Pacific, Atlantic and Eastern Gulf regions
23 would not have a significant impact on domestic crude oil
24 and natural gas production on prices before 2030.

25 And, more importantly, that any impact on the

1 average well-head prices is expected to be insignificant
2 in contrast with immediate action to increase energy
3 efficiency, raise fuel economy standards, increase the
4 use of renewable energy, and adopt a foreign policy, mind
5 you, that does not hold or constituents hostage to the
6 latest political crisis in the Middle East. We can
7 realize substantial gains in our pursuit of energy
8 independence.

9 So, Mr. Secretary, you have repeatedly cited
10 President Obama's pledge to develop a new strategy for
11 energy development, a forward look at strategy grounded
12 in innovation, and one that will create a clean
13 energy-based economy that is essential in revitalizing
14 our communities and restoring our economy.

15 So, thank you, Mr. Secretary, for being here. Just
16 know, I stand ready to support you and President Obama as
17 you move forward; but, I believe -- like I believe this
18 entire panel believes -- that offshore drilling should
19 not be an option.

20 Thank you, again.

21 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you, very much.

22 And, now, we'll turn to Congresswoman Napolitano.

23 CONGRESSWOMAN NAPOLITANO: Thank you, Mr. Secretary;
24 and it's a pleasure to be here. I'm from Southern
25 California. Don't forget, we have beaches down there,

1 too. And I certainly want to thank President Obama and
2 his administration, especially you, for seeing the
3 importance of coming to communities and getting the input
4 directly from the people affected. This is so very
5 important, so, thank you, again. He's my "halo".

6 I think all of us in California are very concerned
7 about the drilling on our coast and the effect it's had,
8 and, I won't belabor what my colleagues have already
9 covered in the spills; and the most of them have been up
10 in the northern part of the shoreline. We ended up with
11 a lot of those results, especially with the dead marine
12 life on our shores.

13 So, to say that we don't care, we tremendously care,
14 because we're also affected in tourism, the economic and
15 the environmental aspects of it; and I do remember seeing
16 and hearing and talking about those spills back in those
17 areas, because I've been in Southern California almost 50
18 years. I'm a Texas transplant.

19 President Nixon had said at the time, whether it's
20 wind power, biomass, and hydrokinetics, whatever, to be
21 able to say that we must use our resources of the sea and
22 of the land in a more effective way and with more concern
23 for preserving the beauty and the natural resources that
24 are so important to any kind of society that we want for
25 the future -- and that was well said.

1 The future energy development of the Outer
2 Continental Shelf must meet -- must be worked
3 cooperatively and performed in a way that preserves our
4 marine ecosystems, our ocean life, and the people that
5 depend on them. And this is all -- you've heard it. I
6 don't have to belabor that; but, that's something that we
7 all feel, regardless of where we come from in California.

8 And, as was pointed out, several times, in order to
9 protect our oceans, we must move away from drilling in
10 them.

11 One of the things -- because I sit on the Natural
12 Resources Committee and I'm Chair of the Subcommittee on
13 Water and Power, although, this is not my jurisdiction,
14 water is critical; and, in speaking to Mr. Secretary,
15 he's indicated that he is looking at hydrokinetics.
16 That's the development of energy through the ocean's
17 waves, and that energy being captured and produced into
18 energy.

19 Well, we need to do more of the research and
20 development, find out whose doing it; and, apparently,
21 there are countries already way ahead of the curve on
22 that. I know that, in New York, they're already doing
23 it. They have pilot projects. We must be able to invest
24 more of that kind of technology that is not going to
25 affect marine life or endanger our coast; or, be able to

1 provide and be able to provide new clean, green jobs for
2 our youngsters, for our people.

3 So, there are many areas that you, you know, this is
4 something that is essential. This is a new area that we
5 have not begun to really invest in; and I think, in the
6 future, we need to be focused on how else, if we're not
7 going to be able to do any drilling, which we all don't
8 want, especially, in California, then, how are we going
9 to supplant job development and be able to get that
10 energy?

11 And anybody that will listen to me, because in my
12 subcommittee, we have jurisdiction over the 17 western
13 states, the rivers, dams, and canals; and, with climate
14 change, you're having a lot of evaporation, so, that
15 means you're not going to have as much water in the dams
16 and in the rivers to create electricity.

17 So, how do we develop new technology to be able to
18 say to our country, we accept the growth, and, we're
19 going to meet the demand that growth requires?

20 Well, in order to do that, we have to look at the
21 overall picture. Part of it is, you look at our society
22 and what effect it has on our country's economy, on our
23 environment, and our abilities to sustain what we know
24 we're great at.

25 So, those are areas that I am looking forward to

1 working with you, Mr. Secretary, with my colleagues. I
2 know that not too long ago there were hearings in Natural
3 Resources, which I attended, where there were proponents
4 for being able to find ways of getting more leases
5 approved; and this was before this administration came
6 in. Well, they didn't meet with a lot of support from
7 our committee, let me tell you, simply, because we
8 knew -- we had facts before us that the indicated that
9 they had thousands of leases they were not exercising
10 their options on; but, they want more. And we thought,
11 well, wait a minute. If you are not exercising, what's
12 the reason then? Trade them up -- trade it in -- but,
13 don't ask for more, when you're sitting on and that you
14 have not been able to work for.

15 So, you understand, in Washington, we need your
16 input through my colleagues, but also understand we need
17 your support and being able to get that information at
18 hand, so, when those individuals who are proponents of
19 drilling come before us and give us information that is,
20 many times, one-sided -- now, simply, most of us that
21 live in California know the difference and so we do argue
22 and we do propose that they go back to the table and
23 start working with everybody else to be able to figure
24 out how we can do it -- if there's any way to be able to
25 do any of the drilling on what they already hold -- but

1 not in California -- that is going to affect our
2 environment and our coast.

3 I know Chairman Ray Hoyt is very interested in the
4 issue. He has held one hearing. He's the Chairman of
5 the Natural Resources Full Committee; and, in February,
6 in anticipation of holding more in the future, he has
7 maintained that any energy research to explore the
8 Continental Shelf must be done in a responsible,
9 environmentally sound and transparent manner.

10 So, you know, you have somebody who listens and who
11 understands the issue and who cares about the
12 environment.

13 And, so, with that, I thank you, Mr. Chairman --
14 Mr. Secretary -- and look forward to working with you on
15 this issue. And thank you, again, for being in
16 California,, and we look forward to seeing you here
17 again.

18 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you, Grace.

19 And now we'll hear from Congresswoman Spear.

20 CONGRESSWOMAN SPEAR: Thank you, Mr. Secretary and
21 thank you for holding this hearing.

22 Let me start by saying that we welcome you here to
23 our beautiful city and our beautiful coast and we're
24 grateful for your leadership as the Department of
25 Interior undergoes a transformation that is truly long

1 overdue. We have a new administration in the White House
2 and President Obama has made it clear, not only that
3 science is back, but, that the time has come for bold
4 action to revolutionize our energy and environmental
5 policies.

6 Mr. Secretary, you have a monumental task in front
7 of you, but, I believe I speak for many when I share the
8 president's confidence that you have the ability to get
9 the job done. Let me also bring greetings from my good
10 friend and colleague Congressman Mike Thompson who wanted
11 to be here in person today, but, he's traveling this week
12 with the Intelligence Committee in his role as a
13 subcommittee chairman. He wants to reiterate his
14 opposition to drilling off the north coast and he will be
15 submitting written comments for the record.

16 For too long, our national debate on energy has been
17 hijacked by a "drill baby drill" mentality that does
18 nothing for our economic recovery or national security
19 and that dumbs down the vision we need to achieve real
20 and lasting energy independence.

21 We have a new rallying cry and it is, "baby, baby,
22 no more drilling". This vision lies firmly with bold
23 efforts on conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable
24 energy. It is in keeping with the American spirit of
25 innovation; and, according, to study after study, from

1 government to non-government entities, it will lead to
2 cleaner, greener jobs; and far more of them than we can
3 ever create by further subsidizing dirty fossil fuels.

4 I've been committed to protecting our coastline
5 since I became active in politics in 1987. In my first
6 term in the California State Assembly, I wrote the
7 legislation calling on Congress to extend the moratorium
8 on offshore oil exploration. Nothing the oil companies
9 have said or promised since has dissuaded me from the
10 belief that opening our oceans to further pollution is
11 not a good idea.

12 Last year, after a heated debate in Congress, fought
13 by the Bush administration, we passed the Comprehensive
14 American Energy Security and Consumer Protection Act,
15 which prohibited the administration from granting oil
16 leases off our coast without further specific permission
17 from the state.

18 When the federal moratorium expired on September
19 20th, California was in danger of the Bush administration
20 allowing its friends in the oil industry to drill within
21 three miles of our coastline. While that energy bill was
22 by no means perfect, it limited drilling off the
23 Continental Shelf to 50 miles from shore and prohibited
24 any leases unless the state opted in. Since the bill
25 provides for no royalties to be paid to states,

1 California had no incentive to allow more drilling in the
2 Pacific Ocean.

3 But, it is now time to take a more responsible
4 approach to managing our natural resources on the Outer
5 Continental Shelf. I urge the Interior Department to
6 focus on developing existing resources in areas already
7 open to drilling; not expanding leasing into protected
8 areas.

9 You know, the facts speak for themselves. By the
10 Interior Department's own data, 80 percent of known oil
11 reserves on the OCS are already open to drilling; but,
12 oil companies are actually producing on only 21% of those
13 leases; and, on the rest, not a barrel since the
14 moratoria were lifted last year offshore drilling
15 activity has seen a remarkable slowdown. The number of
16 active rigs on all federal leases has declined from over
17 2000 in September of 2008 to 1,000 this week; and the
18 number of crude oil wells drilled has dropped from 1600
19 in September to 800 as of last week; that's a 50 percent
20 nosedive on both counts in six months.

21 Furthermore, the government estimates that U.S.
22 demand for oil will increase to 28 million barrels per
23 day in 2025; but, even peak production from the OCS would
24 account for less than one percent of that daily demand.

25 Clearly, betting the health of our coasts on a

1 fraction of one percent would be a foolish mistake when
2 baby steps -- literally, baby steps -- in conservation
3 and efficiency, such as raising the fuel economy
4 standards along the trajectory Congress and the president
5 have established negate the needs several times over.

6 Now, Mr. Secretary, I want to tell you about a small
7 company in my district. I visited it this week. It's a
8 company by the name of Solar Time. It is remarkable in
9 that it is feeding agricultural waste products like wood
10 chips and sawdust and grasses to a variety of algae and
11 then harvesting the oils that the algae produces. These
12 oils can be used for everything from cooking oil -- it's
13 as good as olive oil -- to clean biodiesel and even jet
14 fuel.

15 While I was there, I drove a conventional vehicle
16 that they had poured this biodiesel into it and I rode it
17 right along the streets of South San Francisco. That is
18 the kind of investment we have to make. That is the kind
19 of effort we have to take in order to make sure there is
20 no more offshore oil drilling off the coast of
21 California.

22 Now, the California coast is a national treasure and
23 an economic powerhouse, generating about \$23 billion a
24 year in fishing, tourism, and recreational activities;
25 supporting over 390,000 jobs in this region. We don't

1 need another rig and we don't need another Santa Barbara
2 oil spill turning our waters toxic. Our children and our
3 grandchildren deserve better. If we make our voices
4 heard, we will safeguard their future.

5 Thank you, again, Mr. Secretary, for this
6 opportunity.

7 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you, very, very much for
8 your comments and for your presentation.

9 And the next part of the agenda is to hear from USGS
10 and MMS on the information that they developed.

11 But, before I ask Bob and Brenda to do their
12 presentation, I'm going to -- since -- I will ask that,
13 since the area's proposed to be opened up in the Pacific,
14 I want to ask Senator Boxer, Governor Garamendi, and
15 Congresswoman Napolitano, who is here from the south --
16 okay -- there are a number of areas that are proposed to
17 be opened up in California -- and I know there is a
18 different history with respect to each of those areas.
19 There's different geological seismic information that we
20 have with respect to those areas.

21 But, one of those areas is Northern California
22 program area where we have the point -- you guys probably
23 pronounce Point Arena -- some of us "Point Aena" Basin
24 there.

25 Then, as we move down to the Southern California

1 program area, we have the Santa Maria Basin, Santa
2 Barbara-Ventura Basin, and the Oceanside-Capistrano
3 Basin.

4 So, let me start with Grace and then go to the
5 Lieutenant Governor and then end up with the senior
6 member here, with Senator Boxer.

7 Comment, for just a quick minute or two, from your
8 point of view, as to whether or not there's a difference
9 with respect to each of those proposed planning areas for
10 oil and gas development.

11 CONGRESSWOMAN NAPOLITANO: Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

12 And, while I don't represent any of those areas, I
13 know some of the history behind it. In the Santa Maria,
14 which is further up north, there are some valuable areas
15 that need to be protected; and I can't give you any
16 information, but, I know it's -- San Juan Capistrano,
17 that is a highly tourism area; in fact, I think it was
18 close to the former Nixon White House, in that general
19 area, so -- that was all -- and has been developing in
20 the last, I would say, 15 years into an area.

21 That is not only tourism-based, but, you have a lot
22 of other industry in that area:

23 Race tracks that attracts a lot of people to that
24 area;

25 Boating;

1 And then, of course, you have the Marine base, right
2 close by, that protects the sanctuary in that general
3 area.

4 So, all of that has been in reserve for a long time.
5 The ocean, you have a lot of estuary, you have a lot of
6 wildlife sanctuaries that brings in a lot of your
7 environmental folks to come and look and study birds and
8 fowl and wildlife. Well, all that still is impacted when
9 there's oil spills because it migrates into the general
10 area --

11 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Congresswoman Napolitano, what
12 you would say is the concerns -- I'm going to ask you a
13 question, even though these areas are not next to your
14 Congressional district.

15 You say your concerns are the same in Southern
16 California as they are in Northern California?

17 CONGRESSWOMAN NAPOLITANO: Very much so.

18 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Let me ask Northern
19 California -- the Lieutenant Governor-- what he thinks.

20 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR GARAMENDI: The three areas that
21 are under discussion here are all areas that are
22 presently pristine and without drilling. Congresswoman
23 Woolsey spoke to the northern area and the extraordinary
24 ecological value of that area. She also spoke to the
25 issue of the pristine nature of it. It is an

1 extraordinary coastline, and oil drilling would have a
2 disastrous effect on all the values; certainly, the
3 environmental, the ecological values of the ocean as well
4 as --

5 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Let me ask you to answer this
6 question:

7 One of the arguments that I hear from oil and gas
8 industries is, we already have oil and gas production in
9 these waters. You have responsibility --

10 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR GARAMENDI: Not in Northern
11 California.

12 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Hold on --

13 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR GARAMENDI: Not in Northern
14 California.

15 SECRETARY SALAZAR: I'm asking you about the south.

16 So, you have oil and gas production in the south
17 that's been going on. I hear oil and gas companies tell
18 me, well, if we can do it in a way that is avoids
19 environmental damage in the south and state waters that
20 are much closer to the coastline, why would we not be
21 able to do it in federal waters?

22 Is there an inconsistency here with respect to the
23 regulatory regime that you have for California or state
24 lands and that which you would want the federal
25 government to have with respect to the OCS?

1 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR GARAMENDI: I'll try to go
2 directly to your question.

3 Two of these areas, the Santa Maria and the northern
4 area are not now under production; and there are some
5 leases such as south of the Santa Maria area, that are
6 presently leased, but, production is not taking place
7 there.

8 The Santa Barbara Channel -- there is heavy
9 production in the Santa Barbara Channel area and -- both
10 on state as well as the federal lands.

11 As I expressed in my testimony, the state has issued
12 no new leases for 40 years, specifically, because we did
13 not want additional oil drilling off the coast of
14 California.

15 The most recent rejection was two and-a-half months
16 ago, the Orange County area -- the southern most area is
17 off the Orange County coast, south of the Long Beach
18 beach area, and that area does not have, presently, oil
19 drilling off that area.

20 With regard to the risk -- Senator Boxer spoke to
21 that issue -- even with the most modern and
22 technologically known methods of drilling, there is
23 still -- there are still spills that occur, and various
24 kinds of toxic materials are released into the ocean
25 environment.

1 Bottom line, for the State Lands Commission, of
2 which I'm the current Chair, is that we, a week ago,
3 passed, yet, another resolution asking the federal
4 government to not engage in any new leasing:

5 Because of the environmental risks;

6 Because of the pristine nature of certain areas of
7 the state;

8 And because there is a far, far better opportunity
9 and option for the expenditure of billions of dollars --
10 and it will be billions of dollars spent -- in developing
11 these areas. Spend that money on renewables and then
12 we'll get a good result.

13 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Senator Boxer, Governor
14 Kulongoski, and the other members of Congress, I'd like
15 you to just give me a quick minute or two -- we don't
16 have a lot of time here -- on the question of renewable
17 energy. Much of the discussion here has been on oil and
18 gas.

19 I'd like the rest of you, starting with Governor
20 Kulongoski, just give me a quick minute or two on what
21 you think we ought to be doing with renewable energy.

22 Senator Boxer?

23 SENATOR BOXER: Thank you.

24 Well, let me just say, as an environmentalist, the
25 more you drill, the risk goes up exponentially the more

1 you drill-- that's a no-brainer. It's like, if you
2 have -- if you live in a very high crime area,
3 Mr. Secretary, and your teenage daughter says, you know,
4 I'm tired of being in the house. I want to go out alone;
5 and you have an argument with her and, finally, you
6 agree, okay, one night a week, I'll let you go out in
7 this high crime area; and then she comes back and says,
8 well, I'd like to go out seven nights a week in this high
9 crime area, you're raising the risk of her having a
10 problem.

11 So, the fact is, if you're just going to raise the
12 risk exponentially. The more you drill, even where
13 there's -- really, in state waters, in this case -- those
14 decisions were made a long time ago and there's a lot of
15 drilling going on and it's very nerve-racking to people
16 who live near it. All you have to do is look at it and
17 all you need to do is see what's been displaced because
18 of it.

19 And to say, well, gee, we already got the first
20 scratch on the car; now, let's just scratch up the whole
21 car, I just think it's the wrong way to think.

22 I think what we need to do is cut our losses -- cut
23 our losses and just say no to future new drilling.

24 Let me be very brief with you on this -- and that's
25 hard for a Senator, you know, but, I will be -- we have

1 these fantastic marine sanctuaries, which Lynn Woolsey
2 talked about the new addition that we're going to make --
3 and that's a long story why it got held up, but, we're
4 going to get it done this year -- but, the fact is, if
5 you look at those marine sanctuaries that go through the
6 Farallones, up in the north, near the Cordell Bank, the
7 Monterey Bay and Channel Islands, they're all over the
8 coastal areas.

9 And I want to talk to you about the Channel Islands
10 which is -- it's near Santa Barbara -- and what we know
11 about that is it's the most ecologically sensitive area
12 in the whole country. So, where you have made these
13 investments in these sanctuaries, any additional risk is
14 unwarranted.

15 And I would reiterate, again, the multi-billions of
16 dollars that are generated in these areas. So, if you're
17 looking just at hard, cold economics, I think you just
18 come down on the side of no new drilling; because we have
19 developed an incredible coastal economy that is a bright
20 spot, even in these tough times, and we can't risk it one
21 bit more.

22 So, yes, to looking at alternative ways of getting
23 us the energy we need;

24 Yes to conservation;

25 Yes to energy efficiency;

1 And I would end on this point:

2 You're looking at people in a state here, out here,
3 the citizens, the elected officials, who have long
4 believed and understood that energy is important to our
5 state's growth.

6 But, this is what we've done in the last 25-30
7 years. We have kept energy per capita use totally flat,
8 while the rest of the country has gone up this way -- you
9 know, just doubled.

10 Now, the space between this is kind of hard to do --
11 talk this way -- but, the space between holding it flat
12 and this runaway, you know, lack of concern, really, or
13 lack of information about our over use of energy. This
14 can make a huge difference in the global warming problem,
15 in the pockets of our consumers.

16 And the rest I'm going to have to go because, very
17 sadly, I mean, I am speaking at a memorial for that
18 little eight year-old girl Sandra Cantu, and so I'm going
19 to go there momentarily.

20 But, upon my leaving, there is one beautiful poster
21 I'd like to give to you as a memory of this trip; and,
22 instead of looking at dead birds and oil spills, this is
23 Lynne Woolsey's district. This is the Sonoma coast. You
24 are going to be a great Interior Secretary. And one of
25 your greatest legacies is making sure that our unspoiled

1 areas of coast, whether it's Jackie's or Grace's or
2 everybody else's, the whole coast, you can make that
3 happen.

4 And we are so -- we're putting our faith and our
5 hopes in you. We give you this beautiful poster with a
6 lot of love and a lot of faith in you. Thank you, very
7 much, Mr. Secretary.

8 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you, Senator Boxer. Thank
9 you, very much.

10 We -- this hearing is not only about oil and gas,
11 but also about renewables. And I want to have the other
12 members of the panel, if you can give me a minute or two,
13 just on your point of view on how we ought to move
14 forward with renewables, if at all, starting with you,
15 Governor Kulongoski.

16 GOVERNOR KULONGOSKI: Mr. Secretary, if I could, you
17 may well know that Oregonians have a special preference
18 for the ocean and our beaches because we're the only
19 state in the country where the public owns up to the high
20 tide mark on all the beaches. You could, theoretically,
21 walk from the northern to the southern corridor of Oregon
22 on our beaches, which are owned by our citizens. We --
23 actually, this difference in the border extends much
24 further than the territory of the sea -- and, as we look
25 out, we are investing quite heavily in wave energy.

1 The Oregon State University, as I told you -- and
2 the new NOAA Administrator is on the faculty at Oregon
3 State University, Jane Lubchenco -- has a great
4 commitment to the development of wave energy; so, I think
5 there's a great future there.

6 The issue of actually putting wind turbines in the
7 ocean is something that the public is looking at. It
8 is -- to be very frank with you, it's controversial. It
9 is an aesthetic issue. It's -- Oregonians like to look
10 out and see the water. My belief is, though, that -- if
11 I could -- on two points:

12 One, the issue of this commitment to drilling still
13 on oil and gas and understanding there must be a
14 transition from where we're at today to the
15 commercialization of renewable energy whether it's wave
16 or solar, whatever we do, will take time.

17 The dilemma for us is, as far as I'm concerned is,
18 this continuing investment in exploration of oil and gas
19 sends the wrong message to the people of this country.
20 We have to make this transition. And continuing to
21 invest in drilling, to me, actually, will not get us to
22 where we want to be: To be energy independent and have
23 energy security.

24 SECRETARY SALAZAR: If I may, Governor, just to ask
25 you a question here on the wave energy project, because

1 that's something that you are high on in Oregon and want
2 to move forward with -- and I had that conversation with
3 Jane Lubchenco -- let me -- how far away is that
4 technology?

5 We talk about transition. Is that something you
6 think that we're going to see wave energy production
7 providing an amount of energy for Oregon in five years,
8 ten years, 25 years, or, do we have no date?

9 GOVERNOR KULONGOSKI: I think, to be very frank,
10 that it would be some time before the commercialization
11 of wave energy actually is an appreciable part of the
12 energy portfolio of this country.

13 But, I actually think that, when I say that in
14 Oregon, if you're actually -- it's somewhere between five
15 and ten percent of a contributor to the grid -- I think
16 that you're moving the ball forward.

17 And so I think that what we develop on the West
18 Coast, actually, benefits California more than it does
19 Oregon, because you consume much more than we do, so, we
20 become a forum for you on this issue.

21 But, it is good to move this country to this
22 position and reduce Californian's reliance upon fossil
23 fuels.

24 So, I think that we will get there. To be very
25 frank, I think it's going to be a considerable amount of

1 time before all of the renewables that we talk about make
2 an appreciable impact on the energy portfolio of this
3 country.

4 I think that you're going to be using oil and gas
5 for some time; but, you have to tell the people you want
6 to change and move forward and this is not going to
7 continue forever.

8 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you, Governor.
9 Congresswoman Woolsey?

10 CONGRESSWOMAN WOOLSEY: Thank you, Governor; and,
11 for sure, we know that offshore renewable energy,
12 especially wind and wave, properly sited, has
13 potential -- but, "properly sited" is the operational
14 word at this point.

15 In our area, the proposed sites for some of the wind
16 leases is right in the middle of our sanctuaries. And I
17 would like to say that I don't think that meets the
18 "properly sited" criteria; but, where there's a will,
19 there's a way. We don't need to just jump and leap into
20 the new ideas; that they need to be studied and they need
21 to be weighed, cause and effect, and, advantage and
22 disadvantage, because this is a huge challenge for our
23 energy and our future. So, properly sited, let's just
24 keep that out in front of us.

25 SECRETARY SALAZAR: You would support wind properly

1 sited off the California coast?

2 CONGRESSWOMAN WOOLSEY: Properly sited, absolutely;
3 but, there's other technologies that we must not overlook
4 while we're going to the new ideas.

5 SECRETARY SALAZAR: On the coast or the Outer
6 Continental Shelf.

7 CONGRESSWOMAN WOOLSEY: Solar would be one of them.

8 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Congresswoman Lee?

9 CONGRESSWOMAN LEE: Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

10 As I said in my statement, I do believe that the
11 best and most responsible path forward is one in which
12 our coastlines remain free of offshore oil and gas
13 drilling;

14 And that our demand for fossil fuel is diminished;

15 And, of course, through the use of renewable energy
16 sources and the deployment of energy efficient
17 technologies.

18 And I'd like to just mention a couple of things with
19 regard to why I think the increased research and
20 development for renewable energy technology and sources
21 is extremely important.

22 As an example, in my district in Oakland,
23 California, we have a Green Job Corp. Using energy and
24 renewable energy sources as an alternative is a
25 win-win-win proposition. We can create jobs. We have

1 the Green Job Corp which is training young people,
2 communities of color, how to begin to learn the
3 weatherization process; how to green buildings; what to
4 do with solar panels. And these training programs
5 provide the training for the good-paying jobs that are
6 going to exist, now, in the green industry.

7 And so I think it's very critical that we invest in
8 R&D for the renewable energy sources, but also that we --
9 and I know one of your priorities is our young people --
10 look at how we train young people and use what we learn
11 to create these jobs as a pathway out of poverty so that
12 we can provide good-paying jobs out of what we're doing
13 in terms of not relying on anymore offshore drilling, but
14 renewable energy sources.

15 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you, Congresswoman Lee.

16 Congresswoman Napolitano?

17 CONGRESSWOMAN NAPOLITANO: Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

18 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Hold on. I've already called on
19 you here. You've already talked about Southern
20 California --

21 CONGRESSWOMAN NAPOLITANO: Not on green energy.

22 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Okay, but, I'm already way over
23 time, so, Congresswoman Spear?

24 CONGRESSWOMAN SPEAR: Thank you, Mr. Secretary; and
25 I'll be very brief.

1 I guess the best way to answer this question is to
2 invite you back here to visit the hot bed --

3 SECRETARY SALAZAR: I've already spent two of my
4 first 80 days in office in California.

5 CONGRESSWOMAN SPEAR: The point I want to make to
6 you, Mr. Secretary, is:

7 This is the hot bed of innovation for green
8 technology; and I mentioned one company. I could mention
9 a handful of other companies: One that has created an
10 engine that is 90 percent more efficient than the ones we
11 use in our vehicles today --

12 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Let me ask you this question:

13 What is our renewable energy real possibility?

14 I mean, I know there's all of the technology
15 exploration that's going on. There are many companies in
16 California that are looking at solar, wind, and
17 geothermal and current wave; and a lot of renewable
18 energy.

19 What about starting to bring back manufacturing?

20 Where can we go with that?

21 How far can we get?

22 New York -- I'll give you an example -- New York --
23 the governor and his people talked to me in Atlantic City
24 about their goal of having -- they have a 45 percent
25 renewable portfolio standard for New York:

1 30 percent comes from renewables;
2 15 percent, they say, is an efficient carbon;
3 45 percent is (inaudible).

4 Where do you think we can go?

5 CONGRESSWOMAN SPEAR: Well, I think, near
6 California, we'll beat out New York. We've got a number
7 of members from the State Legislature here. They could
8 probably give you both chapter and verse on how many we
9 have. We're way above what every other state is doing in
10 terms of demands.

11 SECRETARY SALAZAR: What can we do as a nation?
12 When do we confront this issue?

13 CONGRESSWOMAN SPEAR: I think the sky's the limit.
14 I think, if you make the opportunity for more renewables,
15 that you create more incentives for conservation. I
16 think that the reliance on foreign oil will be
17 diminished, substantially; much like it has because of
18 the economic crisis in this country for the last six
19 months.

20 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Would you support wind, then, in
21 the Outer --

22 CONGRESSWOMAN SPEAR: Would I support wind energy
23 offshore?

24 Was that the question?

25 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Offshore development -- wind

1 turbines off the California coast -- would you support
2 that?

3 CONGRESSWOMAN SPEAR: I think if they could be
4 constructed in a way that is not harmful to the marine
5 life, that is visually acceptable. Absolutely.

6 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Congresswoman, coming back to
7 you for what will be the next to last final comment and
8 then I will give Lynne her final comment.

9 CONGRESSWOMAN NAPOLITANO: Thank you, Mr. Secretary.
10 Very quickly, in my district, IBEW is working --
11 National Electrical Contractors -- to green buildings --
12 their own buildings -- producing 85 percent of their
13 training needs of electricity in Southern California; and
14 they're greening buildings.

15 One of their physicists -- one of their friends --
16 who is working with them has converted a Prius to get 140
17 miles per gallon by utilization of solar panels on his
18 wife's vehicle. He's greened a home; he's provided a
19 motorcycle that he runs on green energy -- nothing but
20 solar energy.

21 The technology is being developed. The funding is a
22 portion of what's going to be critical is how do we help
23 these individuals be able to, not necessarily mass
24 produce it, but, put it in the hands of those that are
25 going to utilize it for the benefit of the general

1 public; because, you'll find the ENRON's of the world and
2 those that will take it over and start driving prices up.
3 We don't want that; but, if you don't find and work with
4 these individuals, they're not going to be able then to
5 help develop this energy-producing power that's green.

6 It's there. It's already -- you talk about the
7 hydrokinetics -- that's already in some areas -- already
8 pilot -- but, with solar, I can tell you, California is
9 the lead in many areas; and we hope that is something we
10 can bring you back to take a look at.

11 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Congresswoman Woolsey?

12 All right, Lieutenant Governor Garamendi, I'm going
13 to give you one minute.

14 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR GARAMENDI: I'll take one
15 minute.

16 Your question was, what are the potential for
17 renewables? It's extraordinary in California.

18 A list of projects that are presently underway would
19 give you that impression.

20 In the desert, in areas that you will be responsible
21 for, the Bureau of Land Management, solar parks are
22 likely to be in a piece of legislation by Senator
23 Feinstein; incredible opportunity there.

24 Photovoltaic and solar thermal are being planned --
25 are being financed and are waiting your approval for the

1 projects to go forward;

2 In the San Diego area, in the mountains in San
3 Diego, wind turbines, major opportunity, Tehachapis,
4 underway, being built.

5 You flew over two projects in the Altamont and in
6 the Bay Delta Region of wind turbines; very, very
7 significant.

8 All of this is happening today. You've heard from
9 Congresswoman Spear about the biofuels. All of that is
10 happening today. It's being financed. It is moving
11 forward.

12 What percentage of the total?

13 It starts small. It will eventually be a major
14 part. We're going to 30 percent renewables and we will
15 achieve that within the next ten years.

16 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Lynne, final comments here?

17 CONGRESSWOMAN WOOLSEY: I thought you said we were
18 finished.

19 SECRETARY SALAZAR: I was going to give you
20 (unaudible) everybody else.

21 CONGRESSWOMAN WOOLSEY: Then I'd like to wrap up by
22 thanking you, again, by being here, by being wise enough
23 to ask the questions that can steer us away from
24 absolutely destroying our coasts and taking undue risk;
25 and, at the same time, investing in and funding is key to

1 this.

2 Mr. Secretary, we can talk about all of it, but, if
3 we won't put our resources into alternative energies and
4 our future, then, we aren't going to get there.

5 So, I look forward to working with you in that
6 regard, and, come on up to Marin and Sonoma. We want to
7 host you.

8 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Let me just take the opportunity
9 to thank you all. I see many of you who I work with on
10 an on-going basis. Congresswoman Lee and Congresswoman
11 Napolitano, who have been champions of civil rights
12 and -- in America -- and I -- which is very near and dear
13 to my heart -- and part of the landscape agenda relative,
14 now, as we move forward in making sure we take care of
15 our landscapes and preservation.

16 And all of you who care so much about the Pacific
17 and your state and your districts, I appreciate you
18 giving us time this morning. So, let's give a round of
19 applause to our Congressmen. We are running about 20 or
20 30 minutes late, but, we're going to keep working through
21 this program.

22 I want us to hear from the people who put together
23 the report that has quantified oil and gas potential and
24 the offshore wells' renewable energy potential as well as
25 listening to what some of the issues are that have to be

1 dealt with.

2 And, so, with that, I'm going to have Brenda and Bob
3 take over the program for the next -- we're going to cut
4 this a little bit short. We'll return to it in regular
5 order. We'll probably end up taking a break here, about
6 11:45; then, after the break, we'll come back and I want
7 to hear from the public.

8 Okay, I don't -- this is not just about those who
9 are elected to high office; but, it is important to hear
10 from the people who are here, whether you are pro or
11 whether you are against. So, we'll have some opportunity
12 to do some of that before noon. So, with that, welcome
13 my staff, Bob and Brenda.

14 MR. LABELLE: (Inaudible) Brenda Pierce of the USGS
15 will come up and talk about oil and gas resources
16 offshore and then I'll come back briefly to touch on the
17 environmental challenges and issues that are related to
18 either one of these types of energy sources.

19 And you see that some of the types of are mentioned
20 in the report up there. Also tidal energy has been
21 mentioned today, but, I think that's also addressed as
22 tidal energy. He said, well electric (inaudible) energy
23 use is on the rise and please note along the coast where
24 things are really brightest up there, numbers indicate
25 about 78% total energy use happens along the coasts;

1 demographics, of course, correspond to that.

2 And, this map, the red areas are individuals per
3 square mile greater than 1,000 individuals per square
4 mile and so it's no surprise that the need and the use is
5 along the coast.

6 And then fortunately we're talking about wind power
7 here in addition to the middle of the country which has a
8 substantial wind resource that is starting to be
9 developed. We have excellent sources of wind energy
10 offshore. And this map, the red and blue, are the top
11 wind classes for potential out there.

12 And you can see on the West Coast here you've got
13 Class VII and Class VI winds. Now, what does that mean?

14 It means that they blow in a consistent fashion,
15 between 18 to 25 miles per hour; and that's a -- very,
16 very good for potential development.

17 Just a moment to talk about terminology here in
18 terms of when you're talking about wind energy or other
19 types of energy, you're aware of terms megawatts,
20 gigawatts, etc. When you get your bill at home to pay
21 your electric bill, it's expressed in kilowatts.

22 And a megawatt is simply 1,000 kilowatts;

23 And, likewise, a gigawatt is 1,000 megawatts.

24 You put it in perspective, a coal-fired power plant,
25 a typical one, produces about 350 megawatts for -- one

1 gigawatt of energy is equal to the output from three
2 typical mid-sized coal-fired electrical-generated
3 stations.

4 In your home, the average American home uses about
5 10,000 kilowatt hours per year.

6 And so looking at what a gigawatt of wind power
7 would provide would supply about 225,000 to 300,000
8 average homes with power annually.

9 So, as we move into some of these estimates, keep
10 that in mind; and this map is showing by depth offshore
11 the resources -- I know you can't read the middle -- at
12 least I know I couldn't if I was sitting out there --
13 but, if you look at the chart on the bottom, there's a
14 real good resource in the -- off the Atlantic -- and also
15 off the Pacific. And it goes up -- you see 751 gigawatts
16 off the entire west coast. It goes up to 900, if you
17 include Hawaii.

18 And you can see also that in the next graph that
19 talking about where it is, how far off and how deep most
20 of it, off the West Coast here, is beyond 60 meters of
21 depth, because the shelf does drop off quickly out there.
22 So, this poses a challenge because, of course, it's much
23 easier to set up wind turbines in shallower waters.

24 Now, just to put an estimate on this -- this
25 information, by the way, comes from the Department of

1 Energy National Renewable Energy Lab -- and they're the
2 experts -- and they're doing an update on these numbers
3 that should come out some time this year, but -- in terms
4 of -- there are individual estimates up there that are
5 mentioned by research that's set for Northern California,
6 an overall potential of 25-108 gigawatts, mostly, deep
7 waters.

8 But, if you look at the entire West Coast, there's
9 an estimated gross resource of about 750 gigawatts; and
10 if you were to assume about 40 percent of that developed,
11 it would result in 300 gigawatts; and that could power up
12 90 million average U.S. homes -- and that's assuming full
13 development of that resource in the deeper waters -- and
14 that's quite a challenge; but, it gives you an idea of
15 the potential for wind.

16 We've heard this morning a lot about wave energy as
17 well. It's very, very important. Out here, it's a
18 terrific wave energy resource, especially, off the West
19 Coast and up in Alaska.

20 And with regard to that, there's certainly a good
21 potential, and it has been interested in developing -- as
22 you've heard offshore -- Washington and Oregon, the
23 Electric Power Research Institute has estimated that the
24 wave resources that could be developed off the West
25 Coast, assuming just 15 percent of it being developable,

1 would result in about 20 gigawatts of power, which is
2 enough to power about six million average homes.

3 So, we've tried to put it in perspective for you in
4 terms of the potential that's out there. And I'm going
5 to turn it over to Brenda Pierce from USGS to talk about
6 the oil and gas resources.

7 MS. PIERCE: Thank you, Bob.

8 This is a map of the planning areas of MMS. So, the
9 whole country is broken out into multiple planning areas;
10 and, obviously, a great interest to this group and the
11 discussion here this morning are the four areas off the
12 coast of California.

13 It's important to point out that, after more than 50
14 years of exploration and production, the Outer
15 Continental Shelf -- obviously, in the Gulf of Mexico,
16 but, also northern Alaska -- 70 percent of the total
17 resources are yet to be discovered. So, there is still
18 tremendous oil and gas potential out there in the Outer
19 Continental Shelf that's all over.

20 So, I want to take a moment about to talk about
21 where that is distributed in the MMS's estimates. So,
22 both graphs -- this is oil and gas -- and they're the
23 same graphs for Alaska on the left, the Atlantic, the
24 Gulf of Mexico, and the Pacific; so, again, oil and gas.

25 So, you can see the tremendous potential of the Gulf

1 of Mexico for both oil and gas. That is the motherload
2 of the petroleum potential.

3 Alaska is a close second with a lot of potential;
4 but, there is oil and gas potential -- or estimates in
5 MMS's estimates -- both in the Atlantic and the Pacific.

6 Now, it's important to remember that oil and gas
7 estimates are just that: They are estimates. They're
8 based upon the data available at the time. Because
9 they're estimates, there is uncertainty in them and
10 that's the reason that we give them in ranges.

11 So, for the Pacific, there is a high probability
12 that there's about 7 1/2 billion barrels of oil -- and
13 that's a lower probability -- there's almost 14 billion
14 barrels of oil along the whole Pacific with a mean or an
15 average of about 10 and-a-half billion barrels of oil.

16 The same is for gas. There's a very high likelihood
17 that there's about 13 trillion cubic feet of gas, a much
18 lower probability; that there's 24 trillion cubic feet of
19 gas with a mean or an average of about 18 trillion feet
20 of cubic gas in the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf
21 planning areas.

22 So, like Bob, I want to take just a minute to talk
23 about terminology, because it is important. You hear a
24 lot of terms, you hear a lot of numbers thrown around,
25 resources, reserves, production, that type of thing.

1 So, again, this is all oil. So, the far right-hand
2 corner is, technically, recoverable, but, undiscovered
3 resources.

4 Technically recoverable resources are those
5 resources that are technically recoverable with today's
6 technology and industry practice, but they are yet to be
7 discovered. They're not being produced. They're out
8 there and may or may not be produced. They may or may
9 not be economic, but, they're technically recoverable.

10 An estimate of 85 -- almost 86 -- billion barrels in
11 the whole OCS, a smaller proportion of that is
12 economically recoverable resources and because economies
13 change, markets change, the way most people do,
14 economically recoverable resources at a series of prices
15 and at a series of costs. And this is just one of them
16 at a mid-range. It's what we've all experienced over the
17 last year are very volatile prices. So, a smaller subset
18 of what is technically recoverable is economically
19 recoverable.

20 And then a much smaller subset that is what we call
21 reserves; that's what's economic now and the reserves in
22 the Outer Continental Shelf, that's where it's coming
23 from, producing fields -- what's being produced -- and
24 what's in those fields that are now in production?
25 That's a much smaller subset of about 15 billion barrels

1 in the Outer Continental Shelf.

2 And, currently, producing open areas and then what
3 the U.S. produced in terms of gas -- I'm sorry -- oil --
4 last year was about 1.85 billion barrels. So, that was
5 just one year of production.

6 So, again, these are all subsets of each other.

7 And the same can be said for gas. So, it is
8 technically recoverable, undiscovered resources for gas
9 and the entire Outer Continental Shelf is almost 420
10 trillion cubic feet;

11 A smaller subset of that is economically
12 recoverable, depending upon the markets, depending upon
13 the economies;

14 Smaller subset of that yet is currently economic and
15 currently being produced currently producing fields;

16 And then what the U.S. produced last year in just
17 one year was about 20 trillion cubic feet.

18 So, then, let's turn to the OCS planning areas for
19 the Pacific; that's why we're here today.

20 As most of you probably know, we have four planning
21 areas. What's in the Proposed Draft Plan that the
22 Secretary talked about, and you've heard so much about
23 today are these four Basins.

24 So, from north to south:

25 Point Arena Basin;

1 Santa Maria Basin;
2 Santa Barbara-Ventura Basin;
3 And Oceanside-Capistrano Basin.

4 So, to put them in context for each other and where
5 they are in your landscape, those are the four that are
6 being discussed here today.

7 So, some people say, well, how do you do
8 undiscovered resources?

9 How do you know that that's there?

10 Again, these are estimates, but -- they're broad --
11 based upon the data that's collected and this is a
12 graphic of what are those data.

13 The lines are the seismic that's already been
14 assigned. The seismic are a way for us to image the
15 subsurface for us a way to determine or to interpret what
16 are the rocks below the earth surface below the water
17 depth. And, by this, we do the geological
18 interpretations and USGS does onshore estimates and MMS
19 does offshore estimates and this is how we do that.

20 There are also quite a number of holes drilled so
21 that we actually get real rock data that we can
22 correlate; and these are the data upon which the
23 estimates are done.

24 And so the numbers for OCS (inaudible) in the
25 Proposed Draft (inaudible) for the oil in those four

1 Basins (inaudible) technically recoverable resources,
2 there's about 5 1/2 billion barrels of oil; and a smaller
3 subset of that is economically recoverable. There's a
4 range, but, this is at the mid-price range.

5 And then for gas there's a little over 8 trillion
6 cubic feet of gas in those -- just those basins -- and
7 smaller subset of that is economically recoverable as a
8 mid-price range.

9 The Secretary also asked us to identify data gaps
10 and all of these data that we have and all the
11 information that is readily available and not readily
12 available and the seismic data that I showed you, those
13 lines on the graphic earlier, the seismic data were
14 acquired in the 70's and 80's; so, it is dated. It's
15 still valid, but, it is dated.

16 And if there were to be new areas open in the
17 Pacific, certainly, there would probably be a need or a
18 desire to run more seismic again. This has not been
19 decided yet. That's just if -- big if -- and then the
20 prior acquisition of seismic data or any other activities
21 National Environmental Policy Act and other environmental
22 analysis would absolutely be required.

23 And I can't emphasize that enough, that's a very
24 important part of this, and I'm going to turn it back
25 over to Bob to talk about the environmental part, since

1 that's a third of the report, and it's a very important
2 part, and it can't be overstated.

3 MR. LABELLE: Stewardship protecting the oceans
4 while trying to meet the nation's energy needs in the
5 Department of Interior. This is our mission; plus,
6 allowing multiple use of the sea and the sea bed in a
7 safe way.

8 We need to address the challenge of climate change;
9 and, certainly, it has a potential effect on many aspects
10 of offshore development -- energy development of any
11 kind.

12 One would be, of course, the potential changes to
13 ecosystems, living resources, and habitats;

14 The changes to the renewable energy source itself;
15 Is the wind going to blow in the same way with the
16 same (inaudible);

17 Are the waves going to be affected because of
18 climate change events?

19 And finally to the structures out there:

20 Are the deck heights appropriate?

21 Are they strong enough?

22 Will it be more stormy?

23 The sea level, etc.

24 Wave height.

25 So, climate change is certainly an overriding

1 interest and challenge.

2 And I'm just going to, very briefly, mention the
3 abundance of resources; and I encourage you to read the
4 report.

5 Environmental resources that are of concern here:

6 There are 34 species of marine mammals offshore.

7 Many of them listed under the Endangered Species Act;

8 Six species of vegetations are listed;

9 Guadalupe fur seal;

10 Steller sea lion;

11 Southern sea otter;

12 Four species of sea turtles listed.

13 Many, many species of birds, over 128 species which
14 breed along the Pacific Coast:

15 The famous Pacific fly-away water fowl;

16 Migratory staging areas for shore birds right here
17 in San Francisco Bay;

18 And other areas such as Humboldt Bay, Coos Bay,
19 Puget Sound.

20 And so in terms of what we tried to do with the
21 report was to acknowledge all these key species; and, in
22 terms of trying to meet a list, as the Secretary
23 requested, the challenges to protect these species, it's
24 just a brief summary up there in terms of some of the key
25 challenges:

1 Lack of onshore support;

2 Areas that support development;

3 The risk of oil spills -- we certainly talked about
4 that this morning;

5 The offshore industry in federal waters has a very
6 good safety record with regard to oil spills;

7 And that's (inaudible) potential affects on marine
8 mammals and fishes from seismic activities;

9 Of course, multiple use fisheries -- very, very
10 important -- we've heard that everywhere we've gone.

11 And tourism, other socioeconomic effects.

12 So, I do encourage you to take a look at the report
13 and let us know what we missed and how we can do better.

14 Thank you.

15 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Let me thank Bob and Brenda for
16 their work and all the rest of the staff from both USGS
17 and MMS that have worked very hard on this report over
18 the last 50-60 days; and you heard just highlights of the
19 presentation. It's a report that I've read from one end
20 to the other. It's a report that I would encourage all
21 of you who are very interested in this issue to review
22 because it just sets forth what the facts are relative to
23 all these issues that we've discussed this morning.

24 With that, let us take a 10-minute break and we'll
25 reconvene at 11 o'clock and we'll take questions from the

1 audience.

2 In the meantime, I hope you have filled out those
3 cards with questions and with comments because it is from
4 those cards that I will very randomly just call on people
5 to come up to the microphone and let me hear what is on
6 your mind. We'll reconvene at 11 o'clock. Thank you,
7 all, very much.

8 (Recess taken)

9 MR. AURAND: Ladies and gentlemen, we'd like to
10 ask you to resume your seats. The Secretary is on his
11 way back to start up the meeting again. Thank you.

12 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you, very much.

13 I've been asked a question about whether everybody
14 who is here will have an opportunity to comment. The
15 answer to that is that this public forum will continue
16 into many long hours into the afternoon; and I will have
17 to leave right at 12:00, but, there will be people within
18 the Department of Interior that will continue to run this
19 meeting. The one in Alaska went until about 8:00 p.m.
20 tonight -- or 8:00 p.m. last night -- or night before
21 last -- so, if you have something to say to us, you will
22 have an opportunity.

23 Also, the cards that you have given to us today are
24 cards that we'll collect and they'll be made part of our
25 formal record and so you will be your voices will be

1 heard in that way as well.

2 Let me tell you what I'm going to do at this point
3 in time. I thought I had a list of -- I'm going to call
4 on -- these are private citizens -- okay -- so we're
5 going to start with private citizens; then we have
6 industry representatives and some other people as well.

7 But, I am just going to randomly take this group and
8 pick up the first one is a private citizen and the name
9 is -- he said he would like to speak -- his name is Van
10 Bivans. B-I-V-A-N-S, small business owner, private
11 citizen.

12 Are you here?

13 Where is he?

14 MR. BIVANS: Yo.

15 SECRETARY SALAZAR: All right. And you have to come
16 to the middle microphone here in the middle because
17 that's the -- we are webcasting this, I guess, all over
18 the world or somewhere, so -- thank you very much.

19 MR. BIVANS: Basically, all I wanted to say is, I
20 run a small motel in Goleta, which is about five miles
21 north of Santa Barbara.

22 And the small energy glitches we had last summer
23 where the gas prices went up to \$4.00 and almost \$5.00 a
24 gallon seriously impacted our business. And I know it
25 happened in many other hotel owners in the Santa Barbara

1 area. And I'm afraid that if we don't explore all energy
2 options, including offshore oil development, or the
3 leases, that, if we ever have something like the late
4 60's or 70's when we were on gas rationing and memorizing
5 our license plates, that I think many businesses could go
6 under. And I think all options should be left open.

7 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Q. So, your position would be
8 that we should look at the offshore including here in the
9 Pacific?

10 A. Yes; and keep the lease options open for the
11 2010-2015 plan.

12 Q. Van, I saw on your card you are an owner of a
13 small business owner with a Super 8 Motel?

14 A. Super 8 Motel, yes.

15 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Okay, thank you, very much.

16 All right, let me just pick another one, randomly.
17 We've got to respect everybody's opinion, whether they
18 agree with you or they don't.

19 Okay, David Grace?

20 David Grace?

21 Q. Are you here, David?

22 A. I am.

23 Q. David Grace. He doesn't have an address, but,
24 he has a P.O. Box number. P.O. Box -- he's from San
25 Francisco.

1 MR. GRACE: Yes.

2 Notwithstanding you, Secretary, I very much agree
3 with the Congresswomen and Governor and Senators
4 regarding the economics of this.

5 The idea that we can see -- that the collateral of
6 America is based upon and especially the shore lines in
7 California, our collateral is based on a certain amount
8 of income; and, if that property is damaged by offshore
9 oil spills, the collateral of many of the inland
10 economies can fall apart. So, you can see this with the
11 subprime.

12 So, I very much agree that offshore oil drilling is
13 a very dangerous idea for the economy and its total -- we
14 definitely have to get into a realistic development of
15 other options.

16 On a separate issue, it was mentioned that this --
17 the ship that crashed here in the bay about a year or so
18 ago has now spread well over 400 miles.

19 I am very disturbed by the idea that spills that
20 travel are not being -- they're not being recognized in
21 there disaster status.

22 I'm going to give you an example of an (inaudible).
23 Just before Christmas in the Tennessee Valley Authority
24 had a massive slurry damn of 1.2 billion gallons of
25 hazardous waste in Tennessee. The Governor of Tennessee

1 has not declared that a disaster yet. It has spread into
2 Alabama. It's going to go into Kentucky. It will go
3 into the lower Ohio River --

4 Q. So, your point is you're opposed to offshore
5 drilling?

6 A. Well, the idea that disasters --

7 Q. Optimal (inaudible)

8 A. Right; but, the Governor of one state can
9 control that disaster status and the rest of the states
10 are not able to.

11 Q. How about with respect to a consortium of
12 governors of the three states on the Pacific?

13 A. Well, that would definitely be a part of it;
14 gets into international damages as well. So, the idea
15 that a single governor can control the economic climate
16 of the rest of the world --

17 Q. I got your point and I thank you very much.
18 I'm going to try to speed along so I can get as many
19 people as I can. Okay, again, this is just randomly
20 selected.

21 Diane Allen?

22 And, Diane Allen, there's supposed to be something
23 here for me, and I haven't seen it.

24 Are you here, Diane?

25 And Diane is from Palo Alto, California. That's

1 where my daughter is today.

2 MS. ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Secretary, for coming to
3 listen to us today.

4 Like hundreds of thousands of other Californians, I
5 absolutely oppose any offshore drilling. I urge you to
6 listen to Senator Barbara Boxer and to our elected
7 representatives who spoke so eloquently about our coast
8 and how important it is to us. We trust you to make the
9 right decision.

10 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you, very much, Diane.

11 Let me go one more private citizen and then we'll do
12 local government.

13 Okay, Lonner Holden?

14 Lonner Holden?

15 848 Apple Berry Drive?

16 MR. HOLDEN: Thank you, Secretary Salazar, for
17 coming here, giving us your time and your ear and for
18 your honored public servant guests who presented their
19 opinions earlier. This looks like a lot of pages but
20 it's actually quite edited.

21 Q. I don't need to read it. I wanted you to
22 summarize it for me in a minute because, if you read it,
23 it will take too much time and I need to get comments
24 from other people.

25 So, summarize what you have in four-five-six pages

1 there.

2 A. If the Exxon Valdez oil spill would have
3 happened off the northern coast of Oregon or California,
4 it would have destroyed both coastlines all the way to
5 Tijuana.

6 Comprehensively, in every facet that's already been
7 discussed here today, the conservation of oil, because we
8 had so many other options is obsolete. And where we have
9 our power is in the generation of liberating all
10 innovators within our own country, supporting them
11 economically, and really being given our ear to the
12 innovations of the rest of the world.

13 Because we have the imagination;

14 We have the knowledge;

15 We have the experience in other technologies;

16 But, my question is, do we have the courage to not
17 drill? I think courage is actually what is needed here.
18 We have the political and social will but I really
19 encourage reflection on the idea of courage.

20 The last thing I would like to say is that, for
21 instance, whenever there may be business owners who
22 have -- who feel like they're in a pickle with high
23 energy prices, it might be absolutely necessary or a
24 compensation that those of us who do not support oil
25 drilling must be willing to make by maybe an increase in

1 sales tax or something to actually provide some kind of
2 subsidy to businesses to keep them going while they're
3 struggling.

4 Because, say, if one is on the coast of California
5 with a small hotel, if there is a large oil spill that
6 affects that coastline, how many hotel guests are
7 actually going to show up?

8 So, you know, I think it's an important thing to be
9 able to care for business people and the environment at
10 the same time.

11 Thank you very much.

12 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you, (inaudible).

13 With respect to papers and documents that you want
14 to leave with me, I don't mind. I know you worked hard
15 on putting that together, so, I don't want you to just
16 leave your comments with me.

17 Where is one of my -- there's a staff behind you, so
18 one of the staff from MMS will take it and that will be
19 part of record, if you wish to make it a part of the
20 record this morning. That's true with respect to
21 everybody who will speak, so, I'm not prohibiting just
22 the oral comments. We'll take care of your written
23 testimony as well.

24 MR. HOLDEN: Thank you.

25 SECRETARY SALAZAR: I'm now going to move to some of

1 the elected officials from local government.

2 Mike Chrisman who is here representing Governor
3 Schwarzenegger. Mike?

4 MR. CHRISMAN: Thank you, Mr. Secretary. Thanks for
5 the opportunity to say just a very few words.

6 I can't add a lot to what you heard in the panel
7 this morning relative to California's consistent -- our
8 consistent -- opposition to offshore oil and gas
9 exploration.

10 The Governor shares that. The Governor shares that
11 view, has consistently shared that view since he's been
12 in office.

13 I recently testified just a few weeks ago at the
14 National Resources Committee in Washington to that
15 effect, in terms of protecting our valuable ocean
16 resources.

17 I mean, we have been on record for a very long time
18 in this administration. In the previous administration
19 we created the Ocean Protection Council. We're very
20 (inaudible) protected areas up and down our coastline in
21 California.

22 And so additional exploration and the opportunity
23 for any spills, any degradation of those environments,
24 will be very, very detrimental to California.

25 From -- and from the Governor's perspective, we very

1 strongly oppose the further exploration of oil and gas
2 exploration off the coast of California.

3 Let me talk a little bit, if I may, about
4 alternative energy. If I might, let me focus on that
5 because you asked some very, very important questions
6 relative to that.

7 State of California has been moving very
8 aggressively in the alternative energy arena in terms of
9 the Executive Order governing renewables for the
10 petroleum standards of three percent renewables by the
11 year 2020.

12 We are at -- we're working to get 20 percent by the
13 year 2010;

14 We're working very closely, as the Lieutenant
15 Governor indicated, with many of the agencies within the
16 Department of the Interior to get various forms of solar
17 out in the desert;

18 Working very closely with industries to bring that
19 about in California, because we think, quite frankly, as
20 you heard from statewide California, you know, our
21 Senator Boxer indicated our electricity use over the last
22 25 years has remained flat since our -- and at the same
23 time our population has increased from about 20 million
24 at that time to 38 million people now.

25 And we've done it, essentially, through

1 conservation. We've done it, recognizing our state is
2 going to grow and prosper in a good economy and a
3 (inaudible) environment have to go hand-in-hand; and
4 that's the way we operate here in California.

5 So, I would, I mean, on the behalf the Governor and
6 on behalf of the work we do, I'd like very much to
7 participate with you on much of these approaches.

8 (Inaudible)

9 MR. CHRISMAN: I will.

10 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Q. One is with respect to
11 onshore, what you're doing with respect to look at solar
12 and renewable energy?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. We need your help to essentially zone out the
15 nation. We need to have these renewable energy zones
16 onshore and as the presentation -- actually, if you will
17 read the whole report --

18 A. Right.

19 Q. -- you will find a huge solar energy potential
20 in the south, that's including negative scant solar
21 energy potential in the southern part of California.

22 So, you need to be partners with us as we move fast
23 forward on that particular agenda.

24 A. You have us as partners; guarantee it.

25 Q. The second thing also, just take back to the

1 Governor is what we do in the offshore is also important.
2 We have a different reality here on wind energy than we
3 do off the Atlantic. And so how we move forward with
4 that agenda, given the greater technological challenges,
5 also, we think.

6 But, thank you very much and you get a Bay Delta
7 Restore -- that's your front.

8 A. We will. Thanks.

9 Q. Thank you, Mike.

10 Wesley Chesbro?

11 MR. CHESBRO: Well, thank you, so much,
12 Mr. Secretary, for coming to California to listen to us
13 on this issue of which, obviously, we feel overwhelmingly
14 and passionately about.

15 I come from the furthest north part of the state. I
16 represent one-third of California coastline, nearly 400
17 miles; and (inaudible) but our Congressman, Mike
18 Thompson, was unable to do be with us today, but he and I
19 both represent the area from Point Arena north.

20 So, the area that would be impacted by the northern
21 lease is in our front yard and we very much are concerned
22 about it.

23 I spent my entire 35 years of public life starting
24 was a City Council member going up to State Senate and
25 now a State Assemblyman, fighting to protect our

1 coastline. And it is so important that you're here to
2 hear why that matters so much to us.

3 The north coast of California is one of the most
4 biologically diverse regions of the state, a place of
5 natural beauty and its thousands of acres of coastal
6 redwood forests, (inaudible) wildlife, fisheries,
7 habitats, that deserve our utmost care and stewardship to
8 protect.

9 Specifically, I'm here to express my strong
10 opposition to the portion of the post-OCS five-year plan
11 that includes the northern, central, and southern
12 California planning areas for oil and gas drilling.

13 New drilling in these planning areas is simply
14 unacceptable; and Secretary Chrisman did a good job -- I
15 was busy writing notes when you asked the questions of
16 members of Congress -- our members of Congress -- about
17 what the state has done or is doing.

18 But, let me just return to that for a moment and say
19 that we have adopted -- we're way out ahead of the rest
20 of the country in terms of adopting global warming
21 protocols and setting carbon limits. And we have
22 literally accomplished all of the economic and population
23 growth of the last 20 years in this state with a flat
24 energy budget. And we have to do far more than that, but
25 it's a pretty amazing accomplishment. And I challenge

1 you to find anywhere else in the country that that has
2 done as well; not when we're talking about this.

3 As Senator Boxer was saying earlier, 30 years ago,
4 you know, we didn't have quite as much accomplishment in
5 terms of alternatives; but, now, I can stand up here in
6 front of you and tell you it's not what we're against;
7 it's what we're for.

8 And what we're for is becoming truly energy
9 independent and not perpetuating our dependency on
10 non-renewable carbon-based fuels.

11 It's time to move on and we are moving on. We have
12 been for the last 20 years. And so it's not a question
13 of us proposing some abstract ideas about what the
14 alternative to offshore oil drilling is. We've done it.
15 We are doing it. We're going to go vastly further than
16 we have already gone. We're committed and we are glad
17 there's a new administration in Washington that shares
18 these value views. We think it will sweep across the
19 country and the world. But California has been leading
20 in these areas and we plead with you to recognize that as
21 what we have to offer, not the sacrifice of our
22 coastline. Thank you very much.

23 Q. Let me also say, I think there are other
24 members of the California General Assembly who are here,
25 so, if you would all stand and speak? Give Congressman

1 Nava a round of applause, just because he's been so
2 patient. I'll have him be the next speaker.

3 MR. NAVA: Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

4 I've heard it said that elections have consequences.
5 You being here is a living, breathing example of why
6 that's true. Let's give it up for the Secretary.

7 How many people are here from Northern California?
8 Shout out.

9 How many people here central? Give it up. Be proud
10 of it.

11 Southern California?

12 What you have, Mr. Secretary, is a representation of
13 the entire State of California and the diversity of
14 opinions that we hold and that we represent.

15 Recognizing that small businesses are partners in
16 working with energy independence;

17 Recognizing that environmentalist embrace the
18 concepts that move California forward and retain us in
19 this leadership position.

20 We're very proud of what we have accomplished, and
21 we're very, very proud that you're here to share that
22 with us.

23 I started my coastal baptism as a member of the
24 California Coastal Commission. I'm a proud member of the
25 California State Assembly and I serve with Mr. Ken

1 Chrisman on the Ocean Protection Council.

2 I represent Santa Barbara. We have paid the price
3 for oil exploration. We have seen our beaches stained
4 and soiled by the sacrifice of oil in our coastline, and
5 we say, no more. No more.

6 You agree?

7 On the issues of technology, when the oil companies
8 tell you that they've got it figured out, that they know
9 how to do the clean up. It always is reduced to men and
10 women in yellow HAZMAT suits with buckets and bales of
11 straw. It doesn't matter what the technology is.
12 Eventually, it's men and women who have to sift through
13 the sand to try to restore that which has been lost and
14 harmed.

15 I stand here on behalf of my constituents in Santa
16 Barbara, the 35th Assembly District, the majority of
17 Californians, and almost everyone that I ever talked to
18 about California's coastline and offshore oil drilling.
19 We don't want it, Mr. Secretary. It's not worth the
20 risk. It isn't worth the harm that it causes to our
21 environment. The risk of one spill in California will
22 ripple through our entire statewide economy, causing harm
23 to fisheries, tourism and everything else that is so
24 coastal competitive.

25 "Drill baby, drill" is dead. That moratorium -- we

1 had a moratorium that was bi-partisan to protect our
2 environment. We want to go back to that. Every year
3 that I've been in the Assembly, I've offered a resolution
4 urging Congress to extend the moratorium. I'm doing it
5 again. My fervent hope -- my fervent hope -- is that, at
6 the end of this process, and the decisions that you make
7 mean I never have to do it again.

8 Thank you.

9 Q. How long have you been in office?

10 No, just say it from there.

11 A. I've been in office for five years and I am
12 here --

13 Q. Five years?

14 A. -- to present to you a letter from the
15 California Legislature signed by 26 members who are
16 expressing their opposition to offshore oil.

17 Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

18 Q. Thank you.

19 Thank you for being here and thank you for your
20 passion.

21 Peter Douglas, California Coastal Commission

22 MR. DOUGLAS: Thank you, Mr. Secretary. I'm the
23 Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission
24 which, under federal law, is the only state agency that
25 has regulatory review over all offshore energy leasing,

1 production, development activities, including federal
2 lands, including renewable energy projects.

3 The Coastal Commission under the Federal Coastal
4 Management Act has extensive experience with offshore
5 energy development and has, for over 25 years, opposed
6 new leasing in frontier areas along the California coast.
7 That opposition has not wavered. It continues today with
8 new information, new circumstances. It's strengthened,
9 today, from our perspective.

10 The main concern is not only what you've heard today
11 about the adverse impacts from spills, but, there's no
12 infrastructure to support new drilling in these frontier
13 areas.

14 And when you talk about all the onshore impacts that
15 are necessary to support offshore energy development, I
16 don't see how that can be proved consistent with
17 California's Coastal Protection Plan and Protection laws.

18 The other thing that I would say is, relative to the
19 way that this is now being pushed forward, relative to
20 renewables, please don't waive the environmental reviews
21 that are necessary to deal with incidental impacts and
22 detrimental impacts of renewables. It has to be
23 deliberate. We have to take into account the adverse
24 impacts of renewables, as well; and that includes not
25 just the ocean, but the deserts over which you have

1 jurisdiction, and the other areas onshore as well as
2 offshore.

3 With that, Mr. Secretary, thank you for being here.
4 We look forward to working with you and your staff. We
5 have a very good working relationship with MMS over the
6 years. We hope to develop the same kind of relationship
7 with FERC. And I'm really pleased that you worked out
8 this division of institutional responsibility. I think
9 we have a bit further to go with FERC, but, we're going
10 to work with them.

11 Q. Let me ask you a question, Peter.

12 So, it's the California Coastal Commission -- I'm
13 familiar with the work of the Commission over the years,
14 and people who have worked there.

15 Why isn't there a Coastal Commission that goes
16 beyond California, that includes Oregon and includes
17 Washington?

18 A. Why what, Mr. Secretary?

19 Q. It seems to me that many of the issues that you
20 confront here in California are very similar to the kinds
21 of issues that are being confronted in Washington and
22 Oregon and beyond.

23 But, just on the coastline that we control as a
24 nation, why isn't there like a tri-state Coastal
25 Commission to try to coordinate the activities?

1 Because, as we know, the kinds of ecological issues
2 that you deal with don't stop at the border of one state.

3 A. You're right; and that's why we support and
4 applaud the initiative by the three state governors to
5 have a joint strategy for dealing with our ocean issues.

6 And we do work with our neighbors to the north on
7 coastal issues, but, we have a different regime relative
8 to the actual regulatory authority of land and water
9 use -- uses in Oregon, California and Washington -- but,
10 we do work together on the research, the broader issues,
11 like climate change; what that's doing to the ocean and
12 the kind of strategies that we need to do to adapt and,
13 hopefully, also avoid.

14 Q. Okay, thank you, very much.

15 A. Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

16 Q. Thank you, very much.

17 As you can tell, there are a number of other local
18 government officials that I could call on, some others
19 from some other interests and points of view, so, I am
20 going to call on some industry representatives.

21 And the first one that I'll call on is Scott Johnson
22 who is with, I guess, engineer with California Wind
23 Energy Collaborative.

24 Q. Scott, are you here?

25 A. Yeah, right here, Mr. Secretary.

1 Q. Come on up. Come up.

2 MR. JOHNSON: Hi. Yeah, my name is Scott Johnson.

3 I work for the California Wind Energy Collaborative.
4 We're a partnership between the University of California
5 and the California Energy Commission.

6 I just -- first of all, I wanted to thank you,
7 Mr. Secretary, for getting out of Washington and getting
8 some information gathered before you make decisions that
9 will impact various regions in different manners; so, I
10 thank you very much.

11 As I mentioned, the collaborative, we're committed
12 to supporting the development of safe, reliable, cost
13 effective and environmentally responsible wind power in
14 California.

15 To do that, we have three main goals:

16 We conduct engineering and scientific research;

17 We coordinate efforts on different current issues;

18 And we provide and promote education, training, and
19 an outreach to the public or political officials.

20 As you indicated, California has tremendous
21 potential offshore wind energy, and that's what I'd like
22 to talk about a little bit today; vast majority of it is
23 deep ocean. And, as some people mentioned, that the
24 technology is not quite there for deep ocean wind turbine
25 technology -- and I would encourage the federal and state

1 governments to play an active role in encouraging
2 development of these new technologies, because, with new
3 technologies, you'll bring in new investments and new
4 markets, and create domestic jobs. And I think there's
5 much more that the state and federal governments can do to
6 support the research, and conduct the proper studies
7 necessary to determine the benefits of wind power in the
8 deep ocean. Thank you.

9 Q. Thank you, very much.

10 Since you're part of the collaborative, how much
11 wind energy is now being produced in California?

12 Do you know?

13 A. That's a good question.

14 Q. Not offshore, but, onshore?

15 A. Yeah, onshore. I don't want to just say a
16 number.

17 Q. But, it's a good number. I saw a number of
18 wind farms as I flew around the area yesterday --

19 A. Yeah. I think California has been lacking in
20 new development. If you look at, compared to other
21 states, we have fallen drastically from number one to
22 number three; and we'll fall further if we don't make
23 some of these changes that I think the state government
24 can play a role in overcoming some of the hurdles,
25 some of the permitting issues, the need for skilled

1 workers and trainers to be technicians --

2 Q. On wind energy?

3 A. -- and transmission needs.

4 Q. Thank you. I have your speech. Thank you,
5 very much.

6 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Joe Sparano. Joe is with the
7 Western States Petroleum Association. Thank you for
8 being here today.

9 MR. SPARANO: Thank you, Mr. Secretary. I respect
10 the fact that there --

11 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Q. Can you give him a round of
12 applause?

13 A. It's a tough crowd.

14 Q. You know, he's here. Your point is important.

15 A. This is an emotional issue.

16 Q. Please, I want you to respect him in the same
17 way that I will respect you; so, let's hear from Joe.

18 A. There's some factual information that underlies
19 why gaining access to additional domestic supply is --
20 even here in California is -- important.

21 First, right now, we import 60 to 65 percent of
22 every drop of oil we use every day here in America from a
23 foreign country; that's not good energy security.

24 Secondly, there are billions of barrels, according
25 to your own MMS agency estimates, 10 million barrels of

1 oil offshore in California in these leases.

2 What's important about that is, if we could produce
3 those and bring them to market, that would allow us to
4 replace California's foreign imports for 35 years.

5 Thirdly, the issue of jobs and revenues is all in
6 your report; billions of dollars of revenues for the
7 state and local governments to balance their budgets,
8 thousands of jobs.

9 And, finally, the notion that this industry doesn't
10 care about the environment or is irresponsible is
11 absolutely wrong.

12 According to your own MMS reports, we've produced a
13 billion barrels of oil in the last 39 years from offshore
14 California. During that period, 850 barrels have been
15 spilled into the ocean; that's 850 too many. Don't miss
16 my point, please. 0 is our target. But, more oil seeps
17 from the floor of the ocean off Santa Barbara every week
18 that has been spilled.

19 So, I think taking all that information into
20 consideration would be very helpful and we hope that
21 you'll do that.

22 Q. Thank you, very much, Joe; and, thank you for
23 being here with us to share your point of view.

24 A. Thank you.

25 Q. Thank you, very much.

1 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Q. Joe Bonnano?

2 MR. BONNANO: Hi. It's John Bonnano.

3 Q. You should have given me a phonetic spelling.
4 I would have been able to figure it out.

5 A. I'm the President of a company that's doing
6 something pretty innovative. I know you're supportive of
7 offshore wind and we do a floating wind foundations for
8 deep water harvesting of that wind resource.

9 Q. Is your company Principle Power?

10 A. Principle Power based out of Seattle. We have
11 an office in San Francisco. We're developing a power
12 station in Oregon, right now, which I was talking to the
13 Governor about earlier, and we'd be happy to do it in
14 California, here, as well.

15 And it's great to see that you, yourself, are here
16 at these meetings and listening to the public about how
17 we feel, as citizens, we should use our resources.

18 And I think preserving, being stewards of the
19 environment, is principal for us; and I think we've
20 developed the technology that can enable the hard stain
21 of this resource. It's over 300 gigawatts of energy
22 potential within 25 miles of the shore off California.

23 Q. Let me ask you a question. It's an important
24 point you are making.

25 You're requiring how much on the technology to be

1 able to use the leasing platforms for wind energy that
2 would be able to be used in the deep waters?

3 A. Well, I'll answer it in two ways:

4 First, the technology was developed by Ph.D's from
5 Berkeley's Naval Architecture School, and they went on to
6 do natural gas work in Houston; and they now are doing
7 design and patent work for us for this new structure.

8 The first installation will be in Portugal,
9 beginning construction in 2010. Our plan in Oregon is
10 150 megawatts of capacity, which is about 35 units. Each
11 unit is about five megawatts of power.

12 But, I'd like to go back to what the Representative
13 Woolsey had to say, which is:

14 It's very important to us, because we can site these
15 as far out to sea as necessary, so they disappear beyond
16 the horizon. There's no visual impact at all.

17 Q. You say you have a project in Oregon?

18 A. We have a project in Oregon --

19 Q. How big is the project in Oregon?

20 A. -- we're looking at a project in Maine.

21 Q. How much is the wattage?

22 A. 130 megawatts; 35 units.

23 Q. 35 units? And how far off the shore?

24 A. It will be 13 miles offshore.

25 Q. 13 miles offshore?

1 Do you have a timeline yet with respect to that
2 project?

3 A. That's still being worked out between ourselves
4 and the PUC. We are not a developer. We sell the
5 product to a development partner and that's yet to be
6 worked out. We have a Memorandum of Understanding
7 signed.

8 Q. What's your guess?

9 A. Well, you know, with the right financial
10 support, I think we can be in the water within five
11 years; and that's a really big piece of energy.

12 Q. And the Portugal deep water project, when do
13 you think that will be up and running?

14 A. It begins construction of -- the first unit is
15 scheduled for next summer; and, you know, it's going to
16 be single unit buildout.

17 Q. So, it will begin next summer -- Portugal?

18 When do you think that project will be finished?

19 A. Oh, finished a couple years out. It takes a
20 while.

21 Q. A couple years?

22 A. It's 150 megawatts of power.

23 Q. Are there other floating platforms like that
24 that have actually been constructed?

25 A. There's currently one being constructed on

1 Berger Norway. It's a company called High Wind, which is
2 a Spar technology. It's part of the oil-gas business.

3 And, much like us, we're leveraging a very mature
4 business in wind and very major strides in gas-oil
5 offshore structures to create solutions to this problem,
6 rather than creating more problems with the oil and gas.

7 Thank you, very much, for coming.

8 Q. Thank you, very much. Give him a round of
9 applause.

10 The problem with these hearings is you don't have
11 any time. These are from conservation groups, so, I'm
12 going to call on a couple people. And I only have like
13 seven or eight minutes left, so, I'm going to ask you to
14 keep your comments short.

15 The first, Christopher Chin, if you are here?

16 It's like winning the Lotto.

17 And Allison Chin? She must be your sister.

18 Is Allison Chin your sister?

19 MR. CHIN: No.

20 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Allison, are you here?

21 Go ahead, Allison.

22 And I'm going call on one more, just so we get a
23 little diversity here. They're not all Chins. Lisa
24 Balangi? Lisa, are you here? Okay, Lisa.

25 You've got to come up to this microphone and ask

1 each of you to keep it at two minutes or less. I'm going
2 to ask you to go ahead.

3 MR. CHIN: I thank you for being here. You'll hear
4 that over and over; but, just the fact that you opened --
5 you extended the comment period means a lot to us, and
6 that it shows some vision.

7 You've heard and you you will hear that oil drilling
8 can be safe, but, people make mistakes: Equipment fails
9 and accidents happen -- and they're called accidents for
10 a reason -- because we don't expect them.

11 Things like the Exxon Valdez, Costco Busan, Three
12 Mile Island, Chernobyl, nobody expected these to happen;
13 and, when they do, they can be catastrophic.

14 Drilling anywhere is just not worth it, especially
15 in California where our recreation, our tourism, and even
16 our sustenance depends on it.

17 I almost laugh when -- not to be disrespectful --
18 When I hear things like potential recoverable resources,
19 did they lose them at some point?

20 And I like to think of recoverable versus renewable;
21 And it's very important to me that we do things that are
22 smart, we do things that are safe. We love the earth.
23 We love the ocean. It's clear that we need energy, but,
24 we need to change the way that we think and act.

25 There was a time when people believed that the earth

1 was flat. There was a time when people thought it was
2 okay to keep slaves. Even 60 to 70 years ago, we thought
3 that smoking was good for you. It's time for us to
4 evolve. It's time for us to adopt safe, clean sources of
5 energy. Thank you.

6 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Q. Allison?

7 A. Yes. My name is Allison Chin and I'm Sierra
8 Club President. I speak here on behalf of 1.3 million
9 members and supporters. I really do thank you for being
10 here.

11 Q. Sierra Club President?

12 A. Yes, yes.

13 Q. For the country? California?

14 A. For the entire nation, the organization.

15 I want to thank you for being here and I want to
16 thank the Obama administration for opening up its process
17 and being transparent and asking the people what we want.

18 We're here, as you can see, many people, you know,
19 responsible citizens, telling you what we want; and so
20 we're going to count on your promise to listen.

21 You know, we voted for change in November, and one
22 of the things we wanted to change was our energy policy.
23 Drilling is not going to be the answer. Drilling more to
24 feed our addiction on fossil fuels just doesn't do it;
25 and we really look for renewable sources of energy.

1 We need choices. We need affordable choices; and
2 what we're looking for is a clean energy economy that's
3 going to create new jobs, refuel, repair and rebuild
4 America.

5 And that's really what we need from this
6 administration, and your help is counted on and we're
7 looking at your leadership to actually make this happen.

8 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you, Allison.

9 Lisa?

10 MS. BELENKY: Thank you, Mr. Secretary. I'm,
11 actually, here speaking on behalf of the Center for
12 Biological Diversity and our 200,000 members and online
13 activists.

14 And I'm going to present you with this. There's a
15 CD-ROM in here with copies of petitions. We have over
16 52,000 names of people who are asking you, urging you, to
17 repeal the very awful Bush regulations on the Endangered
18 Species Act.

19 As you know, our organization and many of the other
20 environmental organizations are represented here today,
21 have been at the forefront of demanding that this
22 administration -- and the administration beforehand,
23 but -- this administration, we hope, will be listening
24 more to really take on global warming. And additional
25 oil and gas drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf or

1 anywhere else is not the answer. And it will not move us
2 forward in the way we need to move forward, which is
3 towards a world that will stem the tide of global warming
4 to the extent that we can, and to really deal with
5 climate change in a positive manner through renewable
6 energy and other sources things like conservation, which
7 is the most important first step that we all have to
8 take.

9 As you know, you only have 23 days left from today
10 to repeal these regulations. Congress gave you
11 extraordinary powers to simply repeal the bad
12 regulations, and we hope, and our members and other
13 members of the public, absolutely, insist, that you do
14 so.

15 Thank you.

16 SECRETARY SALAZAR: All right. I have one more
17 group left. And I have two minutes, so, we're going to
18 call on a couple people that have designated themselves
19 as fishery people. So, first -- I think I called on this
20 person before -- Bob -- same name -- Bob Bonnano from
21 Antioch, Alaska Independent Fishing Marketing
22 Association. Are you here, Bob? Bob, are you here?
23 Going once, going twice.

24 Okay, Sara Randall with the Institute for Fisheries
25 Resources. Sara, are you here? Sara? And, just as Sara

1 begins to get up, I'll call on -- I'm going to do one
2 other person; that's all I'm going to deal with, so, if
3 you're lucky, it will be Cameron Jacquard. Cameron, are
4 you here? Cameron, if you'll stand up there, we'll take
5 you last -- as the last speaker while I'm here. Go
6 ahead.

7 MS. RANDALL: Hello, Mr. Secretary. I work with the
8 Institute for the Fisheries Resources, which is an NGO
9 that was started by the commercial fisherman of this
10 coast that were concerned with the marine resources and
11 the human economies that depend on them.

12 The fisherman have a lot of concerns with respect to
13 offshore oil drilling and they include:

14 The seismic surveys that have negative impacts on
15 fish populations, including fish mortality;

16 The routine discharges of offshore drilling waste
17 into the ocean;

18 And these chemicals can bioaccumulate in the fish,
19 causing problems with people that eat them;

20 Of course, there's always accidental oil spills from
21 the rigs, pipelines, and tankers;

22 And then there's increasing ocean acidification,
23 that has negative implications for all resources in the
24 ocean.

25 Because of the increasing ocean acidification and

1 the global climate change, it's predicted that waters --
2 people -- in the increasing population, people in this
3 world are going to start fighting over resources; and
4 it's because of that and the fact that people eat fish
5 and they do not eat oil, so that the fisherman strongly
6 oppose continuing offshore oil drilling.

7 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you, very much, for your
8 comments.

9 Go ahead.

10 MR. JACQUARD: First, I want to begin just by
11 thanking you, as we all are very appreciative of your
12 involvement in the democratic process. It's nice to see
13 science and transparency return to our government.

14 In the interest of time, I've cut this in half.
15 Just folded the paper, and this is what I've got. It's a
16 very scientific method.

17 America is better than the "drill baby, drill"
18 cliché. Invent, baby, invent. This must be the mantra
19 of 21st Century America. I know it can be done. And
20 reinstating the moratorium on offshore drilling in
21 perpetuity is the first step.

22 Clean, alternative energy can power the (inaudible)
23 as well as reboot the economy. China is proving this as
24 we speak with a blossoming alternative energy sector that
25 is expected to grow into a \$1 billion market in less than

1 two decades.

2 Alternative energy is what will set China's green
3 energy revolution, wind turbines and solar panels, apart
4 from America's Green Tea Party of hybrid vehicles and
5 clean coal technology in an age when the global market
6 has collapsed and old economic ideologies have become
7 obsolete.

8 We're left with a new administration and a nation
9 happy to rebuild. We're here to sacrifice for the common
10 good. Like the Victory Gardens cultivated by the public
11 to reduce the demand on the country's food supply, or the
12 automobile processing plants that were converted to
13 airplane factories in World War II, ask me to lend my
14 backyard to solar, ask American auto makers to start a
15 new task, build wind turbines, employ Americans. That is
16 the change that we committed to on November 4, 2008; a
17 change towards a progressive energy policy that, once
18 again, restores the American people's control in
19 government and our long-term -- and removes big oil from
20 the picture.

21 Thank you, very much.

22 SECRETARY SALAZAR: Thank you, Cameron. It's my
23 ocean, too. Let me take a moment, now, at the conclusion
24 of this hearing in San Francisco and, first, thank some
25 people; then, I'll make a substantive point.

1 First, I want to thank Brenda and Bob for not only
2 their work today, but their steadfast work with us over
3 the last several months, just putting out the facts;
4 because it's important that we have the facts and we have
5 the science, so, let's give them a round of applause.

6 Don Aurand. Don, are you here? Come up here.
7 Where are you, Don? Oh, he's behind me.

8 Don has the important responsibility for making sure
9 that whomever has a comment here will have an opportunity
10 to make a comment before the end of the day. He told me
11 that in Anchorage, Alaska the last comment that he took
12 was about 8:00 p.m. at night; so, he will be here for
13 this afternoon, trying to listen to the rest of the
14 comments that are here. All of this will be
15 incorporated -- we're getting massive information from
16 throughout the country as we make decisions on how to
17 move forward. So, as my replacement here this afternoon,
18 welcome, Don. And we will have a one-hour break and he
19 will then resume the comment period at 1:00. And Brenda
20 and Bob will be here as well as other employees.

21 Let me conclude by making a few comments to all of
22 you:

23 First, I thank you for your time, because time is of
24 the essence here on these issues, and you caring so much
25 about these issues.

1 And spending your time with us for almost half a
2 day, on this day, is a very important contribution and
3 part of a process where we are gathering input. We can't
4 gather input if we don't get it; and we, obviously, are
5 getting a lot of input as we go around the country. And
6 this is not the only way to provide input. Each one of
7 your comments that you have written out is important to
8 us. We have the website and a place where you can
9 continue to communicate with us as we move forward.

10 Let me give you a sense of, again, where I believe
11 that we are moving forward in these times with President
12 Obama's leadership. I am proud and privileged to be a
13 part of his cabinet and to be running the Department of
14 Interior which houses 20 percent of the nation's land
15 assets and 100 percent of the offshore, 1.7 billion
16 acres, which is about three quarters of the land maps of
17 the United States.

18 We want to move forward with this house of energy
19 for the United States of America in a way that will
20 address the critical issues of our time. The issue of
21 energy and climate change is a signature issue for
22 President Obama. It's a signature issue for his team.
23 And I'm a part of that team. And we understand that the
24 issues are difficult and they are complex. But, at the
25 end of the day, the imperatives that drive us today will

1 make sure that we seize the opportunity for a new energy
2 future, that will not be in any way reminiscent of the
3 failures of the past, the failures of the 1970's, where
4 President Nixon coined the term energy independence;

5 Where Jimmy Carter described the future of America
6 and energy independence as a moral impetus of war.

7 The reason we are in a different time today is
8 because the impellers that push to this new opportunity
9 for, first, national security. We need to get control of
10 our own energy future here in these United States.

11 Secondly, environmental security. We know that the
12 reality of global warming is not a matter about nice
13 debate anymore; it's a matter of reality. It's something
14 that we must address in a pro-active way.

15 And, thirdly, if we do it the right way, we can also
16 do it as a way that makes an economic engine for America.
17 Last year alone and almost every year, we send almost a
18 trillion dollars -- one trillion dollars -- across to
19 governments far away, mostly nationalized corporations,
20 many of which don't have the interest of the United
21 States at heart.

22 Even from a national security point of view and the
23 kinds of policy that we have in our democracy here at
24 home, we need to stop that and bring our energy
25 creativity back here to the United States of America.

1 As a member of the president's cabinet, I will
2 assure you that we will do the right thing as we move
3 forward and grasp that ring of new energy future for
4 America.

5 And I want to also caution you all here that it is
6 not a simple or one-size-fits-all solution. We are not
7 going to harvest the power of the wind and the power of
8 the sun the power of geothermal and be able to do those
9 kinds of things overnight. We -- all of you, I would
10 expect, without -- there may be one or two exceptions in
11 this room, but -- you continue to use fossil fuels. The
12 very fact that you are in this room, in this place, we
13 probably are using some kind of fossil fuel. We use
14 fossil fuel to come to work. Many of you, whether you
15 have a one bedroom home or some of you with 14 bedroom
16 homes or whatever it may be, you continue to use fossil
17 fuels; and you have a carbon footprint.

18 So, we have some time of transition ahead of us.
19 This is not going to be a sudden panacea, simply, by
20 making a decision on the OCS. We will resolve the energy
21 issues that confront us and move forward, again, in the
22 future.

23 But, of this, I am convinced of this:

24 I am convinced that in the times that test these
25 United States in the past we have stood together and

1 moved forward beyond the moats of division in the times
2 of crisis.

3 Certainly, Abraham Lincoln did that in the Civil
4 War. We lost over half a million Americans on our own
5 soils of what is now the United States; and, even in
6 those hard times, he was able to envision the grace of a
7 place like Yosemite and set aside the lands to do that.

8 And Teddy Roosevelt, a Republican, who said we
9 should not allow the industrial revolution to,
10 essentially, lay waste to our rivers and to our wildlife
11 refuges and created the National Wildlife Refuge system;
12 and did so much and set aside many of the public lands
13 which we all cherish today.

14 Or Franklin Roosevelt and his efforts on the
15 Civilian Conservation Corp, standing up the economy in
16 the time of moving clouds of the Great War.

17 Or John Kennedy saying that we'd get a man on the
18 moon, but also we'd move forward with the creation of
19 water conversation funds.

20 During times of crisis, we've had the leadership to
21 stand up and tackle these tough issues. And with this, I
22 guarantee, this President Barack Obama and I, your
23 Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar, will tackle this
24 issue. Thank you, very, very much.

25 (Recess taken)

1 MR. AURAND: Okay. I'm even less popular than I
2 thought, but, we'll go ahead and get started.

3 I have a few brief things that I've been saying at
4 the other three meetings. This is the fourth we've done
5 in the last four weeks and everybody has been really
6 constructive and really appreciative of the Secretary's
7 time.

8 And, before I go into the formal spiel that I have
9 to give, I just want to say I think he set the tone for
10 what we would like to accomplish at these meetings. It
11 is his goal and our hope that everybody who wants to say
12 something gets an opportunity to do so; and, as somebody
13 pointed out to me at the break, it takes a great deal of
14 confidence to come forward to stand at a microphone to
15 make a statement. So, I would, as it's going to say in
16 these canned slides, I would appreciate you all giving
17 them the respect that you would like to have.

18 The other part of that and I just -- it's going to
19 be a little bit different this afternoon than it was with
20 the Secretary. I appreciate and understand the passion
21 that goes with these issues, but, we have an awful lot of
22 people who want to talk. And I have no idea whose coming
23 or in what order, but, I do know, if we interrupt the
24 presentations too often, or, if the speakers go over
25 their three minutes by too much, we will not get

1 everybody's comments in in the time that we have
2 available to us. So, whatever you can do to help me with
3 that, I would appreciate. My job has been fairly easy so
4 far. I'm to some degree, I guess, I'm the enforcer; and
5 it hasn't been necessary to do much. Everybody has been
6 very positive and very supportive and I'm sure you will
7 be, too. But, I think the Secretary set the tone and
8 he's a hard act to follow, but, we'll give it a shot.

9 Before I go into the meeting ground rules, I would
10 like to introduce the panel. Their name tags disappeared
11 over lunch, but, they are:

12 To my immediate left is Ellen Aronson, who's the
13 Regional Director for the Pacific Region;

14 Next to her is Renee Orr, who is the Chief of the
15 Leasing Division from Headquarters MMS in Herndon;

16 And at the very end is Harold Sims, the odd man out,
17 who is the Chief of the Resource Evaluation Division at
18 headquarters.

19 Now, the way this is going to work is a little bit
20 different than it was this morning, so, let me run
21 through the ground rules and then we'll get started with
22 the first set of comments.

23 Okay, first, I want to just -- I'm sure you are all
24 on the same page with this, but, we have some goals for
25 the meeting. Everybody came I assume because they would

1 like to contribute to the development of the
2 comprehensive offshore energy plan that includes both
3 renewable and traditional sources of energy.

4 Now, exactly what that means, we have no idea at
5 this point; but, obviously, you're all here because you
6 care about that goal. If we're going to accomplish that,
7 everybody has to respect the rights of all of the people
8 who are in attendance. So we've got these guidelines
9 that you've already heard, but which I need to run
10 through just in case there's somebody here who wasn't
11 here this morning.

12 If you are an attendee, you should be respectful of
13 those who are making statements and the others who attend
14 the meeting. Allow them to present their views in an
15 uninterrupted manner. Refrain from cheering, applauding,
16 whistling, or making derogatory remarks about views you
17 either support or oppose.

18 Now, there is nothing wrong with polite applause at
19 the end of somebody's statement based on the fact that it
20 takes a lot to come up here and make that; but, what we
21 are trying to avoid is things that disrupt and interrupt
22 the proceedings because this clock is ticking and there's
23 not a lot of time.

24 If you have a cellphone, turn it off, put it on
25 vibrate. I interrupted the Chief of Staff for the Coast

1 Guard once with a cellphone. Trust me, it's not a
2 pleasant experience. Avoid side conversations as best
3 you can. If you want to discuss the issues, we will have
4 a couple of breaks this afternoon and that's a perfect
5 time to do that.

6 And then the theme for the meeting the last
7 guideline for everybody is stay engaged. Learn,
8 appreciate the views of others and participate because
9 this truly is an opportunity for your voices to be heard
10 in this process.

11 If you are a speaker, you should be registered to
12 speak. The second part of that statement is no longer
13 true. In both Anchorage and here we gave out every
14 speaker card we had and that fills up the time slots, if
15 everybody takes three minutes a piece.

16 However, if -- and this has occurred and it may well
17 occur here given the change in the size of the crowd --
18 if we found that people who took speaker numbers have
19 decided that they're going to submit a written comment or
20 they didn't want to stay, if there is time at the end, we
21 will take additional comments from the audience. We
22 don't do that by speaker number. We'll just ask you to
23 put your hands up; so, it's possible, but not probable,
24 that there will be time to do some of that.

25 We will call speakers in order by card number, so,

1 there will be all 1's first and all the 2's, etc. When
2 you come to the microphone, state your name and
3 organization. If you have one, state your issues, views,
4 and concerns as concisely as possible, as each speaker
5 will be limited to three minutes.

6 Now, this is where we depart, obviously. Not
7 everybody this morning was limited to five minutes on the
8 panel and the speakers were at the Secretary's pleasure.
9 But, today, there is a timer that you will be able to see
10 from the microphone. I can also see the timer; and at
11 two minutes and 30 seconds, I will stand up and approach
12 the podium. At three minutes, I will ask you to
13 summarize. I apologize in advance if I have to speak
14 over someone. This is not to try to discourage you from
15 participating; it's to try to ensure that everybody gets
16 a chance.

17 There will be people who will collect written
18 copies, if you have them and you can -- and there'll be a
19 slide here in a little while that will tell you how to
20 submit written comments.

21 So, you know, bear with me on that; and I certainly
22 don't mean to offend anybody, but, I do have to do that.

23 Okay, well, that just says what I just said. So,
24 try to be civil and respectful in speech towards all the
25 hearing participants and the agency staff; and I think

1 that's obvious that that's working fine, so --

2 All right, written statements. I'm not encouraging
3 you one way or another, but, we did go until 8:15 in
4 Anchorage. It's only 1:15 now. That's seven hours from
5 now. And if you hold a 17 or an 18 or a 19 or a 20,
6 you're at the tail end; and you have the option of
7 submitting your comments in writing. They will end up in
8 the same place.

9 What will happen here is, the panel will listen to
10 your comments, but they will not be responding. They
11 take notes as they see fit. And there's a transcript
12 which will be prepared. The transcript will go to MMS
13 and be part of the official record.

14 By the same token, if you submit written comments,
15 either here or over the Internet or by mail, it will get
16 put into the official record.

17 So, that is an option if you want to; or, if you
18 want to do both, that's, certainly, all right, too.

19 If you want instructions on how to do that, there
20 are two options:

21 You can go to the D.O.I. main website, which is.
22 www.doi.gov and, at the bottom of the page, there's a
23 section on these hearings. If you click on that section,
24 one of the places it will take you is to the website that
25 says "How to submit written comments" or "Comments over

1 the Internet". If you choose to, you can go to that
2 location directly, www.doi.gov/ocs; or, you can go to the
3 MMS website, www.mms.gov. They all have instructions on
4 how to do it.

5 Okay, I really appreciate -- thank you for your
6 constructive participation. This morning was a wonderful
7 session. And we'll get started with the comments this
8 afternoon and, hopefully, I will have an easy afternoon.

9 So, if we could have -- well, now, one other thing,
10 the best microphone for you to use is the one here in the
11 middle in the front. And the reason for that is we're
12 going to collect your speaker number cards in the order
13 in which you speak. The reason we do that is that the
14 court reporter has a very difficult job to get spelling
15 of names correct, when you say what your name is; and, by
16 knowing the order that you spoke in, we can go back to
17 the attendance sheet and figure out how to spell your
18 name. That's the only reason we do that.

19 So, Laura, who is holding up her hand, will collect
20 the number cards. If you don't want to come to the
21 center aisle, we'll catch up with you wherever you're at;
22 but, that certainly makes our job easier.

23 I will call you in groups. It doesn't matter which
24 order you get to the microphone. You don't have to be
25 A-B-C D. Just be coming up six or seven at a time,

1 Offshore oil drilling will create literally tens of
2 thousands of jobs, good paying jobs, with good benefits.
3 Those are jobs that are badly needed by folks across this
4 country and especially right here in California.

5 In addition, California has one of the largest state
6 budget deficits in the country, if not the largest.

7 Those new jobs would create enormous revenues for the
8 State of California, revenues that could go to plug the
9 education gaps that are happening. I notice L.A. just
10 had to layoff a couple thousand teachers.

11 It could go to healthcare;

12 It could go to so many of infrastructure needs that
13 California has;

14 And that's just a microcosm.

15 Offshore oil drilling would create this kind of new
16 revenues for the federal government as well as states
17 across this country; and those are revenues that are
18 badly needed.

19 And on the renewable front, we're absolutely for
20 wind and solar. From a realistic standpoint, according
21 to the best estimates out there, those two sources create
22 about 1.1 percent of the energy usage right now.

23 It's going to take years (inaudible). That's fine.
24 Let's take the years and let's build those energies,
25 renewable sources, up.

1 marine mammal rescue. I'm (inaudible). I have
2 experience with five oil spills; and, this year, was
3 given a Congressional award from the federal government.

4 This is what I have observed while I've been
5 monitoring oil in all of its forms, whether it's
6 aromatic, liquid, core point, tar ball, or solid, is a
7 poison. When it's set free in our environment it has
8 been proven to be a carcinogen. It's
9 transgenerational(sic) which means it transfers
10 generation from mother to young.

11 What I've observed is that oil is especially in its
12 solid form is a constant threat to wildlife and our
13 ecosystem, an ecosystem that stretches from Monterey
14 north through the Sonoma Coast State Park to Point
15 Stewart, and is unique in the continental United States.
16 It is imperative that we fully protect this unique
17 ecosystem to the best of our ability. This includes the
18 implementation of renewable energy sources; also any
19 development.

20 It cuts through regulations and laws of the EPA, the
21 Marine Mammal Act, the Migratory Bird Act, Marine Life
22 Preservation Act, is not acceptable.

23 As for oil jobs oil, jobs in Kenya, too, promised
24 thousands. Thousands are starving. Oil is a fallacy.
25 Oil is a poison. Thank you.

1 one of the latest projects be developed in the Russian
2 far east by Shell Oil. They like to say this is a
3 state-of-the-art project that's been developed over the
4 last ten years, where they've been able to avoid
5 environmental impacts; but, in fact, the record shows the
6 opposite is true. This project has led to severe impacts
7 to salmon fisheries as well as to a population of gray
8 whales that have their habitat there. In fact, a panel
9 of scientists from the World Conservation Union recently
10 called for a moratorium on seismic testing due to the
11 impacts on gray whales in that area.

12 We're particularly worried about offshore oil
13 drilling, not just here in California, but also in other
14 parts of our country, especially, in Alaska and the
15 Arctic.

16 We do not think it's acceptable to protect our
17 waters here in California while sacrificing areas such as
18 the Arctic and Bristol Bay. So, in that regard, we stand
19 together with the (inaudible) communities in Alaska, in
20 the Arctic, who, the other day, told you, clearly, that
21 they are opposed to offshore drilling in the Arctic; and
22 to the fishing communities of Bristol Bay who also said
23 that they do not want to sacrifice America's largest
24 salmon fisheries to oil and gas development.

25 We've talked about the risk of oil spills. We saw

1 here that even with the relatively minor Costco Busan
2 spill, we do not know how to clean up spills in calm waters in
3 San Francisco Bay, much less in icy conditions such as
4 the Arctic.

5 Finally, I will just end by saying, we need to
6 resolve our -- the climate change crisis that we are
7 facing. Offshore drilling is not the way to do that
8 political will. To create renewable energy is the right
9 way to solve that.

10 Thank you.

11 --oOo--

12 MR. SPARANO: Thank you. My name is Joe Sparano.
13 I'm president of the Western States Petroleum
14 Association. We represent petroleum producers, refiners,
15 and marketers in California and five other western
16 states. I'll try not to repeat what I said before the
17 Secretary this morning, but, rather focus on a couple of
18 important facts and issues that I want to share with this
19 group.

20 Number one, there's no single solution to what
21 confronts us as Americans in terms of energy supply.

22 We need to not only have access to additional
23 offshore supplies here in California, we need to develop
24 as aggressively and vigorously as possible alternative
25 and renewable fuels;

1 We need to conserve what we use every day and do it
2 smartly;

3 And, finally, industry needs to invest more and more
4 to operate more efficiently.

5 Those things are important.

6 Keeping one or more forms of energy that I just
7 mentioned off the table will not do any of us any good to
8 have a secure future. We import 65 percent of every drop
9 of oil we use every day; that's not smart. We need to
10 get around that. Part of that solution is having access
11 to all fuel supplies.

12 We are committed to environmental protection.
13 You've heard different comments today. I can assure you,
14 according to MMS, our record offshore California has been
15 extremely good for the last 39 years. We intend to
16 continue that good record and improve on it as best we
17 can.

18 Expanded access to offshore supplies, we use not
19 only increased energy security, but, it really does mean
20 lots and lots of jobs for Californians at a time when
21 we're having a tough economic development. It means lots
22 of revenues for the state and for municipalities around
23 the state. Those things are important.

24 And we need to ensure that we keep that in mind as
25 MMS and the Department of Interior evaluate whether or

1 not to grant additional access offshore. Our choices are
2 clear. We can continue importing increasing amounts of
3 oil from foreign countries that are hostile to our
4 interest or we can safely and responsibly develop our own
5 domestic resources and alternatives; and renewable fuels
6 that will make sense for the future.

7 Things don't happen overnight. The major thing that
8 we need to avoid, as Californians and as Americans, is
9 having a gap in our energy supply.

10 And it's the combination of those things that I've
11 been talking about and people have mentioned today that
12 will help us ensure that we have energy security.

13 I urge you to approve a five-year plan that includes
14 leasing off California.

15 Thank you.

16 --oOo--

17 MR. ALLEN: I'm Bruce Allen, co-founder SOS
18 California.

19 According to the National Academy of Sciences, 63
20 percent of hydrocarbon pollution in U.S. waters is
21 natural oil, and one percent is from drilling.

22 The large oil and gas reserves off the coast of
23 Santa Barbara sit atop the second largest natural oil
24 seeps in the world and seep about 65,000 barrels per year
25 into California waters and on to California beaches.

1 Estimates documented on the County of Santa Barbara
2 website show an overage of 180 barrels per day of coastal
3 oil seep pollution or about 65,000 barrels per year;
4 about the same amount that occurred in the entire 1969
5 spill every four years. It equals the Exxon Valdez
6 spill.

7 According to the MMS, there were about 870 barrels
8 spilled from offshore California production since 1970;
9 whereas, there are about two million barrels of oil
10 seepage killing more wildlife in the last 40 years than
11 more California offshore oil spills combined.

12 In January, 2005 alone an estimated 5,000 birds were
13 oiled and killed from oil seepage off Santa Barbara,
14 compared to 4,000 birds killed in the 1969 spill.

15 Yet, there was little media attention. Why is that?
16 How many here are aware that, up until the 1950's, before
17 there was offshore oil development in California, Santa
18 Barbara beaches were already a mess from natural oil
19 seeps; and those beaches have far less oil now.

20 This is due entirely to offshore oil and gas
21 production drying up the seeps. I have here University
22 of California press release and 22 year study documenting
23 that offshore oil production reduces the seeps and the
24 associated gas emissions. The effects of the 1969 spill
25 disappeared 39 and-a-half years ago. The benefits of

1 reduced seepage will continue for 1,000 years, according
2 to published studies. 11 discovered but off limits
3 fields in Santa Barbara OCS and state waters are
4 overlaying by active pollutable seeps south of Point
5 Conception to San Luis Obispo County line. Many of these
6 OCS resources are (inaudible) with land containing --
7 from land (inaudible) the seeps with no risk of an
8 offshore oil spill and would reduce coastal oil seepage
9 pollution.

10 SOS California believes the 2010 five-year leasing
11 plan should include the Santa Maria and Santa Barbara
12 basins. Seep maps showing the seeps extend from state
13 waters into the OCS for 70 miles along the coast.
14 Producing these resources would also reduce California's
15 oil tanker imports for 30 years, removing the largest
16 threat of large oil spills from our coast.

17 The Department of the Interior should consider the
18 Santa Barbara County and California beaches are cleaner
19 today because of offshore oil extraction over the last 50
20 years; and more extraction will result in less oil
21 seepage pollution and the large -- known and likely
22 reserves are large and safely extractable with long range
23 slant drilling.

24 Thank you.

25 --oOo--

1 MR. WINE: My name is Michael Wine. I'm Counsel for
2 Oceania. I'm here on behalf of our 300,000 members and
3 supporters. Oceania is an international conservation
4 organization dedicated to using science and policy to
5 protect our oceans (inaudible) to make two basic points:

6 First, thank you for having these hearings. It
7 reflects an acknowledgement of the big responsibility
8 that the Secretary of the Interior has in stewarding our
9 natural resources. The decisions that are being
10 considered here are about more than just oil and gas.

11 As the testimony we've heard reflects about our
12 ocean resources, about people who use them, people who
13 rely on them, people who care about them, these are
14 resources that belong to all of us.

15 We know that focus has been on energy, but, we
16 are -- and we're glad to see that the report that was
17 issued includes renewable -- not only renewable energy
18 and oil and gas, but also important environmental and
19 ecological areas.

20 We hope that that's the beginning of the Secretary's
21 broader approach to this. We hope that the Secretary
22 will coordinate with other federal agencies, in
23 particular, NOAA, local entities, tribal entities, and
24 others, as we undertake a comprehensive approach to ocean
25 management.

1 and I'm the Superintendent at Cordell Bank National
2 Marine Sanctuary. It's in Northern California and
3 managed as part of the National Oceanic Atmosphere
4 Administration, better known as NOAA to many of you
5 folks.

6 I'm here today on behalf of NOAA's Office of
7 National Marine Sanctuaries and our West Coast Regional
8 Director, Bill Borros, who asked me to pass along his
9 regrets that he couldn't be here this afternoon.

10 The sanctuary's mission is to serve as the federal
11 trustee for the system of marine sanctuaries around the
12 country; to serve and to protect these special areas.
13 Five of the nation's 14 marine sanctuaries are located
14 along the West Coast, from the Channel Islands in
15 Southern California, the Farallones, Monterey Bay, and
16 Cordell Bank, central and Northern California, and the
17 Olympic Coast Sanctuary in Washington.

18 Congress has approved these sites because they
19 represent unique marine ecosystems worthy of special
20 protection. The history of the sanctuaries on the West
21 Coast is closely linked with community opposition to
22 developing oil and gas leases along our shore. All of
23 the west coast sites have regulations in place
24 prohibiting gases and oil exploration and development to
25 protect these dynamic ecosystems.

1 We also have concerns about development of leases
2 upstream from Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallones
3 west of Point Arena and the Point Arena Basin. As
4 Congresswoman Woolsey alluded to, that is the source
5 water that provides nutrient rich and is the foundation
6 for the productivity that occurs in Gulf of the
7 Farallones and Cordell Bank.

8 Those waters that are upswelled at Point Arena, the
9 sanctuaries, both Cordell Bank and Gulf of the
10 Farallones, also have an enter and inter regulation which
11 means that:

12 If oil or its by-products were to enter the
13 sanctuary and injure resources originating outside of the
14 sanctuary, it would still be held responsible for those
15 damages.

16 So, we would hope that any Department of Interior
17 plans to develop offshore oil and gas reserves would
18 respect the sanctuary prohibitions and regulations.

19 Today, new opportunities and challenges are
20 developing along the West Coast related to renewable
21 offshore energy. We have concerns about the potential
22 ecological impacts related to developing alternative
23 energy in the sanctuaries, including the signing of major
24 infrastructure on the continental shelf.

25 Nonetheless, we are interested in working with MMS

1 on a science-based planning process and engaging more
2 fully with partners and coastal communities on a
3 coordinated marine special planning process. Through
4 this process we -- and that's a collective we -- that
5 includes all the stakeholders -- can identify the areas
6 that must be preserved to sustain ecosystem structure,
7 function and services. And we'll also define areas where
8 energy development may be more appropriate.

9 We'd like to commend the Minerals Management Service
10 for the sensible approach to date in defining a thorough
11 and comprehensive process to consider the leasing and
12 (inaudible) offshore energy projects on the Continental
13 Shelf.

14 And I'd also like to thank the Department of the
15 Interior for the opportunity to comment in this public
16 forum today.

17 MR. AURAND: I've been given the names of five
18 people who represent various elected officials, so, I'm
19 going to pause for a minute in the list of numbers and
20 I'm going to call you up one at a time.

21 And rather than try to go through all of this, when
22 I call your name, would you just please indicate who you
23 represent when you state your name?

24 So, the first person is Jonathan Sauer. Mr. Sauer?

25 --oOo--

1 MR. SAUER: Thank you.

2 On behalf of Lois Capps, I'd like to make the
3 following statement:

4 Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the
5 Bush administration's draft proposed five-year OCS oil
6 and gas leasing program.

7 First, I would like to submit, for the record, a
8 letter to you that I drafted along with Senators Boxer
9 and Feinstein and signed by several of my colleagues from
10 the California delegation expressing our strong
11 opposition to portions of the draft plan that would allow
12 three new lease sales off our state. We urge you to
13 remove all areas of offshore California for the Draft OCS
14 Plan.

15 Mr. Secretary, I proudly represent the 23rd
16 Congressional District which which includes coastal --
17 portions of three counties: Santa Barbara, San Luis
18 Obispo and Ventura Counties. My entire coastal district,
19 which is home to over 20 offshore drilling platforms,
20 miles and miles of undersea pipelines, and dozens of
21 onshore production facilities, is included in the
22 proposal.

23 I have been a longtime opponent of new offshore oil
24 and gas development. I introduced a bill, California
25 Ocean Coastal and Protection Act every Congress to impose

1 a permanent ban on new oil and gas leases. I've been
2 joined by a majority of my California colleagues in
3 supporting this legislation. It's no surprise that I
4 don't want to see more oil rigs off my Congressional
5 district.

6 I witnessed, first hand, the devastation of the
7 Santa Barbara blowout in 1969. The disastrous spill
8 created 800 square mile slick and marred 35 miles of
9 California's coastline. I saw the dead birds and seals,
10 the beaches covered with oil, the land that I love so
11 much nearly destroyed.

12 In the years, since oil accidents and drilling based
13 pollution in my Congressional District has been an
14 on-going story.

15 In December more than 1400 gallons of oil spilled
16 into our coastal waters in the same location as the
17 infamous 1969 spill, nearly 40 years ago.

18 And that's not even including the impacts on our
19 local air and water quality we deal with every day.

20 So, yes, my constituents and I don't want more of
21 that. Even though (inaudible) my opposition to new
22 offshore drilling is mostly because it is simply not in
23 the best interests of this country. It is the slowest,
24 dirtiest and most expensive way to produce energy. And
25 the longer we try to fool ourselves into believing that

1 new drilling will bring us lower gas prices and that we
2 still have plenty of time to get ourselves off this oil
3 addiction, the tougher the day of reckoning will be.

4 Mr. Secretary, America's coastal waters and the
5 economies should not be sacrificed for political sound
6 bites. That's why I was pleased by the Obama
7 administration's responsible decision to take a fresh
8 look at five-year offshore leasing plan that former
9 President Bush released on his first day in office.

10 Future leasing decisions must be based on the
11 strongest most objective signs available, especially in
12 areas that have previously been off limits to drilling
13 for decades.

14 While we need take a more reasonable approach to
15 managing our public energy resources, I continue to
16 believe there are cheaper, cleaner, faster, and more
17 sustainable energy solutions than more drilling.

18 Energy efficiency and clean renewable energy will
19 start consumers (inaudible) more money today. Improved
20 vehicle standards on their own will do more to
21 (inaudible).

22 I'm hoping the energy in the real solutions that put
23 us on the right path target, renewable energy solutions
24 for our future. Our nation shouldn't be known for
25 chasing after \$80 energy solutions, but, for its

1 leadership toward the clean energy solutions for today
2 and tomorrow.

3 Thank you, again, for calling this hearing and I
4 look forward to working with you and President Obama to
5 protect our environmentally sensitive and economically
6 valuable coast towards clean energy future.

7 Thank you.

8 --oOo--

9 MR. AURAND: Mr. Jeremy Tittle.

10 MR. TITTLE: Thank you. My name is Jeremy Tittle.
11 I'm representing Santa Barbara County.

12 First, I want to thank the Secretary and the
13 Department for holding this hearing today; for extending
14 the comment period.

15 Our county, Secretary -- I'm sorry -- our county --
16 and Senator Boxer clearly articulated it earlier and
17 demonstrated it through the showing of photos
18 first-hand -- you know has witnessed first-hand the
19 impacts of offshore oil development over the last years,
20 over the history of this industry, off the California
21 coast; especially following the catastrophic spill in
22 1969 which actually came ashore in my boss' district in
23 Santa Barbara County. There's a lot of people still in
24 Santa Barbara who are on the beaches that worked to clean
25 up that spill; and its legacy has not been forgotten.

1 Since that day, we've continued to deal with impacts
2 of continued oil exploration and extraction off our coast
3 in Santa Barbara County and oil production that's gone
4 along with it. This is despite the consistent opposition
5 that has existed in our County since the 1969 spill to
6 expand the leasing and new leasing off our coast.

7 I think now that we have actually reached a critical
8 time, as my boss looks at this, where we have three-fold
9 part approaching this issue:

10 The first one would be to invest in renewable energy
11 resources. The County recently took a step in this
12 direction by approving a wind farm up in our county.
13 We're also exploring solar energy throughout our county
14 and the neighboring county, as well as passive solar on
15 homes and businesses in our area.

16 Wind energy is also being explored. The second part
17 of this equation, we feel, is working to phase out and
18 transition out of existing oil development that continues
19 to exist off our coast. This, I believe we took a step
20 in this direction through an approval of a historic
21 compromise between the environmental community and,
22 actually, an oil company this past year that,
23 unfortunately, was for a new lease in exchange for
24 phasing out and eliminating a large amount of oil
25 production off our coast. Unfortunately, this deal

1 wasn't approved by the State Lands Commission and we
2 believe that was representative of partnership and a way
3 to move forward for that second part of the equation.

4 Third part of this is the reason we're here today is
5 preventing any new leasing off our county and off the
6 state, in general. You know, this leasing plan which
7 this hearing is to consider represents a critical choice;
8 and that is why our Board of Supervisors recently passed
9 last week and one of my colleagues representing one of my
10 supervisor's colleagues will also speak on this. It was
11 a resolution proposed by my boss and Supervisor Wolf to
12 express four-fold concerns:

13 One is opposition to new OCS leasing as part of this
14 current plan;

15 Secondly, would be support for our continued state
16 moratorium which exists off our state waters;

17 And, third, would be supporting the re-establishment
18 of Congressional and federal moratorium;

19 A fourth part of this what was would have been in
20 the resolution that I also touched on was support for
21 everything that's been done in the State of California
22 level and in our county, in the cities and communities
23 within our County (inaudible) investing in renewables and
24 working to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

25 I have a copy of the resolution for you. It's been

1 submitted to the Secretary and also as part of the
2 comment; but, I also have a copy here.

3 And I'd like to just close by reading a quote from
4 my boss that kind of sums up, I think, where we are.

5 We are right now at this critical time at this
6 critical juncture in determining the energy future of our
7 nation and region. It's important for Santa Barbara
8 County to send a clear message that we have not forgotten
9 the environmentally and financially destructive legacy of
10 the 1969 oil spill, and that we support taking steps
11 forward by investing in renewable energy resources; not a
12 step backward through new oil and gas leasing.

13 Thanks for your time.

14 MR. AURAND: Karen Quinby.

15 --oOo--

16 MS. QUINBY: Hi. My name the Karen Quinby. I'm
17 here on behalf of Santa Barbara County Supervisor Janet
18 Wolf. And thank you for the opportunity to deliver these
19 comments from her. I'm going to read a statement from
20 her.

21 As a Santa Barbara County Supervisor whose district
22 includes significant portions of coastline along the
23 central coast of California, I want to express my strong
24 opposition to opening up new leases in the Department of
25 the Interior's oil and gas leasing program to thousands

1 (inaudible). I speak on behalf of the Santa Barbara
2 County Board of Supervisors who recently passed a
3 resolution stating the following:

4 The Board of Supervisors supports the California
5 Coastal Sanctuary Act which generally prohibits new oil
6 and gas leasing in state waters;

7 Asks that the Department of the Interior not issue
8 any new leases off the coast of California as part of the
9 current OCS leasing program;

10 And respectfully requests that the Congress and
11 president of the United States to reinstate the federal
12 offshore oil and gas leasing moratoria as soon as
13 possible.

14 As many have recalled this morning, in fact, it was
15 the devastating 1969 oil spill off the coast of Santa
16 Barbara that profoundly illustrated the negative
17 environmental impacts of offshore oil development.

18 It inspired the federal ban and it led to the birth
19 of the modern environmental movement. This legacy is one
20 that has formed Santa Barbara County's strong opposition
21 to oil leasing for four decades and draws my commitment
22 to stopping new offshore oil and gas leasing; and also to
23 taking advantage of opportunities to end oil production
24 off our coast.

25 Our county can simply not afford to drill more and

1 has not only because of the harm to our tourist and
2 fishing industries, our opposition to new oil leasing
3 takes on even greater urgency in the face of climate
4 change. It is clear by all measures that we must
5 transition our economy from fossil fuel to clean energy
6 production as rapidly as possible; not only is this
7 transition essential to making our country energy
8 independent, we are now required by new state legislation
9 here in California to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
10 county-wide.

11 Given these new imperatives, Santa Barbara County is
12 already at work developing a comprehensive climate action
13 strategy with an emphasis on encouraging renewable and
14 clean energy sources.

15 In addition, we are developing a Sustainability
16 Action Plan for County operations to lead the way in
17 sustainable practices.

18 New offshore oil leasing is simply counterproductive
19 to these important new goals of energy independence and
20 reducing greenhouse grass emissions.

21 For all these reasons, I am strongly committed to
22 stopping new offshore oil and gas leasing and also taking
23 advantage of all opportunities to phase out oil and gas
24 development.

25 I urge the Secretary of the Interior to not issue

1 any new leases off the coast of California as part of the
2 OCS oil and gas leasing program to 2010 to 2015.

3 Thank you, so much.

4 --oOo--

5 MR. AURAND: Mr. Doug Hagerstrom.

6 MR. HAGERSTROM: Thank you for this opportunity to
7 speak. I'm Doug Hagerstrom, the Mayor of Fort Bragg and
8 Mendocino County; and there are a lot of Mendocino County
9 people here. If you'll all stand up? And these people
10 are ready to expand Congresswoman Woolsey's invitation to
11 the Secretary and have him come to Mendocino County as
12 well.

13 And I think it's important for he and whatever
14 decision-makers to come to Mendocino County because it is
15 the locals who have the most at stake. It is the locals
16 who have the most knowledge of what the impacts of either
17 oil or alternative energy development. Our community has
18 a longstanding opposition to oil drilling.

19 But, today, we also have concerns about wave energy
20 development. I won't repeat what everybody has said
21 about oil. I think it fails any cost benefit analysis.
22 But, I think there's also a cost benefit analysis that
23 needs to be done in relation to alternative energy.

24 And the Secretary asked for some comments on
25 alternative energy in a distinct way and so I will try to

1 respond with my time to that request of his.

2 Some of the estimates of job creation from oil, I
3 think, makes a mistake that I hope the Secretary and the
4 Department will not make.

5 And that's that this area of Northern California is
6 simply empty; and that if some economic activity comes to
7 that area, it will be a net positive, whatever it is. I
8 assure you that is not the case. We have a very vibrant
9 economy that is in balance with the resources. We have
10 seen in the past that even the small activity in the
11 ocean that's there can overwhelm it. Our fisheries have
12 been in decline without the added stresses of anymore
13 economic development in the ocean.

14 I submit that it would not be a net job creation,
15 but a displacement of current uses for the ocean; that,
16 right now, there are existing uses of the ocean both
17 commercial and recreational that cannot stand anymore
18 uses of the ocean.

19 So, at the very least, considering any alternative
20 energy development like wave energy would take an
21 analysis of what is going to be offset.

22 What would the restrictions on the citing of wave
23 energy need to be so it's not to disrupt and displace
24 existing uses of the ocean?

25 And things that you might see as just aesthetic,

1 like, what it looks like. That's a very important
2 commercial factor for us:

3 In terms of the sport fishing people that come and
4 support our economy;

5 The people who come and go whale-watching;

6 The people who come to our many parks along our part
7 of the coast and support our tourism industry.

8 I would guess that simply the development of oil
9 drilling would collapse the entire economy of Fort Bragg.
10 15,000 residents of Fort Bragg, and its surroundings
11 would not have any economy. That would probably collapse
12 the economy of Mendocino County, may collapse the
13 neighboring economies.

14 So, this isn't a net gain because nothing is going
15 on. We need to recognize that there are things going on
16 there and that any development of these sorts would
17 displace them.

18 We are very suspect of distant decision-making.

19 We've seen it over-harvest our timber industry;

20 We've seen it over-harvest our fishing resources;

21 And all alternatives are not equal.

22 I think looking first at conservation and measures
23 of creating green buildings, buildings consume a lot of
24 energy. If they were made more efficient, that would be
25 the first attack.

1 The second could be solar because solar can be put
2 on existing buildings, parking lots. It does not create
3 any new impact on the environment.

4 Lastly, I would ask any federal official to look at
5 FERC and bring FERC within a federal agency. I think the
6 conflicts between FERC and other agencies that are not
7 getting resolved by the Department of Justice Office of
8 Legal Counsel makes FERC a renegade agency and needs to
9 be brought into a federal agency.

10 MR. AURAND: Okay.

11 Rachel Binah. Did I pronounce that correctly?

12 No. I didn't; did I? I'm sorry. I apologize.

13 --oOo--

14 MS. BINAH: That's quite all right.

15 My name is Rachel Binah, and I am here representing
16 the people of Mendocino, really, but:

17 I am the Chair Emeritus of the Environmental Caucus
18 of the California Democratic Party;

19 And I'm also a member of the Democratic National
20 Committee;

21 And I have been a member of President Obama's energy
22 and environment team.

23 But, here, I speak today as a resident of
24 California, of Mendocino; and a lot of people from
25 Mendocino are sitting over here, and they stood up a few

1 moments ago.

2 I want you to know that this morning I would say
3 one-third of this audience came from Mendocino,
4 four-and-a-half hours each way, to be here.

5 The last time we met with you was in Fort Bragg for
6 Lease Sale 91. The Minerals Management Service came for
7 a hearing and we had a filibuster. We spoke for 24
8 and-a-half hours about the need to protect our coast from
9 offshore oil. None of those issues have changed. We
10 still feel passionately about the need to protect our
11 coast and that's why we're here today.

12 We thought we were done with it; but, apparently
13 there is no end to the scheming and the plotting and the
14 carrying on that many industries and even our own
15 government are involved in trying to get to happen.

16 The ocean and the forests are the lungs of this
17 planet and the Department of the Interior really has a
18 responsibility to act as a steward of these very, very
19 important planetary components of our natural and
20 national resources.

21 So, you know that we're committed once again to
22 protect the coast from offshore oil and gas development.
23 We're very concerned about wave energy. I'll go into
24 that in a moment.

25 But, I want to call to your attention to the fact

1 that the Navy wants to use this same area that we're
2 talking about to test munitions and sonar and God knows
3 what else.

4 So, although there has been an important paradigm
5 shift in our federal government as a result of the last
6 election, there are many concerns that we have still and
7 they must be addressed. We don't want the Navy there
8 disturbing the marine life.

9 And we're very, very concerned now today and during
10 the past few days I'm hearing more about wind energy out
11 there. Now, this is new to us. All of these things,
12 these proposals, are in the Federal Register, but, how
13 many of us read the Federal Register? You have to be
14 working at this 24 hours a day to just keep up with
15 plotting and the scheming of the assaults on our ocean.

16 There are three layers and important layers of
17 protection for our coast in state waters:

18 There's the Coastal Commission;

19 There's the Fish & Game Department;

20 And there's the State Lands Commission.

21 Now, these are the agencies of authority and
22 recognition as having the power to protect our coast; but
23 now, we discover from the Federal Energy Regulatory
24 Commission -- FERC -- that if they -- after they've
25 analyzed the information from those state agencies, they

1 will determine the outcome. So it's very important that
2 FERC be, as Mayor Hagerstrom said, incorporated into the
3 federal process so that it becomes as transparent and as
4 open and as helpful as you, in fact, have been.

5 We have a lot of concerns about the environmental
6 consequences of wave energy -- and I won't go into all of
7 the details of that -- but, I will submit them in my
8 comments.

9 We're concerned about the environment and we're also
10 concerned about lots of other issues in relation to that;
11 on the other hand, we also want alternative, renewable,
12 safe, environmentally safe, energy. We do not want to go
13 back to the old days of dealing with oil. Any new
14 drilling for a well for oil postpones the day when we get
15 off of it.

16 MR. AURAND: Mr. Kendall Smith -- Ms. -- oh, sorry.
17 It's a gender-neutral card. I made an assumption I
18 shouldn't have made. I'm sorry.

19 MS. SMITH: That's quite all right.

20 Thank you, very much, My name is Kendall Smith. I'm
21 a member of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors.

22 So, as to Secretary Salazar, who I had the pleasure
23 of meeting this morning, and he was very gracious,
24 meeting with elected officials, and we very much
25 appreciated his time.

1 So, to Secretary Salazar, to leasing Environmental
2 Assessment Branch of Minerals and Management Services, we
3 have an official letter from the Board of Supervisors.
4 I'd like to read just the first paragraph and then make a
5 few additional comments. And this is written to MMS.

6 We are writing to express the unanimous opposition
7 of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors to the
8 consideration of the Mendocino coast for offshore oil and
9 gas leasing pursuant to the five-year plan announced by
10 the Minerals & Management Service today to request that a
11 public hearing be held on the Mendocino Coast prior to
12 the close of the public comment. It is woefully
13 inadequate to provide for only four hearings nationwide
14 for this program. More hearings are warranted; and it is
15 appropriate that they be held in the areas that are
16 directly affected.

17 So, I'll make just a few other brief comments and
18 then I'll submit our formal letter. The Draft Proposed
19 Lease Program is unanimously opposed by the Mendocino
20 County Board of Supervisors, continuing a more than
21 decade long opposition to offshore exploration for oil
22 reserves.

23 Mendocino County is adamant and united in its
24 continued resistance to this proposed resource
25 extraction, fragile coastal ecosystem interdependence is

1 well documented.

2 Our resource-based economy has largely been replaced
3 by tourism and environmental protection is a cornerstone
4 of this vital economic engine.

5 Local property values are struggling. Fishing
6 industry and growing green energy development are all
7 consistent with and dependent upon a vibrant, scenic
8 coastline.

9 When corporate entities and federal regulators set
10 their sights on the Mendocino coast in the 1980's, we
11 were vigilant in opposing a risky and precarious venture
12 off our coastline.

13 Those environmental and community values have held
14 strong, flourishing over time, and are being articulated
15 here today.

16 We reject the possibility that safe and
17 environmentally sound extraction is possible;

18 We reject the concept that oil reserves in the Point
19 Arena Basin would contribute significantly to solving our
20 oil consumption debacle;

21 We reject drilling is the answer to excessive demand
22 in consumption;

23 We urge that this lease plan be abandoned;

24 We urge you, Secretary Salazar, and the department
25 to pursue a comprehensive, renewable energy plan with an

1 expeditious timeline and an aggressive associated
2 allocation of resources;

3 Reduce our need for finite resources by creating a
4 comprehensive strategy for renewable energy now.

5 We're submitting a formal letter of opposition to
6 consideration of the Point Arena Basin for 2010-2015 Oil
7 and Gas Leasing Program as our official comment and we
8 thank you, very much, for your time.

9 MR. AURAND: Margaret Raines.

10 --oOo--

11 MS. RAINES: Good afternoon. I'm Margaret Raines.
12 I'm here representing the City of Capitola, and, I'd like
13 to say it's nearly impossible to get our City Council to
14 agree on anything, even filling a pothole. And I'm
15 submitting today a resolution passed, unanimously, by my
16 City Council opposing offshore oil drilling.

17 The additional concerns discovered by the Commission
18 on the Environment, appointed by our City Council, are
19 the amount of coal-based energy that comes into the
20 energy stream in California. We're concerned about that.
21 We'd like to just see coal-based energy abolished in this
22 country.

23 The second concern that we have is about the siting
24 of alternative energy sources. The city right next door
25 to us, the City of Santa Cruz, has approved a

1 demonstration project for wave energy. We're looking at
2 that very carefully to see what the impacts might be on
3 the Monterey Bay sanctuary.

4 Thank you for your time.

5 MR. AURAND: Okay, we'll go back to the numbered
6 cards at this point, so, I need Group 2. If you have a
7 card with a 2, just line up at the microphone.

8 Sir, before you start, I've been told that there are
9 at least some elected officials in the 2 group. If you
10 can indicate that before you start, we'll set the timer
11 appropriately.

12 MR. STOCKER: Okay. I'm not.

13 MR. AURAND: We're trusting to your self-judgment in
14 these matters.

15 --oOo--

16 MR. STOCKER: Thank you, appreciate that.

17 I also really appreciate extending this comment
18 period. It's really for -- my name is Michael Stocker,
19 Director of Ocean Conservation Research. We're a
20 science-based organization that's really focuses on ocean
21 noise pollution, it's impact on marine environments. I
22 don't really want to get into well-rehearsed arguments
23 about seismic. I know that's something we've been
24 concerned about. There's also science on that indicating
25 there is a problem with that biologically.

1 What I do like to bring up is the oil and gas
2 industry is indicating that their operations are a lot
3 safer in terms of blowouts and oil spills and
4 what-have-you, largely, due to new technologies that
5 they're using.

6 One of these technologies is subfloor or seafloor
7 processing. They have taken the process and they used to
8 use derricks and move them down to the sea bottom. So,
9 these are injectors, or separators, de-sanders,
10 pressurizers, what-have-you. They're fairly large pieces
11 of equipment. One of them would be about the size of
12 this room here; often operating 100 atmospheres and
13 generating about 5,000 pounds of pressure psi. That's
14 not a formula for quiet.

15 So, our initial concern is -- and we'll just -- with
16 one well head, they have a number of different positions
17 of equipment that are associated with that well head.

18 So, they have one onshore processing, or, maybe a
19 floating facility, it would take to process to put oil
20 and petroleum distributors or whatever they are there.

21 But, all that kind of other processing that would
22 otherwise be seen in more rises on the derrick, is
23 actually on the seafloor creating noise. We don't know
24 the impact that is. We'd like to have that noise
25 characterized before we actually go set loose for this

1 particular technology.

2 Another liability this has is that because it's on
3 the sea bottom, if there's any spills throughout the
4 processing muds or, I don't know what they do with the
5 sand when they de-sand it, but, that stuff that actually
6 permeates the seafloor; and nobody would be the wiser
7 until somebody reported it, monitoring it, being done by
8 the oil and gas people themselves, or programs the
9 fishermen started happening -- you know, what happened to
10 the fisheries in their particular area.

11 So, we're concerned about seafloor processing. We
12 think that we should really understand the impacts of
13 that environmental impacts of those new technologies
14 before we actually allow that to be deployed and any
15 offshore situation. So, thank you, very much.

16 --oOo--

17 MR. ELY: Good afternoon. My name is Nick Ely and I
18 represent Assemblymember Jared Huffman and three minutes
19 should actually be fine. His district has all of the
20 Marin coast and part of the Sonoma coast.

21 I'd like to thank the Secretary for visiting
22 California and for engaging the public on issues of
23 importance to all Californians.

24 On behalf of Assemblyman Hauptman and 26 other
25 members of the California Assembly, I'd like to bring to

1 your attention a letter they have submitted with respect
2 to the proposed five-year Outer Continental Shelf Oil and
3 Gas Leasing Program. And I'll just share a few key
4 concepts and excerpts from the letter:

5 We are writing to express our opposition to the
6 portion of the proposed five-year plan that includes
7 northern, central, and Southern California planning areas
8 for oil and gas drilling.

9 New drilling in these areas is unacceptable. The
10 potential risks in harming our coastal economy by opening
11 these planning areas are far too great. We strongly urge
12 you to remove these planning areas, if the proposed
13 five-year plan is released.

14 Faced with huge impacts from global warming, the
15 state is doing more than its share to shift towards a
16 clean energy future. More drilling off our coast will
17 send our citizens the wrong message about the urgency of
18 making this shift. To put our coastline, beaches,
19 fishing, and tourism economy at risk for minimal
20 short-term economic benefits from oil and gas production
21 is short-sighted and entirely unacceptable.

22 We strongly urge you to remove all California
23 planning areas from any oil and gas activities in the
24 five-year proposed plan.

25 Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

1 of the 24 planned oil platforms, some would have stood
2 over 300 feet tall and been visible from land.

3 At the time, an environmental review determined that
4 the risk of spilling during tanker trips from those oil
5 fields to refineries in San Francisco Bay was
6 substantial.

7 This example highlights why expanded oil drilling
8 does not make sense off the coast of California.
9 Offshore drilling places so much of our environmental and
10 economy at risk for such a small short term reward,
11 realistically, extraction of this oil would have little,
12 if any, impact on gasoline prices. Estimates stipulate
13 that the amount of oil off the coast of California would
14 supply the nation for roughly 17 months. Furthermore,
15 oil from the north coast, alone, would only be enough to
16 supply the nation for 100 days.

17 Extracting this oil, however, would not undercut the
18 important role played by the region's natural upwelling
19 which supports abundant marine life in one of the world's
20 most important fisheries.

21 Accordingly, in no uncertain terms, I oppose any
22 proposal to expand drilling off the coast of California.
23 Sincerely, Norine Evans. Assemblymember, 7th District,
24 California. Thank you.

25 ---oOo---

1 MR. ARMENDARES: Good afternoon. My name is Joe
2 Armendariz. I'm on the Carpinteria City Council. I'm
3 also the Executive Director of (inaudible) and industry
4 association.

5 (inaudible) we have a substantial gas project that
6 we're currently putting through the planning process,
7 but, I know it's of significant concern and interest to
8 the residents that I represent.

9 As somebody who has actually gone out and knocked on
10 doors and asked residents, voters and taxpayers what they
11 think of resource development projects, one of the things
12 I've learned is, number one, extremist opinions on the
13 left and extremist opinions on right are absolutely no
14 use when it comes to formulating public policy.

15 With respect to this issue, what I do know as well
16 is that a sensibly centrist's approach to these issues is
17 really what will form the type of public policy that will
18 benefit the people of my community and the people of this
19 state.

20 And let me give you an example of a sensibly
21 centrist approach to resource development:

22 As you've heard, already, a few months ago, our
23 local environmental stakeholders and PXP (inaudible)
24 project came together as a part of a win-win approach to
25 resource development.

1 I would urge my fellow citizens and public
2 policymakers in California to attempt to emulate this
3 model that the PXP and the Environmental Defense Center
4 and the other environmental stakeholders were able to
5 accomplish, in the interest of securing more energy, in
6 the interest of providing environmental security, in the
7 interest in providing more economic security.

8 One of the things that Mr. Garamendi failed to point
9 out at the State Lands Commission where he boasted as
10 being two votes against that project was State Controller
11 John Chiang -- of course, I have no proof of this, but, I
12 suspect that, while he was looking down and not paying
13 attention at the hearing, was signing IOU's to State
14 employees and State vendors.

15 The PXP project would have generated over \$6 billion
16 in revenue to the State of California;

17 Over \$300 million, potentially, to the County of
18 Santa Barbara if that project went through.

19 Do we need the money? Well, let me submit to you
20 the facts:

21 In California, we have \$42 billion deficit;

22 In Santa Barbara County, we have a \$16 million
23 deficit;

24 In the United States of America, going forward
25 (inaudible) deficit. Indeed, the debt in the United

1 States, today, is \$11,180,000,000,000, going up at a rate
2 of \$100,000 a second, \$6 million a minute, \$3.8 billion a
3 day. The amount of money that we're putting to the debt,
4 just between the time that these MMS hearings started on
5 July 6th is enough to fund the Environmental Protection
6 Agency for two years.

7 Why is this relevant? Because I think what you've
8 heard this morning, and I endorse, is the notion that we
9 need to invest more in renewable technology, in energy
10 efficiency. I know that's important to the constituents
11 that I represent; but, here's the problem;

12 We don't have any money;

13 The United States is bankrupt;

14 California is bankrupt;

15 However, think about this:

16 In 2007, Exxon Mobil, one single company, paid more
17 taxes than the bottom 75 percent of American taxpayers
18 combined.

19 What I would suggest to you, which what we're
20 prepared to deal with in Carpinteria, should that project
21 be approved -- and I don't know that it will, but --
22 should that project in Carpinteria be approved, I have
23 committed to my citizens and my constituents that I will
24 devote the lion's share of that revenue to renewable
25 energy policies, energy efficiency programs.

1 I've worked in the refining and transportation
2 business for more than 30 years with a majority of that
3 being in the State of California.

4 The Northern California refining system that I
5 manage has refineries in the San Francisco Bay Area and
6 in San Luis Obispo County on the central coast.

7 We have more than 600 direct employees and we
8 provide employment for thousands of other Californians
9 for maintenance and construction.

10 We are proud of the work we do each and every day to
11 produce transportation fuels. Every one of us takes our
12 responsibility to the environment very seriously.

13 Both of my sites and the extensive pipeline system
14 that connects them were built to process California crude
15 oil. Our future depends on the continuing supply of
16 California crude to our sites, including the longstanding
17 supply of California crude oil and offshore crude
18 platforms.

19 With these crude oil supplies, we supply gasoline to
20 cities throughout California, Oregon, Nevada, and
21 Arizona. Like the facility I manage, the extensive
22 network of California refineries depends on the supply of
23 California crude, of which OCS plays a key role.

24 New oil and gas projects can take years to develop,
25 which is why MMS should proceed now with the OCS leasing

1 plan.

2 Conoco Phillips strongly supports efforts by the MMS
3 to begin a new five-year program.

4 And, at a time when the economy is the leading
5 national concern, it is right that we are addressing one
6 of the primary factors that are required to ensure our
7 prosperity.

8 Energy is the foundation of our economy. It powers
9 business, transportation, and job creation.

10 Conoco Phillips supports President Obama's stated
11 goal to promote responsible domestic production. This
12 goal will also procure jobs for U.S. workers while
13 contributing to energy security and economic recovery.

14 I want to thank you for the opportunity to represent
15 the response of OCS crude for the tens of thousands of
16 Californians who work in petroleum production and the
17 refining industry.

18 Thank you.

19 --oOo--

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: (Inaudible & Unintelligible).

21 --oOo--

22 MR. AURAND: Sir, I have to ask you to refrain from
23 public outbreaks during the comments, if you don't mind.

24 Go ahead sir.

25 --oOo--

1 MR. MORRIS: I am Doug Morris, Group Director for
2 Upstream Industry Operations for American Petroleum
3 Institute. We represent nearly 400 companies involved in
4 all aspects of the oil and gas industry. We welcome this
5 opportunity to present the industry views on the proposed
6 five-year plan.

7 We recognize that securing America's energy future
8 requires the development of all forms of domestic energy.
9 We need a major focus on increasing energy efficiency and
10 a development of sources of energy such as wind, solar,
11 and biofuels.

12 However, oil and gas will continue to be the life
13 blood of the nation's economy for decades to come, and
14 will continue to play a key role in keeping our
15 transportation systems running, and providing thousands
16 of consumer products that we use daily, ranging from
17 cellphones and laptops to golf balls and softball bags.

18 Oil and gas production from the OCS plays a key role
19 in supplying our nation's energy needs; however, most of
20 this production comes from the western central Gulf of
21 Mexico. As demonstrated by the disruptions caused by the
22 hurricanes several years ago, it is important that we
23 diversify sources of production and develop the large
24 resources that are needed.

25 For the first time, in many years, the Secretary of

1 the Interior has the opportunity to increase the
2 stability and security of the domestic oil and gas
3 reserves by opening up these areas; and it should do so
4 by moving forward in a timely manner with a draft
5 proposed five-year plan.

6 These resources can be developed without harm to the
7 environment. The industry's excellent environmental
8 record is described in detail in a draft (inaudible)
9 plan.

10 New technology and scientific innovations have
11 played a key role in this regard.

12 As a result of new innovations, we're finding more
13 oil with fire wells in more remote locations;

14 We're now producing gases from wells that are
15 located more than 9,000 feet underwater;

16 We're now able to drill with great precision and hit
17 production targets that are less than six feet across;

18 We're now able to reach out horizontally, great
19 distances;

20 Tap into fields located more than seven miles away;

21 And, finally, we now have the technology that allows
22 us, in some cases, to reduce or eliminate visual impacts
23 arising from offshore development by installing equipment
24 on the ocean floor rather than on platforms.

25 In summary, the U.S. oil and gas industry has an

1 outstanding environmental record, and has clearly
2 demonstrated we can co-exist with clean oceans and clean
3 coasts.

4 America cannot wait. We need to move forward with
5 the five-year plan that includes all areas of the OCS for
6 oil and gas development.

7 Thank you.

8 --oOo--

9 MR. BIVANS: My name is Van Bivans. I spoke,
10 briefly, this morning on the impact of my business of the
11 higher oil and gas prices this past summer.

12 But, I also wanted to bring up a couple of other
13 items that haven't been mentioned today. I'm in support
14 of a wind farm that's being built in Lompoc on shore,
15 but, I worry about wind farms being put out in the ocean.
16 I would rather look at one oil platform than hundreds of
17 windmills out there.

18 Another thing that hasn't been mentioned is, on
19 these windmills, the blade tips can get up to 200 miles
20 an hour; and, if you've got hundreds of them out there in
21 the ocean, I'm sure there's going to be a lot of
22 collateral damage to bird life.

23 I'm in favor of alternative energy and renewable
24 energies, but, I'm still very much in favor of continuing
25 the leasing program on the OCS and trying to get us less

1 dependent on foreign countries for our oil.

2 And that's all I have to say. Thank you.

3 --oOo--

4 MS. STAPLES: Thank you, Bob, for taking the place
5 of our wonderful secretary here today and thank him for
6 being (inaudible).

7 My name is Kathy Staples. I'm the Executive
8 Director for the Santa Barbara County Energy Coalition.
9 My voice today represents Santa Barbara County residents.
10 That's that large majority of silent voices that has not
11 known how to approach you and have their voice be heard.

12 We are asking you to keep the proposed oil-gas
13 leasing option for future consideration in your five-year
14 proposed energy plan. Example: I'm going to be talking
15 today about some facts in Santa Barbara County and, as we
16 look at your own Executive Summary, on page 12, it states
17 that, in conclusion -- about the oil and gas industry --
18 the experience, knowledge, and the tools exist to ensure
19 that offshore energy -- that's oil and natural gases --
20 is developed in a comprehensive, environmental sound
21 manner -- and that is out of your own report.

22 Santa Barbara County, you may not realize, was
23 actually born on the back of the oil and gas industry.
24 For a last 100 years, this industry has been the leading
25 economic driver for our County. The oil and gas

1 industry, just this year, paid more than \$22 million in
2 property taxes alone and in excess of \$18 million in
3 fees, mitigation costs, and permits.

4 On page 48 of your MMS report under Key Comparative
5 Results it states that there's a tremendous financial
6 estimated value for drilling. That value is ranging
7 between \$68.1 million and \$204 million; and, of course,
8 that depends on the cost scenario for pricing.

9 The MMS report also ranks Santa Barbara County 18th
10 on the comparative scale, or, relatively low,
11 environmental sensitivity.

12 Five companies have expressed interest in these
13 leases. The overwhelming majority of business leaders,
14 organizations and concerned public voters all support
15 expanding accessibility to our Outer Continental Shelf
16 and our offshore drilling opportunities.

17 And, incidentally, the infrastructure in Santa
18 Barbara County is already there. That's a great
19 advantage to you.

20 Santa Barbara County is in tremendous financial
21 crises, as is the State of California. That's not news
22 to you. This year, our budget is going to have between
23 \$16 and \$30 million shortfall. Last year, we had a \$46
24 million shortfall; and next year anticipated to be even
25 worse each year. That is reflecting ten percent of

1 lay-offs of County jobs and services. It's a catastrophe
2 in Santa Barbara County. Every job that's cut,
3 represents every budget cut, represents more jobs lost,
4 more families on welfare, more families feeling
5 desperate.

6 And so we ask you, what about the needs of the
7 people? California is the second largest consumer of oil
8 in the world. The mission of the Energy Coalition in
9 Santa Barbara County is to help Santa Barbara County
10 become energy self-sufficient.

11 We promote revenues; and there's millions of dollars
12 of it. Jobs for our Santa Barbara County families. All
13 of us are environmentalists there, and all of us want to
14 work toward renewable and alternative energy resources
15 such as wave and wind-generated power --

16 MR. AURAND: Can I get you to summarize, please?

17 MS. STAPLES: Yes. I just want to give you real
18 information so you can make good decisions.

19 The real information is that we have one
20 wind-generated power project going and it has not even
21 broken a shovel in the ground; and it took two years to
22 get that through our permitting process.

23 The reality is that we need oil and gas for our
24 everyday lives, for everything that you touch, including
25 constant examples of how you all got here today, of

1 cellphones in your pocket --

2 MR. AURAND: Do you mind?

3 I need you to summarize your comments. We'd be
4 happy to take the written --

5 MS. STAPLES: We desperately need -- thank you, sir.
6 We desperately need these revenues in our County, so,
7 please, keep the five-year plan moratorium lifted so we
8 can change and have a chance for our financial recovery.
9 Thanks, sir.

10 MR. AURAND: Okay, it's 2:30, and we're going to
11 give the panel up here a 10 minute break. So, please, be
12 back at 20 till 3:00 and we'll resume.

13 (Recess taken)

14 (Francisco Alvarez & Valentine Perez spoke out of
15 Court Reporter's presence)

16 --oOo--

17 MR. FISHER: I'm (inaudible) Fisher, a sailor. I'm
18 a lover of the ocean. I'm in the water almost every
19 single day. Everyone I know or almost everyone I know,
20 all my friends, a lot of my family, people I work with,
21 are all in the ocean almost every day, so, we have a very
22 close relationship with the ocean and our coastline.

23 That said, I'd like to say that oil and petroleum
24 extraction (inaudible) and I spent a few years there.
25 (unintelligible) extremely polluted city. I became very

1 ill from the environmental reality in Santiago. I lost
2 many work days. Many of the residents of Santiago lose
3 millions of hours of workdays every year for air
4 pollution, water pollution, directly linked with
5 petroleum, is a major problem for workdays and economics;
6 not only in Santiago, Chile but all over the world.

7 In terms of global warming and climate change,
8 petroleum extraction and extracting more petroleum on our
9 coastline, personally, it's a slap in the face. It's not
10 a solution. Global warming and climate change is a major
11 problem and further extraction of petroleum resources
12 just adds to that problem.

13 So, we can either start fixing that now through
14 alternative resources and alternative renewable resources
15 or we can try to solve that problem much later when it's
16 even more of a problem in terms of public health,
17 environmental health.

18 The rest of the world looks up to California and the
19 United States to lead; and the future is not petroleum.
20 The future is alternative, renewable energy. So, we can
21 either lead the world into the future or we can sit back
22 and rely on petroleum and watch the rest of the world go
23 into the future without us.

24 Thank you.

25 ---oOo---

1 MS. HAWKINS: Hi. My name is Holly Hawkins. I'm
2 here to testify on behalf of the Consumer Energy Alliance
3 (CEA) a non-profit non-partisan organization composed of
4 consumers and energy providers that has long advocated
5 for a comprehensive national energy policy. It focuses
6 on creating a diverse portfolio of energy supplies from
7 wind to solar to biofuels to petroleum, including oiled
8 and gas --

9 MR. AURAND: Ma'am, would you get a little closer to
10 the mic'?

11 MS. HAWKINS: I will focus my comments today on the
12 (inaudible) draft proposed leasing in only two of the
13 four planning areas: Northern and Southern California,
14 focusing on areas with known hydrocarbon potential.

15 The area proposed in Northern California is only two
16 million acres of the 45 million acres in the northern
17 planning area. (Inaudible) exploratory wealth
18 (inaudible) Northern California and there are no
19 resources in that area.

20 Southern California planning area currently contains
21 79 existing leases and has produced over 1.2 billion
22 barrels of oil and 1.6 trillion feet of natural gas. The
23 infrastructure, currently, exists to expedite additional
24 production from this area. The area proposed in Southern
25 California is not quite 4 million acres of 89 million

1 acres in the southern planning area; and, again, there
2 are known resources in this area.

3 There are no lease sales proposed in the central
4 California planning area or the Washington-Oregon
5 planning area.

6 In addition to the increase in production,
7 California could increase revenues to the state. Last
8 year alone, California received \$325 million in
9 energy-related revenue with increased production as
10 (inaudible).

11 In conclusion, we thank MMS for listening to our
12 views regarding offshore energy development. CEA fully
13 supports the new balanced five-year plan and what it
14 means for the energy and economic futures of California
15 and our nation.

16 Thank you.

17 --oOo--

18 MS. YELDING: Good afternoon. My name is Cindy
19 Yelding and I'm the Exploration Manager for BP in the
20 Gulf of Mexico.

21 BP supports the MMS five-year leasing plan for 2010
22 to 2015; and we appreciate the opportunity to participate
23 in this public meeting.

24 BP supports all of the above energy policy. This
25 means a diverse portfolio of energy sources, including

1 oil and gas, renewables, and the future use of energy.

2 These are challenging times with the global economy
3 will recover and when it does it will need increasing
4 amounts of energy to grow our nation's ability to
5 maintain its leadership position in the world will depend
6 on diverse supplies of energy from all sources.

7 BP supports the administration's view that energy
8 security is inseparable from national security. The U.S.
9 accounts for quarter of the world's oil consumption; and
10 roughly 60 percent of that or about 12 million barrels
11 per day is imported. Logically, the U.S. must produce
12 more energy of all kinds and import less.

13 BP is the largest producer of oil and gas in the
14 U.S. We're also the largest investor in energy of all
15 sorts in the U.S., from oil and gas to biofuels to wind
16 and solar.

17 BP wind energy is one of the leading wind developers
18 in the U.S. with a portfolio that could deliver up to 20
19 gigawatts of power.

20 While we're committed to alternatives, we realize
21 that it will be many years before it can make a large
22 contribution to the U.S. energy mix.

23 It is our belief that the greatest potential source
24 for new domestic energy is the oil and gas that lies off
25 our shores on the OCS.

1 A Department of Interior study estimates that the
2 oil to be found in the areas previously off limits is 18
3 billion barrels. That's equal to 30 years of U.S.
4 imports from Saudi. There could be enough natural gas to
5 meet America's requirements for 10 years. They're just
6 estimates; in fact, we don't know how much there really
7 is until we explore.

8 And it's also true that not all of the OCS will be
9 highly APF. When we begin small-scale low-impact
10 exploration to decide impact acquisition, this allows us
11 to identify the proper prospective areas we can focus
12 activity on, areas with the most potential.

13 Other significant resources, advances in drilling
14 and subsea technology has now allowed us to produce oil
15 and gas from facilities without being seen from the
16 shoreline. We do this in places like Alaska, the U.K.,
17 Norway, and elsewhere. We can do it here, too.

18 In summary, BP supports the proposed five-year plan
19 and the need for diverse energy supplies. We recognize
20 that the development of the OCS is an important decision
21 for our nation. We commend Secretary Salazar and the MMS
22 for undertaking these hearings. We appreciate the
23 opportunity to share our views and we appreciate the
24 opportunity to listen to each and every one of you here
25 in the room and at the previous three hearings.

1 Thank you, very much.

2 MR. AURAND: Okay, Group 4, A through F -- Group 4,
3 A through G.

4 MR. CANTON: Good afternoon. My name is Tom Canton.
5 I'm a Senior Fellow in Energy Studies at Pacific Research
6 Institute, a non-profit organization, headquartered in
7 San Francisco.

8 By way of very brief background, I spent 27 years as
9 a principal policy advisor to California Energy
10 Commission and was General Manager of Renewables and
11 Hydroelectric Programs at Electric Power Research
12 Institute.

13 California and the rest of the nation are at a
14 juncture, right now, that is very crucial in our history.

15 We need jobs;

16 We need BTU's;

17 And we need revenue.

18 Expanded OCS will accomplish all three.

19 This is not to say that the program should ignore
20 renewables; in fact, it should emphasis renewables, but,
21 that is not at the expense of OCS development.

22 The American Energy Alliance has estimated that
23 California could create over 300,000 new jobs. These are
24 net of other jobs in the economy. You heard earlier
25 about how California has been able to maintain its energy

1 consumption over the last 20-30 years. That's not quite
2 true.

3 We've maintained our energy per capita, but, our
4 consumption has gone up; and, ironically, the majority of
5 that growth has been from coal.

6 The American Energy Alliance has also estimated \$2.2
7 trillion of any revenues would be created from royalty
8 payments and what-not. It's important that we keep all
9 options open. The plan should acknowledge and embrace
10 all options and be developed and modified in a way that
11 allows for contingency.

12 What if the wind turbine technology doesn't prove
13 out?

14 What if some resource of petroleum does not prove
15 out?

16 As it is, we need contingency planning in this to
17 avoid the risks.

18 I'll leave you with just a couple of philosophical
19 thoughts:

20 As modifications or an endorsement of the current
21 plan take place, the choice is not between drilling here
22 or not drilling here. The choice is between drilling
23 here or drilling there -- there being Venezuela, Nigeria
24 and Saudi Arabia and all those other places.

25 Offshore development will reduce oil in the waters,

1 as mentioned by Mr. Allen of SOS, as well as by reducing
2 tanker traffic.

3 One of the largest sources of oil in the water and
4 on greenhouse gases are these tankers that are being
5 shipped from far distances.

6 You've also heard a lot about risks from oil
7 drilling. You've heard some about risk from development
8 of renewables.

9 Make sure that your treatment of risk is symmetric.
10 If one in 10,000 chance is unacceptable for one side of
11 the equation, one in 10,000 chance should be equally
12 unacceptable on the other side.

13 Thank you, very much, for your time.

14 --oOo--

15 MR. KAMPOWSKY: Good afternoon. My name is Ron
16 Kampowsky. I'm a resident of San Francisco and I'm also
17 a land owner in the wilds of the western part of
18 Washington State.

19 I considered that for the United States Government
20 to declare any of our natural resources off limits for
21 development and use to be sheer insanity.

22 I think we have to put aside some of our
23 emotionally-held NIMBY thinking and look to the benefits
24 of the whole country and the citizens of the whole
25 country.

1 I think that we should be able to develop the
2 offshore drilling capabilities and make use of these
3 resources.

4 The United States government also has vast holdings
5 of land throughout the country; and I understand that
6 there are movements now to eliminate the use of these
7 lands for our natural resources.

8 We need to look at this for the benefit of our whole
9 country and to be able to make use of our resources; not
10 to forbid the people from using them.

11 The environment is only one of the resources. The
12 other resources are important and valuable also. And I
13 think there should be a balance of considerations of
14 environment as well as for the value of the other
15 resources that are there.

16 Considering the present state of our economy, the
17 terrific imbalance of trade, largely due to the
18 importation of foreign oil and the state of the economy,
19 with -- economically, as well as with the energy
20 imbalance, the government should not only permit this,
21 but they should remove restrictions. And they should
22 encourage the private sector and provide incentives for
23 them to develop these resources.

24 And this should be done on all lands, including the
25 Outer Continental Shelf; not only for gas and oil but

1 also including hydroelectric and also for nuclear.

2 Seems to me these are two valuable sources of energy
3 that are being totally overlooked and we need to look at
4 those.

5 I appreciate your time. I also want to thank the
6 American Conservative Union for calling my attention to
7 your hearing today and I thank you for listening to my
8 comments.

9 --oOo--

10 MR. AURAND: Okay, ma'am, before you start, I've
11 been asked to make an announcement.

12 In the back of the room, they are taking the
13 proceedings today live and they will be available at
14 mendocinocommunitytv.org; and audio will be available at
15 Earthcircles.net or KMEC radio. If I didn't get it
16 exactly right, there are people in the back of the room
17 who can help you find that.

18 Okay, thank you, ma'am. Go ahead.

19 MS. BITNER: Yes. Hello. My name is Judith Bitner.
20 I'm the Chair of the Ocean Protection Coalition of
21 Mendocino, California, and I would like to present to you
22 with a copy of the proceedings the last time we met in
23 Mendocino in 1988 in Fort Bragg; and we have the 24 hours
24 straight of testimony from over 3,000 citizens that are
25 totally opposed to offshore oil development. That has

1 not changed and I don't think it will ever change.

2 So, that being said, I would like to address the
3 issue that some of the former speakers have addressed;
4 that is, offshore oil development.

5 The problem isn't offshore oil development; it's
6 burning of the fossil fuels. The planet is in the most
7 dire situation that it's ever been in human history and
8 probably ever will be again.

9 Fossil fuels are dinosaurs. We need to get beyond
10 that, if we are going to survive. James Hansen, the
11 foremost climatologist in the nation, has given us -- has
12 predicted we have between five and six years left to get
13 a handle on global warming.

14 Now, if fossil fuel development is not going to get
15 us there, what is going to get us?

16 There is massive conservation and massive efficiency
17 and changing the whole paradigm of energy development and
18 use in this country, and I would like to encourage you to
19 look beyond the box and get our heads out of the water.

20 The ocean is the most important ameliorator of
21 global warming on the planet, and we cannot afford to be
22 doing experiments with the ocean. It's already on the
23 verge of collapse of being able to handle the human
24 impacts we've already subjected it to. We need to look.

25 At land-based energy and in the form of non-carbon

1 energy; and I hate to interrupt myself for a minute. I
2 want to pass this around. This is what is being proposed
3 for off our coast in Fort Bragg, which is ground zero;
4 not only for wave energy development. If you could take
5 this and pass it around, take a look at that. That's the
6 wave energy machine. That is the most mature of the
7 technology right now. It's 450 feet long. It's 15 feet
8 high. It makes horrible noise. It has to be painted
9 orange; and it will be lit at night. And they want to
10 put hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of these out along
11 the coast and there are -- I hate to say it -- there are
12 ocean activists that are supporting this, along with
13 ocean wind energy. And if we don't want to completely
14 destroy our ocean, we need to get our heads into
15 something that will work.

16 I would like to see a cost benefit analysis of
17 universal rooftop solar, which is an incredibly advancing
18 technology, and land-based wind energy that is not going
19 to kill birds. And geothermal energy as a solution to
20 most of our problems, including our economic situation.

21 And if the oil companies want to help with our
22 economic situation, I would suggest that they return the
23 tax breaks that they got, and also the subsidies that our
24 taxpayers give them, so we can develop the sources of
25 energy that are going to help us survive.

1 Thank you.

2 --oOo--

3 MS. ROSSITER: My name is Judy Rossiter and I'm a
4 longtime resident of Santa Barbara.

5 I'm here today to express my strong belief that the
6 MMS five-year plan for domestic oil and natural gas
7 supplies should include the Outer Continental Shelf along
8 the coast of Santa Barbara County.

9 I believe there's much to be gained by developing
10 domestic oil and gas resources; and I believe the public
11 at large is unaware of the many benefits that could be
12 realized by opening new leases in the OCS, particularly,
13 in Santa Barbara County's coastal waters.

14 Before I cite these benefits, I'd like to identify
15 some of the ways petroleum pollution caused by natural
16 oil and gas seeps offshore Santa Barbara County is
17 impacting our local environment.

18 Every day our coastline is being polluted by the
19 world's second largest natural oil and gas seep fills
20 with 10,000 gallons seeping naturally from the ocean
21 floor.

22 Every single day our coastal environment is
23 inundated with 60,000 to 80,000 barrels or more of raw
24 crude oil a year; in other words, every 12 month cycle
25 our.

1 Marine habitats and coastal environment manages the
2 same amount of oil that was released in Santa Barbara as
3 the infamous 1969 spill.

4 The environmental impact of natural seep pollution
5 is evident in many ways that I believe the public is not
6 aware of.

7 One example is the staggering number of sea birds
8 killed annually by the oil in our coastal waters. In
9 January, 2005, alone, an estimated 5,000 birds were oiled
10 and/or died from the natural seepage in the coastal
11 waters of Santa Barbara County.

12 As a coastal resident and avid beach walker, I've
13 been concerned about the scores of dead birds I've been
14 finding along the beaches for years, now, and decided to
15 seek answers to what has become very clear to me is an
16 environmental disaster happening in slow motion.

17 I could no longer accept the longstanding premise
18 that since the seeps are natural, the environment adapts
19 to it, while I was continually encountering dead birds on
20 our beaches was evidence enough to me that the sea birds
21 are not adapting.

22 I've since learned that there is a solution. The
23 birds can be saved and here are a few key points:

24 First, extraction of the underlying oil and gas
25 reserves reduces the pressure that drives the oil up

1 through the cracks in the seafloor and into the water on
2 to our beaches and into our atmosphere.

3 Exploration and production of the reserves can be
4 conducted in an environmentally friendly manner;

5 And the royalty revenues can fund and accelerate our
6 State's transition to renewable sources of energy.

7 For all these reasons, I urge MMS to include the
8 Santa Barbara County coast in the new OCS oil and gas
9 leasing plans.

10 Thank you.

11 --oOo--

12 MR. LATOURETTE: Hi there. Thanks for the D.O.I.
13 for having this hearing. I really appreciate it; and I
14 think we all in this room do. And I also thank the panel
15 that joined us this morning. I only wish that they could
16 have stayed around to hear all of our comments as we
17 patiently sat through and listened to their's.

18 My name is Dean Latourette, and I'm Executive
19 Director of Save the Waves Coalition. We are a
20 non-profit located in Davenport, California with a
21 mission. We're dedicated to protecting and preserving
22 coastal resources with an emphasis on the surf zone. We
23 operate, globally. We're environmental partners with
24 organizations such as Surfrider Foundation, Wild Coast,
25 the Sierra Club, and many other environmental

1 organizations to adamantly oppose this proposal for new
2 oil leases off the coast of California and the rest of
3 the United States.

4 You know, we're a group that we educate the public
5 on the environmental value of special places; but, we
6 also educate the public on the economic value of these
7 special places and why they're important.

8 So, I'm going to talk a little bit about the
9 economics here. The coastal economy in California,
10 depending on how you measure it, generates anywhere from
11 \$20 to \$30 billion a year in revenue; and, if you add an
12 indirect revenue, that's upwards of a \$100 billion.
13 These figures are staggering no matter how you measure it
14 in numbers.

15 I have not heard here today with the new oil leases
16 proposed, at best, the experts predict they will only
17 account for one percent of our current oil use -- one
18 percent -- I just want to repeat that.

19 The California coast is the engine that drives the
20 economy in California; and I think, as we all know,
21 California is a driving engine of our national economy.

22 I want to ask the question:

23 Do we really want to risk killing the goose that
24 lays the golden egg?

25 To reiterate the sentiment that most of this room

1 seems to share, the panel shared with us earlier today,
2 this proposal for new oil leases off the coast represents
3 too great a risk. There's too little reward.

4 And it does not solve the problems of energy
5 independence;

6 Of reducing oil and gas prices;

7 And economic stimulus, as some people here have
8 proclaimed.

9 I just want to adamantly ask you to reject the
10 proposal for the new oil leases off the coast of
11 California and in the United States.

12 Thank you, very much.

13 --oOo--

14 MS. INGRAM: Thank you. I want to thank you, the
15 Department of Interior and the Secretary and Minerals
16 Management Service for appearing here today and take this
17 opportunity to listen our state and west coast concerns.

18 I am actually -- my name is Laura Ingram and I'm on
19 the staff of the California Ocean Protection Council.

20 Most of my agency's comments were covered with our
21 Secretary of Natural Resources Secretary Mike Chrisman,
22 earlier today.

23 I am actually here today as a staff and member of
24 the West Coast Governor's Agreement on Ocean Health and
25 the Offshore Renewable Energy Action Team.

1 As you heard from the Oregon Governor Kulongoski and
2 our Secretary Chrisman this morning, the Governors of
3 Washington, California, and Oregon signed an agreement to
4 collaborate protecting and managing the ocean and coastal
5 resources of the entire West Coast.

6 Under this agreement, the three states further agree
7 to collaborate with MMS as well as the Department of
8 Interior, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the
9 National Oceanic and Atmosphere Agency to explore the
10 feasibility for responsible offshore alternative energy
11 development.

12 As part of the West Coast energy mix this state and
13 federal working group is now more formally established
14 and called the West Coast Governors' Agreement on
15 Offshore Renewable Energy Action Coordination Team -- a
16 mouthful.

17 On behalf of California and Oregon and Washington
18 members who are not able to attend in person today, I'd
19 like to quickly highlight how MMS is providing an
20 important role in supporting this coordination team and
21 how it can continue to support the offshore renewable
22 energy planning needs of the West Coast.

23 First, I want to thank Minerals Management Service
24 for co-sponsoring a workshop that we had in Portland,
25 Oregon in 2008 which actually provided a forum for

1 federal, state, and tribal organizations to begin
2 discussions on how to collaborate on this issue; and also
3 lay the foundation for developing this coordination team.

4 And the Minerals Management staff, Maurice Milan,
5 Fred (inaudible) and have been involved in that
6 (inaudible) and we really appreciate his time and energy
7 that he's put in it.

8 Second, the coordination team has established the
9 following goals (inaudible) develop responsible offshore
10 renewable energy along the West Coast:

11 One, better informed industry, public, government,
12 and tribal partners about offshore renewable energy
13 development;

14 Two, establish clear and efficient and effective
15 regulatory process;

16 Three, encourage siting that maximizes the energy
17 benefits and avoids or minimizes environmental impacts;

18 And, four, improve understanding of environmental
19 social and cultural impacts of these technologies.

20 We ask that the Secretary continue to support MMS's
21 participation in the coordination team and continue
22 providing funding assistance for the team's anticipated
23 implementation actions.

24 And I'll quickly cover those:

25 Those include adding additional information

1 gathering and synthesis;

2 Development of a coastal siting report;

3 Cumulative impact;

4 Assessments;

5 Coordination of West Coast regional mapping

6 products;

7 Scientifically robust guidelines for baseline and

8 monitoring data collection;

9 Public information materials;

10 And a white paper to outline energy infrastructure

11 for the West Coast.

12 Thank you, very much. And your staff should have

13 additional information on this, should you need it.

14 Thank you.

15 --oOo--

16 MR. AURAND: If I could, because it makes it easier

17 for the court reporter, start with your name and

18 organization, if you can. It just makes it a little

19 easier for everybody.

20 All right, we're up to 5. 5, A through F.

21 --oOo--

22 MS. STRASSBERG: Hi. My name (inaudible)

23 Strassberg. I come before you as a grandmother that

24 lives on the Mendocino coast and has lived there for many

25 years.

1 The last time I spoke with the Minerals Management,
2 I was a mother with a little baby on my hip and my whole
3 daycare with me. I was part of those 1988 oil hearings,
4 I can't believe we're still talking about this. It's not
5 about looking at the oil rigs; it's what burning oil does
6 to our environment and to our children's health and to
7 our grandchildren's health. It's not anything to do with
8 NIMBY -- not in my backyard.

9 Go to Saudi Arabia or Venezuela or anything like
10 that. Oil is a finite resource. Back in the old days,
11 when they first sited those things down in Southern
12 California, we didn't know much about the environment and
13 our environment wasn't as degraded. It is severely
14 degraded now. We have global warming.

15 Down our California coast where I live is the San
16 Andreas Fault. We all know about the big earthquake in
17 1906. We all know about the Santa Cruz earthquake. When
18 is the next one going to come?

19 What's going to happen on our rugged coast that,
20 when people fall -- we had five or six people that fall
21 into the ocean every year and they die because the cliffs
22 are really steep. How are we going to clean up oil out
23 there?

24 What cost benefit analysis has been done about that?

25 The San Andreas Fault is -- you know, they say it's

1 going to go in the next 30 years.

2 The other thing I wanted to talk about is the wave
3 energy and the windmills. The wave energy, you saw the
4 photo of what's going on, the wave energy for our marine
5 life is very -- I mean that FERC -- you heard us talk
6 about FERC before they got -- they gave PG&E a pilot
7 project off our coast in Fort Bragg without any public
8 comment; and then they went down to the PUC -- PG&E went
9 down to the PUC, and we tried put in public comments and
10 couldn't; and they were asking for \$2.5 million. And,
11 instead, without public comment, PG&E -- the PUC gave
12 them \$4.5 million for this pilot project off our coast,
13 with no public input; and that money comes from us, the
14 taxpayers.

15 So, I urge people that are involved in ocean
16 protection, that are involved in stopping the use of
17 fossil fuel, please, look at wave energy.

18 And those wind turbines that they're talking about
19 putting way out in the ocean, that's all a pilot that
20 they don't know how to do it.

21 Well, we have all this empty land. When we left
22 Mendocino County to come down here -- by the way, in a
23 biodiesel car that burned cooking oil -- used cooking
24 oil -- when we came down here, the winds were 50 to 60
25 miles an hour on the coast, right where I live on the

1 coast, on the land. We were so glad to get out of the
2 wind. It has been like that for four or five days.
3 What's wrong with putting -- we already know wind
4 turbines on the land work. We have a bunch of ranchers
5 that need the money. Why not lease the land to them?

6 Thank you.

7 --oOo--

8 MR. WALTERS: Good afternoon. My name is Glen
9 Walters, president of the Alliance to Protect Nantucket
10 Sound. The Alliance is a non-profit organization opposed
11 to the Cape Wind Project.

12 First, thank you very much for this opportunity to
13 speak. I came all the way from Massachusetts, in part,
14 to hear about the California experience; and I'll make a
15 few comments about what I've heard.

16 First and foremost, our organization greatly
17 supports the Interior's program to set a policy for the
18 OCS to allow -- and to allow for this public comment
19 period. The OCS, as we've heard, is a vast resource for
20 renewable energy; but, we must develop our resources
21 wisely.

22 Second, I'm pleased to be here because of the
23 comments I heard from the California leaders this
24 morning. The points they made about protecting coastal
25 regions. Beaches here are pristine and they support

1 economic activity such as tourism.

2 I heard aesthetics matters. This is a point we've
3 been saying about Nantucket Sound. The Nantucket Sound
4 is our Yellowstone Park and we want to protect it. We
5 hope zoning the OCS will protect areas that need to be
6 conserved, but also to identify the regions where wind
7 turbines can be properly sited.

8 Another comment that we heard this morning, we
9 support deep water wind energy systems that can be sited
10 far from shore.

11 As we heard today, these systems are being developed
12 and are being deployed. We view these technologies as a
13 win-win solution.

14 Also, we support hydrokinetic systems; again, if
15 they're properly sited.

16 With these technologies, there's no need to have
17 adverse impact on beaches and coastal regions.

18 At the Atlantic City hearing, which was held last
19 week, the Governor of Rhode Island stated that his state
20 is moving forward with a deep water system. This project
21 is not conflicted and supported by all the stakeholders.
22 It avoids the negative impacts on endangered species,
23 public safety, and it also promotes conservation of key
24 areas.

25 We ask that the zoning be completed and, once

1 completed, then, we take a look at Cape Wind and,
2 perhaps, we will see that it should be moved to a deep
3 water site to protect the Nantucket Sound.

4 Thank you, very much.

5 --oOo--

6 MR. HORTON: Good afternoon. My name is Sam Horton.
7 I'm Director of Policy for Securing America's Future
8 Energy -- SAFE. SAFE is a not-for-profit organization
9 dedicated to reducing U.S. oil dependence through
10 comprehensive energy policy reform. SAFE takes no money
11 from energy companies, car companies, or any individuals
12 who advocate for a specific technological solution.

13 Currently, SAFE is aggressively advocating for rapid
14 development of hydroelectric vehicles, along with a range
15 of reforms in electricity generation transmission and
16 distribution.

17 We've worked tirelessly to advance policies that
18 support renewable electricity generation; and we believe
19 that these sources of power must represent a critical
20 component of the next generation going forward.

21 However, it's critically important to be clear in
22 delineating energy use sectors in the United States
23 today, and, in that regard, much of today's discussion
24 has veered slightly off topic.

25 I've heard a great deal of enthusiasm for offshore,

1 renewable electricity production; but, I've heard no
2 acknowledgements that the only way these sources of
3 energy can help with our nation's oil problem is by
4 linking transportation with power generation.

5 Electric vehicles can and will do this. I believe
6 that; but, the process will take time. By our analysis,
7 getting 50 percent (inaudible) will take at least 20
8 years.

9 In the meantime, we can and should do things to
10 improve American energy securities, advanced biofuels,
11 conservation, and, yes, domestic energy production. Last
12 year alone, the U.S. ran a \$400 billion deficit in the
13 petroleum trade; money that more often than not is not
14 reinvested in the U.S. Instead, finds its way in the
15 social programs of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, an Iranian guy.

16 We can do better. There have been remarkable
17 advances in recent decades. (Inaudible) and seafloor
18 separation units allow for a minimum surface presence
19 throughout the life cycle of the projects and also
20 provide more flexibility to site infrastructure. Today,
21 a single platform can produce oil or natural gas for a
22 number of wells over substantial distances.

23 As an example, I would cite the (inaudible) Field in
24 the Bering Sea. There, subsea structures have been tied
25 to an onshore facility nearly 100 miles away. The

1 project utilizes no surface structures or offshore
2 (inaudible) from produced natural gas.

3 Other projects around the world are demonstrating
4 existing and original (inaudible) that (unintelligible)
5 footprint from fuels closer to shore, extended reach
6 horizontal drilling allows (inaudible) by drilling wells
7 horizontally under the seabed..

8 And, just to close, I would say economic growth and
9 energy consumption have been inextrinsically aligned over
10 the past 200 years. You have to look far and a lot to
11 see examples where this relationship has been broken.
12 This reality should underpin public policy
13 decision-making now and in the future.

14 Thanks.

15 --oOo--

16 MR. MEYER: Good afternoon. My name's Barry Meyer.
17 I'm with ACOM Environmental. We're a global engineering
18 infrastructure, environmental services firm.

19 One of the services we provide is, we do up-front
20 engineering environmental studies for projects for the
21 petroleum industry in a wide range of companies. These
22 include:

23 Ethanol plants;

24 Wind farms;

25 Large solar farms;

1 Biofuels facilities;

2 And, in doing the up-front studies, you learn that
3 no project is risk-free. There are always concerns. You
4 can't get up in the morning without facing some risk.

5 The question is;

6 Can you identify those risks and can those risks be
7 managed?

8 And I believe with offshore drilling the technology
9 is advanced, so the risks are known, more so than for any
10 other type of similar project, and that the technology
11 and the experiences there, that those risks can be
12 managed.

13 The other issue with the offshore is, can you be
14 certain that what you're going to get out of the
15 projects?

16 And, again, I believe that with the kind of analysis
17 and capabilities that exist today, you can pretty much
18 hang your hat on what you're going to get in terms of a
19 resource out of the project. You can be fairly certain
20 to the number of jobs it's going to create and the number
21 and the amount of revenue it's going to generate for the
22 state and for the people.

23 And when I talk about jobs, I don't mean just jobs
24 for the educated class. These are jobs for tradesmen,
25 laborers, and others who are then going to be able to

1 educate their family and have the kind of standard of
2 living that our parents gave us; and I don't think it's
3 fair to deny the working class, the trades class, the
4 opportunity to participate in this type of project,
5 particularly, with the benefits that go with it of energy
6 independence.

7 As somebody said, these projects are going to occur.
8 It's just a matter of where they're going to occur. Are.

9 They going to occur here where we can benefit by
10 them, or, are they going to benefit others?

11 And, finally, we have to look at the consequences of
12 doing nothing. The state is out of money. We heard a
13 lot of talk about the economic condition of the states
14 and local governments. These projects will generate
15 money that will give the government entities the
16 resources they need to focus on.

17 So, perhaps, more serious environmental issues such
18 as the state's water infrastructure and funding the other
19 environmental regulatory agencies that are completely
20 under-funded right now. So, I'm in favor of the project.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. AURAND: If we could have Group No. 6?

23 --oOo--

24 MR. GRADER: Thank you.

25 For the record, my name is Zeke Grader. I'm the

1 Executive Director for the Pacific Coast Federation of
2 Fishermen's Association. We represent the working men
3 and women in the U.S. West Coast commercial fishing
4 fleet. Among others are the commercial fishermen in
5 Santa Barbara and Southern California Troller's
6 Association, both of which have had well over 40, perhaps
7 nearly 50, years of experience trying to operate around
8 offshore oil and gas operations. So, I come from this
9 not from the standpoint of emotion but actual experience
10 of our members.

11 And, first of all, as far as the five-year plan
12 goes, is that we have very serious concerns about three
13 of the areas that have been proposed:

14 One is the north coast of California, much of which
15 is roadless; the only roadless area in the 48 states.
16 It's just simply too pristine, too sensitive, to have
17 that type of industrial development.

18 But, also, the coast of New England, particularly,
19 George's Bank;

20 And third is Alaska. And as far as Alaska, that,
21 too, is pristine, and that's where the world's ripest
22 fishing grounds are. And I wanted to remind everybody
23 that the resources of Alaska belong to the people of the
24 United States, not the Governor of Alaska to do with as
25 she wants by drilling and mining.

1 Now, I think -- let me go in really quickly why we
2 oppose -- and believe me it's not for some soft
3 touchy-feely reason, but, this also out of experience.

4 First thing that's overlooked all the time is
5 seismic exploration kills fish. I know. I sat on one of
6 your MMS committees over 25 years ago and we looked at
7 that very issue. It kills fish and it disturbs fishing.

8 Secondly, it creates displacement of fishing. Now,
9 that may not be a problem in the Gulf of Mexico where you
10 have a wide shelf, but, along the coast of California, we
11 have a very narrow shelf where our fishing takes place.
12 We have problems right now with marine protected areas
13 displacing (inaudible) never mind drinking in something
14 like offshore oil to displace our fisheries.

15 Thirdly, there's contamination; and I'm not talking
16 about the contamination from oil. I'm talking about the
17 problem we have with the drillmen's disposal; and those
18 do not come from natural seeps.

19 Finally, I think the issue is, even if all the other
20 issues could be mitigated, even if they did not exist,
21 this is the wrong thing to be doing; because, right now,
22 burning more oil is like burning more coal, is cooking
23 our planet, and we need to be phasing this energy out,
24 whether it's oil or coal, and move on now to renewable
25 energy.

1 From that standpoint, I know renewable energy moving
2 is going to be difficult, including on the ocean. Our
3 organization is committed to working with Minerals
4 Management Service on that development, but, you cannot
5 be drilling for more oil.

6 Thank you.

7 --oOo--

8 MS. RANDALL: My name is Jane Randall. I'm a
9 Professor Emeritus of Biology at San Francisco State
10 University and on the Board of Directors of the
11 Endangered Species Coalition out of Washington, D.C.,
12 which is an umbrella organization reflecting almost 400
13 groups.

14 And being a biologist, I want to talk a little bit
15 about biodiversity. We haven't heard a lot about that
16 today. We've heard a lot about what's going to happen to
17 biodiversity.

18 Our social well-being, environmental and personal
19 health, the economy, national security, are all linked by
20 biodiversity. Few people understand these links,
21 however, because biological diversity has a very broad
22 meaning and is complicated.

23 But, at its core, biodiversity means that all
24 elements of life are inner-connected. These are genes,
25 gene combinations, species, subspecies, (inaudible)

1 families, (inaudible) kingdoms, and these are all
2 connected to their ecological relationships,
3 inner-specific interactions, communities, ecosystems, and
4 behaviors such as creation, migration, aggregation --
5 maybe.

6 So, with all of these links, it's important that
7 these links are maintained; however, any disruption in
8 the balance among these elements of biodiversity can have
9 serious and unpredictable consequences. We too often
10 ignore the warning signs, until so many links are broken
11 that the system collapses, such as the salmon fisheries
12 in the West Coast.

13 Thus, it's important that Secretary Salazar and
14 other policymakers use the best scientific information
15 available to identify the warning signs of declining
16 biodiversity; and these includes all the signs from
17 drilling for oil that I'm not going to go into.

18 The last speaker talked about seismic testing and
19 this is just one of many. But, I want to point out the
20 small effects can have magnification over time. If you
21 read the Academy of Sciences report 2003 about Alaska,
22 you will see -- you will read about the cumulative
23 effects of this in Alaska.

24 If biodiversity is to be maintained, policy
25 decisions must be based on accurate and unbiased

1 scientific information. Government agencies must,
2 therefore, seek out and take scientific advice to recover
3 biodiversity.

4 Currently, there are two specific issues related to
5 biodiversity that concern endangered species. These are
6 Bush era decisions that have separated policymaking from
7 science and can have serious, negative consequences.

8 One is the Endangered Species Act Rule that allows
9 federal agencies to decide, independently, whether
10 protected species would be threatened by agency projects.
11 Most government agencies do not have the biological
12 expertise to determine the consequences of federal
13 projects on endangered species; and they may have a
14 vested interest in the implementation of a protect,
15 regardless of its biological diversity.

16 The ESA rule that would exclude global warming as
17 consideration and protection of the polar bear, despite
18 scientific evidence shows that this is a significant
19 effect on their survival.

20 The Endangered Species Coalition encourages
21 Secretary Salazar, under the authority of (inaudible) to
22 repeal these two reckless Bush administration rules.

23 --oOo--

24 MR. AURAND: If I could just -- please -- I really
25 don't want to have to talk over anybody. So, as much as

1 you can, try to keep focused on the timer and make my job
2 easier. Thank you.

3 --oOo--

4 MR. O'NEIL: My name is Frank O'Neil -- Dr. Frank
5 O'Neil -- and my organization is oceannrg.com. You can
6 access it at wwwocean -- the letters N-R-G -- for
7 energy -- .com.

8 I'm a former teacher, former school administrator,
9 former university professor, and I'm a huge, huge
10 proponent of offshore-based renewable energy.

11 I beg you to consider this. As an advocate for
12 children, now is the time for every one of us in here to
13 take a real hard, long look at the road. You know, at
14 some point down the distance and maybe some 25 miles --
15 not miles, but 25 years -- 50 years, 75 years, 100 years,
16 250 years down the road, 500 years down the road, and ask
17 yourself what really is in the best interest of our
18 children, our children's children, and their children,
19 and those yet to come. That's what this is all about.

20 And in March, 2007 I hand-delivered an eight-page
21 letter to the president, the vice president, all members
22 of Congress, that includes the House and the Senate in
23 Washington, D.C. That eight-page letter is available on
24 that website for you to read and it is about -- it is all
25 about asking them to please, please, please make

1 ocean-based energy a top priority for our country.

2 Now, one other thing I'd like to mention, please go
3 to that site, www.oceannrg.com. I also have a card with
4 me, if you would like. I want to mention this as well.

5 I had the audacity in March, 2007 to go there and to
6 ask them to implore them to you-know-what in the ocean.
7 75 -- 73 -- percent of the earth's surface, it's really
8 significant. That's been mentioned several times today.

9 But, isn't it time, perhaps, that we had a federal
10 level -- cabinet level -- U.S. department of the Ocean?
11 And, by the way, I wish Secretary Salazar were here
12 because I would want to nominate him to be that
13 particular person. It's so important that I think we
14 need an entire entity to oversee issues only related to
15 the ocean, and not something that has been gerrymandered
16 into existence.

17 So, in other words, until just five years ago, you
18 know, oversight of the ocean was all over the map; and I
19 ask you this:

20 Why today is it under the Department of Interior if
21 ain't interior? It's out there and it's beautiful and we
22 need to preserve it and protect it.

23 Thank you, very much.

24 --oOo--

25 (INAUDIBLE) Reed Electric in Los Angeles,

1 California. We repair electric motors in a variety of
2 different places, including refineries and bolt
3 production facilities, power generation facilities, water
4 departments, etc. But, many of our jobs come from the
5 refining and the production industry. We've been in
6 business for 80 years.

7 And I flew up here today at noon. Unfortunately,
8 before I left, I had to lay two men off today. And
9 that's never an easy job to do, to have two men go home
10 to their families and say, I lost my job today.

11 I want to thank you for hearing my comments. I'll
12 try and keep them as brief as I can, but, the issue of
13 drilling in the Outer Continental Shelf is vital, not
14 only to the State of California, but also to the entire
15 nation.

16 There are billions of dollars worth of crude oil off
17 our shores. We're still truly the golden state. I'm a
18 Californian. I grew up in this city. I went to high
19 school in this city. I am born and raised here; and we
20 do things very well in California. We have a safe and
21 clean operation in the State of California concerning how
22 we produce and refine petroleum products. Our track
23 record is, especially in offshore areas, is beyond
24 stellar.

25 This project is a win-win situation for everyone.

1 And I say that because, if you have the opportunity, go
2 to your Google and look up the new refinery that just
3 opened up in India and look at the size of the stacks
4 that are in that refinery for the sulfur plant. They're
5 three times the size of the stacks that are in our
6 refineries here; because they don't want to smell it and
7 they're not going to use any type of environmental
8 scrubber systems or something else.

9 So, somebody is going to be producing this stuff and it
10 could be us, in a state where we do things really well
11 and where we have regulations and where we have oversight
12 over what happens here, or, we can farm it off to India
13 or China and feel good when the ship pulls into port and
14 drops it off for us to use.

15 Because, primarily, we're going to use oil and crude
16 oil and gasoline as our primary source of energy for the
17 next 30 years and there's no getting around that fact.

18 So, we have an opportunity, I'm certain, that in
19 1988 they talked about dropping in a whole lot of new
20 rigs. I'm going to stop. You can sit. But, in this day
21 and age, we don't have to do that. You don't have to do
22 that. We can drill 30 miles from the beach and get the
23 oil that we need to have.

24 And, you know what? Our teachers are striking and
25 rioting on the steps of Sacramento because we don't have

1 any money. This is a no-brainer.

2 --oOo--

3 MR. WALLENBERG: Hi. My name is Skip Wallenberg.
4 I'm a geologist who lives three miles inland from the
5 beautiful community of Fort Bragg up on the Mendocino
6 coast. In.

7 Two days, if you're still here, you will help us
8 celebrate the 103rd anniversary of the 1906 earthquake on
9 the San Andreas Fault. At that time, the Fault broke
10 anywhere from 15 to 20 feet, instantaneously, over a span
11 of about 300 miles, from 100 miles south of San Francisco
12 to Cape Mendocino 250 miles north.

13 The plans we're hearing today, especially from the
14 OCS engineering community, are essentially, we can
15 engineer around anything when we put petroleum drilling
16 transportation systems on the seabed off of the
17 California coast; however, I take issue with the
18 gentleman who just spoke before.

19 Yes, you can drill horizontally from the coast out,
20 but, in order to do that, you would cross the San Andreas
21 Fault or a subsidiary fault of the San Andreas.

22 The periodocity of a 1906 style earthquake on the
23 San Andreas is about 140 years, plus or minus 40 or 50
24 years. That means we are getting into the orange, if not
25 the red, zone in time for another large break on the San

1 Andreas, or in the San Andreas system. I really hope
2 that you consider the ramifications of having not only
3 drilling operations and platforms out board of the San
4 Andreas Fault and a sedimentary basin which is subject to
5 significant shaking, but also the infrastructure that
6 would bring the products from the platforms across the
7 fault to shore-side facilities.

8 If you have been in the oil fields or the gas fields
9 and have witnessed a blowout on land, imagine the chaos
10 and the lack of accessibility to such a disaster under
11 water with a blowout of a well and/or facility that
12 brings material onshore.

13 Please consider the tectonic geologic setting when
14 denying offshore oil production and gas production off
15 the California coast.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. AURAND: If I could have people with number 7.
18 7-A through F.

19 --oOo--

20 MS. MATSUMOTO: Hello. My name is Sara Matsumoto
21 and I'm director (inaudible) which is a national network
22 of over 400 conservation, scientific, education,
23 religious, sporting, hunting, and fishing, hiking,
24 business and community organizations across the country,
25 all who are dedicated to protecting our nation's wildlife

1 and wild places.

2 And on behalf our member organizations and the over
3 15 million Americans they represent, I'd like to ask you
4 to protect our beautiful coasts and disappearing
5 wilderness and to restore the protections to the polar
6 bear and other endangered species.

7 I'd like to thank the department of the Interior for
8 the renewed commitment to scientific integrity under
9 President Obama. And, Secretary Salazar, you have the
10 opportunity now to not only repair the damage done by the
11 Bush administration to our environment and our
12 environmental protections, but also to take environmental
13 programs a step further: Protecting America's wildlife
14 and wild places. The Obama administration has the
15 opportunity to root out the corruption and ethical
16 failures and the shocking abuse of science that have been
17 seen in previous administrations and to restore
18 scientific integrity.

19 The Bush administration put into place rules that
20 would weaken endangered species protections. These rules
21 are important for offshore oil drilling because, under
22 these rules, the impacts of offshore oil drilling on the
23 environment and endangered species would be exempt from
24 consideration of the Endangered Species Act and from
25 scientific review by the wildlife experts at the U.S.

1 Fish and Wildlife Service.

2 Many of our species are affected by oil and gas
3 development along the Outer Continental Shelf. The
4 report talks about many of them, but -- include:

5 Polar bears;

6 Pacific walruses;

7 In the north, sea turtles;

8 Blue whales along California coast.

9 You also mentioned earlier (inaudible) sea lions and
10 sea otters and four identified species of sea turtles.
11 All of these would be impacted, not only by drilling on
12 the Outer Continental Shelf, but also by the climate
13 change.

14 Greenhouse gas emissions are currently predicted to
15 result in the loss of two-thirds of the world's polar
16 bear population by 2015; and saving these species from
17 offshore development and climate change will require the
18 (unintelligible) Congress that has given the Secretary of
19 Interior the opportunity to overturn Section VII and
20 Section IV-D of the Endangered Species Act regulations
21 put in place by the Bush administration.

22 And we urge you to overturn (inaudible) invoke these
23 regulations immediately (unintelligible) from addressing
24 global warming impacts and remove essential checks and
25 balances currently in place under the Endangered Species

1 Act.

2 So, in conclusion, please protect our beautiful
3 coast and disappearing wilderness and preserve protection
4 to polar bears and other endangered wildlife.

5 --oOo--

6 MS. JENSEN: First, I'd like to comment on one of
7 the speakers this morning. Apparently, he felt like he'd
8 lost his business because of the price of oil going up --

9 MR. AURAND: Could you state your name, please?

10 MS. JENSEN: Oh, I'm sorry. Cheryy Jensen,
11 Saratoga, California.

12 One of the speakers, this morning, apparently,
13 attributed this problem of maybe perhaps the oil price
14 going up for the loss of his business; but, in fact, here
15 we had the oil price going up and now we have the oil
16 price going down and, certainly, those two fluctuations
17 in price within this one year had nothing to do
18 whatsoever with the availability of oil; so, price is not
19 an issue here.

20 The Environmental Working Group actually subpoenaed
21 records through the Freedom of Information Act and put
22 together a map of all the oil leases that were either
23 given or offered by the federal government.

24 And the map is here and it covers one-third of the
25 territory of the 12 western states. This map, it's equal

1 to the size of New Mexico, Arizona, and Colorado
2 together. This is not counting Texas. This is the 12
3 western states. And I'll offer this map. Apparently,
4 the federal government had not produced such a map and
5 they didn't really know how many acres were leased until
6 the Environmental Working Group had produced that map.

7 In addition, I have specific maps for each of those
8 12 western states and I'll give them to you here.
9 One-third of the land mass of the 12 western states was
10 either leased or offered for lease.

11 Now, how much more do we need them to have? Most of
12 that land wasn't actually drilled and now they're asking
13 for land off the shore. Does that make any sense to you?
14 It certainly doesn't make any to me.

15 In all that drilling only 53 days of supply was
16 gained by all that leasing and drilling. I want to know
17 how come the administration can just set aside the
18 requirements for an environmental impact statement. I
19 thought Congress had made the law; and what happened to
20 that law and why wasn't the administration under George
21 Bush adhering to the law? And it's time get back to the
22 law. We need an environmental impact statement that
23 really truly addresses those issues.

24 Thank you.

25 --oOo--

1 MS. BAGANO: Hi. my name is Laura Bagano and I'm an
2 ocean attorney at the Natural Resources Defense Council.
3 I'm proud to represent NRDC's 1.2 million members and
4 online activists here today; and we want to bring you the
5 following messages:

6 First, it's vital that we realize the potential of
7 clean power sources while protecting and improving our
8 valuable ocean ecosystems and services that they provide.

9 Second, we strongly support the Department of
10 Interior's interest in exploring a process of marine
11 spatial planning to help identify areas suitable for
12 offshore, renewable energy development and associated
13 transmission lines, while identifying the vulnerable
14 areas of our ocean that we need to protect.

15 Third, there should be no underground surveys or
16 drilling allowed off the West Coast -- seismic surveys --
17 to locate oil and gas which produce some of the loudest
18 human-generated noise in the ocean, are known to have
19 significant impacts on endangered whales, fish and other
20 marine species on extremely broad scales.

21 Finally, following up from these hearings in the
22 department's survey of data on OCS resources and
23 identification of data gas, we asked the administration
24 to work with Congress to request two things:

25 First, an assessment by the National Academy of

1 Science of current environmental baseline information and
2 the impacts of leasing and development on oceans and
3 coastal ecosystems.

4 And, second, an assessment of the government by the
5 Government Accounting Office of impacts of OCS leasing
6 and development on the price and supply of oil.

7 And last, we need that to be scientific-based
8 process that protects the resources that are vital for
9 our current economy and people and quality of life, as
10 well as for those in the future.

11 Thank you, very much, for this opportunity to
12 address you.

13 --oOo--

14 MS. CASTLE: Good afternoon. Thank you for the
15 opportunity to speak today. My name is Laura Castle.
16 I'm the Executive Director of Save our Shores, who
17 usually dresses in a jellyfish costume when the time is
18 appropriate such as today. And I'm here to represent
19 several hundred members of Save our Shores.

20 We're strongly opposed to offshore oil drilling.
21 The whole reason our organization started 30 years ago
22 was because the local citizens did not want to see
23 offshore oil drilling off our coast in central
24 California, and they advocated for protection of our
25 great wildlife that we have there.

1 And they were successful because, in 1992, after 14
2 years of advocating, we were able to establish the
3 largest marine sanctuary in the whole country and we're
4 very proud of that.

5 So, I'm here, today, to say that that was an
6 investment that was made along with the other three
7 sanctuaries in California, along with the new network of
8 marine protected areas, that are being implemented; and,
9 if we need to drill nearby these areas, we really will
10 sacrifice these investments that we've made.

11 So, I'm here to speak for the species of the ocean
12 that can't speak for themselves. We don't want any oil
13 drilling. So, please, help us save our shores by keeping
14 us focused in the right direction of clean, safe,
15 renewable energy.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. AURAND: Okay, we're going to do Group 8.

18 (Discussion off the record)

19 MR. AURAND: We'll take a 10-minute break.

20 (Recess taken)

21 MS. CRAM: Thank you and good afternoon. My name is
22 Linda Cram. I'm Chief Counsel of the Environmental
23 Defense Center, a public interest environmental law firm,
24 headquartered in Santa Barbara that helps community groups
25 throughout Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo

1 counties.

2 My comments today are (inaudible) protect other
3 coasts from the risks and impacts of offshore oil
4 development, for the past 40 years, ever since the 1969
5 oil spill.

6 Consistent with our comments submitted last fall, we
7 ask that all areas of offshore California be removed from
8 the OCS leasing plan.

9 Removing areas offshore California is consistent
10 with our state's longstanding efforts to protect its
11 coast from oil development, including adoption of the
12 California Coastal Sanctuary Act, the California Global
13 Warming Solutions Act, ambitious renewable portfolio
14 standards opposing various resolutions, opposing various
15 offshore oil leasing and objections raised by the
16 California Coastal Commission under the Coastal Zone
17 Management Act.

18 Being from Santa Barbara, we are especially
19 concerned that the entire county coast is included in the
20 plan. This region is one of the most ecologically
21 significant and sensitive places on the planet; and, as
22 such, has been afforded federal protection through
23 establishment of the Santa Barbara Federal Ecological
24 Reserve, Channel Islands National Park, and Channel
25 Islands National Marine Sanctuary.

1 New oil leasing is incompatible with these
2 designations and would (unintelligible) Southern sea
3 otter and blue whale -- which Santa Barbara Channel, we
4 have the largest blue whale population on the planet.

5 In Santa Barbara, we face two threats:

6 One from proposed new leasing;

7 And one from the 19 existing oil platforms operating
8 off of our coast;

9 Which is why we not only speak to stop new leasing,
10 but, we have also been working to phase out existing
11 facilities.

12 The current tract proposed program was crafted by
13 the Bush administration and, hopefully, does not reflect
14 the current administration's views for offshore oil
15 leasing.

16 The current plan must be rejected because it is too
17 focused on increased oil-gas development which will
18 perpetuate harm to our ocean and coastal environment
19 communities;

20 Conflict with our important tourism and fishing
21 industries;

22 And exacerbate the local climate change and ocean
23 acidification.

24 We also appreciate the request to submit comments on
25 offshore alternative energy and, in that respect, we'd

1 like to echo the suggestions made by previous speakers.

2 That extensive planning and assessment efforts be
3 conducted first to make sure that environmental impacts
4 are minimized and conflicts with other ocean uses are
5 avoided.

6 Thank you, very much, for coming to our state and we
7 look to commenting on your proposed plan.

8 Thank you.

9 --oOo--

10 MR. SHIMEK: Good afternoon. My name is Steve
11 Shimek. I'm Executive Director of Monterey Coastkeeper,
12 part of the Waterkeeper Alliance.

13 Many here today are rallying against offshore oil
14 drilling. I'm sure you've heard that message. We are
15 fully supportive of that message by my testimony here.

16 Today is more nuance than just to say no to offshore
17 oil and yes to renewables. While we agree with the new
18 administration's focus on renewables, we are very
19 concerned about the rush to lease land and water for
20 unproven technologies; whether they're green or not.

21 Offshore wind farms are being rolled out throughout
22 the world, and there's some experience. We can weigh the
23 costs and benefits and we can talk about those proposals.
24 But, wave energy appears to be the renewable source with
25 the most potential here on the West Coast.

1 And we are very, very concerned over 100 square
2 miles of California's ocean are in some early stage of
3 the FERC licensing process. 100 square miles are in
4 process. These leases will create a spider web of
5 cabling directly in the path of migrating whales, will
6 disturb sensitive and highly productive bottom
7 environments, and could preclude other uses such as
8 recreation and commercial fishing if built out.

9 We don't even know what these wave energy devices
10 will look like. We certainly do not know the costs and
11 benefits. Worldwide, there is no practical experience
12 producing wave energy.

13 The first experimental wave farm went into
14 production in 2008 in Portugal with three buoys and it
15 failed;

16 In the U.S., the experimental (inaudible) a buoy
17 sank off the Pacific Northwest;

18 A 20 foot diameter Stanford research buoy deployed
19 off Santa Cruz generated power -- enough power -- to
20 light -- as the researchers said -- one small light bulb.

21 The leasing of waters for wave energy should be
22 cost. Experiments should go ahead, but not off sensitive
23 coastlines. It may sound like an ancient monk mantra
24 that (inaudible) uses half the energy of Georgia.

25 Japan, with lots of radon uses half the energy of

1 the U.S. per capita.

2 These disparities highlight the potential of
3 conservation. Let's maximize the potential of
4 conservation before we discuss booms and buoys off our
5 coast.

6 Thank you, so much. Thank you for having these
7 hearings.

8 Thank you.

9 --oOo--

10 THE WITNESS: My name is Stella Dawn Tracy and I'm
11 from Mendocino County. Thank you for the opportunity to
12 participate in the democratic process of gathering public
13 input.

14 I've lived and worked in the California coast for
15 over 30 years. Two of my sons are in the fishing
16 industry, while a third works as a manager of an ocean
17 front inn. I, myself, over that span of time, have found
18 numerous occasions to speak as an advocate for ocean
19 protection against oil drilling, nuclear dumping, and
20 mineral mining attempts.

21 To have an entire family invested in the economic
22 necessity of maintaining a pristine oceanic environment
23 is more the norm than not for coastal residents.

24 I am often made aware of the large number of people
25 and families to whom recreating on our beautiful tar-free

1 beaches is not just a pleasurable pasttime, but essential
2 to keeping the serenity of our emotional and mental
3 health.

4 To despoil our global resources through pollution
5 from (unintelligible) and long-term costs -- namely, the
6 lower productive of the successive generations of all
7 species -- to shift the focus of negative impacts away
8 from the microcosm of individuals and even communities to
9 the heart of the matter.

10 The oceans are the life blood of our planet. When
11 toxins accumulate, systematically, as in the blood of
12 humans, the disease is often fatal. Our oceans are the
13 (inaudible) agents of a century of ignorance and
14 environmental malpractice.

15 The time has come to change direction towards clean,
16 renewable resources, beginning with onshore solar and
17 wind power, where problems can be worked out in a
18 transparent public conversation even with onshore
19 renewables facilities. We must take care to not alter
20 the integrity of the ecosystem and inhabitants within.

21 I agree with Representative Barbara Lee that we have
22 an unmatched opportunity to direct another of our
23 country's great natural renewable resources for use on a
24 positive holistic path into green jobs and conservation
25 planning.

1 Recent studies indicated that if the United States
2 commits to European levels of reduced carbon emissions,
3 we can still forestall the worst manifestations of a
4 global pandemic and mass extinction of animal and avian
5 wildlife.

6 I implore you to reject the leases for offshore oil
7 drilling and invest the people's hard-earned dollars --
8 what's left of them -- into sustainable practices: Those
9 of renewable clean energy.

10 Thank you.

11 --oOo--

12 MR. GRAY: My name is Donald Gray. I'm a registered
13 professional engineer with the State of California. I'm
14 here today representing Kleinfelder Plumbing.

15 We urge the Minerals and Management Service to
16 include California leases in its draft for public Outer
17 Continental Shelf oil and gas program for 2010 to 2015.

18 This action would give the MMS the maximum
19 flexibility necessary to increase the nation's energy
20 security and ensure adequate supplies of energy in the
21 future.

22 My company is directly dependent on the vitality of
23 the petroleum industry, as we provide engineering,
24 environmental construction testing services to this
25 industry nationwide.

1 In 2002, 100 employees of Kleinfelder and their
2 families are hard-working citizens who care deeply about
3 the nation's energy security, their communities, and the
4 environment. They join me in urging the MMS to do its
5 part to ensure prosperous and sustainable energy future.

6 Our company has worked at all the major Bay Area
7 refineries, and I have worked in this industry for over
8 30 years. The emphasis for safety is the dominant theme,
9 and our work for them, in addition, on the West Coast,
10 has an exemplary safety and environmental record.

11 I'm very confident this (inaudible) will continue
12 whether the work is onshore or offshore. Over the past
13 10 years, our company has provided greatly increased
14 amount of services in the alternative energy market.

15 We are currently working with Chevron and others on
16 solar-powered facilities throughout the state. I'm
17 convinced we must rely more on alternative fuels or we
18 cannot do this overnight. Responsible change and
19 redistribution of our energy sources involves less
20 dependence on foreign oil, increased usage of offshore
21 resources, while alternative sources continue to develop,
22 become more economically feasible, economically speaking.

23 I would like to be enjoying the fruits of over 40
24 years of hard work and financial (unintelligible).
25 Americans like me are struggling and/or changing their

1 lifestyle because of the fiscal crisis we are
2 experiencing.

3 The MMS has the ability and responsibility to help
4 turn this around by allowing the petroleum industry to
5 evaluate and develop these leases. This will be
6 revenue-generating before another budget deficit and tax
7 (unintelligible).

8 Thank you.

9 --oOo--

10 INAUDIBLE: Hi there. My name is Chris
11 (unintelligible.). I'm a volunteer with Save our Shores
12 down in Santa Cruz, born and raised, been living here
13 about five months. Love it. Thanks for having me. Just
14 a couple comments.

15 (Inaudible) non-sustainable practice while renewable
16 energy supplies are a limitless amount of energy. In my
17 opinion, we're (inaudible) essentially and only after
18 supply (inaudible) sustainable energy can a society again
19 its (unintelligible) process.

20 We can kind of look around the room and see that
21 everybody has different opinions about the situation in
22 front of us; but, one thing or another we all can do is
23 conserve a little bit more.

24 So, I'm asking everybody to just, you know, make a
25 little more effort. Yes, we're talking about energy, but

1 we can also -- you know, everybody has different energy
2 demands, but, everybody can essentially reduce just a
3 little bit of their own lifestyle to try and contribute
4 to what is going to happen. Regardless of what anybody
5 says or does, we are going to become a sustainable
6 society one day.

7 Thank you for your time.

8 MR. AURAND: Okay. It's 5 after 4:00, so, we'll
9 reconvene at 4:15 and continue on with number nine.

10 Thank you.

11 (Recess taken)

12 MR. AURAND: Okay, we'll go on with group number
13 nine.

14 --oOo--

15 MS. KATOVICH: My name is Ariana Katovich. I work
16 for the Earth Island Institute formed by the legendary
17 environmentalist, David Brower -- yes -- and you can
18 visit us at the new David Brower Center in Berkeley which
19 is the greenest commercial building in the State of
20 California.

21 I learned my lesson very early about offshore oil
22 drilling, when I was 18 and in college that the lion's
23 share of work that needs to be done to hold oil companies
24 accountable for their damage is immense;

25 And the shell mounds are real;

1 And the gas leaks are real;

2 And the oil spills are real;

3 And those are things that we cannot tolerate and we
4 can't live with.

5 And, as the new generation, as Generation We, I'm
6 saying, we can't do this anymore and we need to move on.

7 I've heard a lot of things said today and I believe
8 a lot of them are red herrings about oil production
9 creating jobs. Well, jobs get lost when oil comes to
10 town; not just no tourism and fishing, there's a host of
11 jobs and the jobs that are created. And the ones that we
12 don't want, we don't want to put on HAZMAT spills and
13 clean up spills. We actually don't want to do ecological
14 monitoring to see the damages that are being done to our
15 habitats and species. We'd love to not have those jobs,
16 as much as we love our creatures and want to spend time
17 with them.

18 And then there's this huge job of trying to figure
19 out what to do with the abandoned facilities that are out
20 there. I mean, bricks to reefs. What do we do with this
21 stuff that's lingering in the ocean?

22 There was a group here talking about oil seeps and I
23 had to laugh because their logic is, well, there are
24 natural-occurring oil seeps so, therefore, we should
25 drill oil. Well, it's kind of like saying, volcanos

1 erupt, so, let's drive Hummers. They all contribute to
2 greenhouse gases.

3 The point there is, yeah, okay, natural seeps
4 happen. That doesn't mean we have to contribute to the
5 problem. And, actually, the Channel Islands evolved
6 right next to oil seeps, so, something in there is in
7 balance, and we should just leave that one alone.

8 And, personally, I don't want oil drilling anywhere.
9 I'm not here to say, I don't want it on the Outer
10 Continental Shelf.

11 I don't want it (inaudible);

12 I don't want it in Mendocino;

13 I don't want it being refined in Richmond.

14 You know, there's a reason why people don't live in
15 Richmond; or, people who live in Richmond do not have
16 economic means to leave. It's a polluted place. People
17 have asthma and cancer; that's a fact.

18 You know, oil drilling is dirty business; it's nasty
19 business, and, you know, thanks for letting us drive
20 cars; but, now, we want to evolve and now we want to
21 actually have clean technology.

22 And I approve of Barack Obama's direction. I think
23 we have a Secretary of the Interior who wants us to move
24 past our toxic legacy, and I just want to thank you for
25 being here and listening to our comments this late in the

1 day.

2 Thank you, very much.

3 --oOo--

4 MR. NEVEZ: Hi. My name the Terry Nevez. I come
5 from Mendocino which is about three and-a-half hours
6 north of here.

7 I bring you a united front for Mendocinoites. We
8 want a permanent moratorium on offshore drilling. I'm
9 opposed to any new offshore oil drilling, particularly,
10 off the Northern California coast and the Point Arena
11 Basin.

12 I'm a seaweed wildcrafter for the past ten years.
13 I've been making my living from the ocean in a
14 sustainable manner. There are four companies off the
15 Mendocino coast who harvest and sell seaweed for food to
16 people throughout the world. These companies have been
17 in business for over 30 years. Six years ago, we formed
18 the Mendocino Seaweed Steward Alliance. We are able to
19 work in harmony with each other, the ocean, the tides,
20 and the weather to harvest again and again from the spots
21 that we have traditionally harvested from for years.

22 The northern coast of California is a rare and
23 precious location in the world for seaweed. I hope you
24 already know that the Point Arena Basin is a remarkable
25 worldly phenomenon. We have one of only four rich

1 nutrient upwellings in the world -- and I'm going to
2 repeat that -- we have one of only four rich nutrient
3 upwellings in the world.

4 This means we have abundant marine life, including
5 seaweeds from Big Sur to the northern border of Oregon.
6 This also means there are many raucous storms, large
7 waves, huge, as well as jagged, steep cliffs along our
8 coast.

9 Oil drilling and spilling and potential accidents
10 would devastate the coast like nothing we have ever
11 known. There's no chance to do a cleanup of spills along
12 our coast, as we have no large safe entry points due to
13 the nature of the cliffs and the waves.

14 Other seaweed habitats around the world have been
15 polluted and over-harvested, so, the Point Arena Basin is
16 a national treasure and should be recognized as one. We
17 all need seaweed for health and nutrition. We need to
18 work together to protect it from pollution. The ocean is
19 being attacked by all who claim we need to industrialize,
20 militarize her.

21 I'm opposed to wave energy and its Naval training as
22 well. We need dramatic conservation measures. The
23 Northern California coast and particularly the Point
24 Arena Basin is a national treasure:

25 No oil;

1 we've made to protect the sea otter.

2 In addition to protecting the sea otter, there's a
3 lot of other reasons to get off oil. Climate change is a
4 huge threat. I am a Native Californian. I've lived here
5 all my life. I've benefitted greatly from the
6 environmental ethic of California, and I don't want to
7 see us step many, many years backwards by lifting the
8 moratorium on offshore oil drilling.

9 There are many uses of the coast. It's very
10 valuable to us, economically, culturally, and
11 environmentally.

12 I am heartened by the Obama administration's move to
13 explore some of those other options in terms of renewable
14 energy; however, I echo the sentiment of many of my
15 colleagues, that we need to do it in a manner that is
16 tempered and transparent. So, we are a bit concerned
17 with the procedure to embrace, quickly, all sorts of wave
18 and wind energy. There's definitely a need for it.

19 I feel that climate change is one of the most
20 pressing scary issues that my generation will face;
21 however, I don't want to see us throw the baby out with
22 the bath water. We've had years and years of
23 conservation gains and I don't want to see that given up
24 in our rush to embrace new technologies that have not
25 been proven as feasible.

1 In conclusion, we don't want to see offshore oil
2 drilling. We do want to see renewable energy, but, we
3 want to see it proceed in a tempered manner that includes
4 environmental analysis, as required by the law, as well
5 as a conclusive and full cost benefit analysis that looks
6 at not just the direct economic benefits from extractive
7 uses, but the full range of services that the environment
8 provides from regulatory mechanisms, ecosystem, services
9 to services, such as tourism industry and other
10 beneficial uses that bring business to our economy in our
11 state.

12 Thank you for hearing my comments.

13 MR. AURAND: Okay. I don't want to cut anybody off.

14 Who was in group nine?

15 Some of you were still coming back in, so, is there
16 anybody else who had a nine?

17 If not, can we have group 10, please?

18 --oOo--

19 MR. CONLIN: Thank you, very much for this
20 opportunity. My name is Bob Conlin. I'm retired. I'm
21 unaffiliated with any energy interests, unaffiliated with
22 environmental interests. I'm here as a citizen. I came
23 upon a notice of this meeting and this is one that I was
24 interested in coming to attend and I'm participating in
25 the democratic process.

1 It was interesting that -- well, I'm concerned, I'm
2 disappointed, and I have hope. During the last campaign
3 season, both sides quite clearly assured us that we were
4 going for energy independence. That has been the charge
5 from President Nixon on forward and everybody embraces
6 that, but nothing seems to happen. Both parties during
7 the campaign indicated that they would support domestic
8 production increases.

9 Currently, as of February, there are over 60 percent
10 of the U.S. population that believe offshore drilling is
11 acceptable. At the height of the gasoline crisis, it was
12 up as high as 66 percent that believed that offshore
13 should not be a sacred cow.

14 My concern is, as a retiree, I'm on fixed income. I
15 have concern for my children and I have concern for my
16 grandkids. I think with what's going on in the world, we
17 need to establish a clear energy policy that gives us the
18 national security that we need. I think the Secretary
19 very clearly placed as priority one it was either
20 national security or national interest; and, as priority
21 two, on his slide was environmental concerns. It is
22 clearly an item of concern that we have a secure source
23 of energy.

24 I'm disappointed because the focus so far has been
25 on wind and solar and there has been scant notification

1 relative to either oil, gas or nuclear. I think we
2 should be pursuing every avenue as much as we can.

3 And I was struck by the fact that Lieutenant
4 Governor Garamendi mentioned -- I think he said that by
5 2025 we'll be about 30 percent renewable energy. What
6 then?

7 And what during the interim? We need the source of
8 oil to get from here to there. I think, at some point,
9 we have to get out of the oil business, but getting
10 there, we need new oil sources.

11 I thank you. I got my note to come here. I found
12 it on the Internet through the American Conservative
13 Union. It was a happenstance hit. I thank them for
14 putting it on. It was a public service and I appreciate
15 your time.

16 --oOo--

17 MR. LEWIS: All right. Good afternoon. My name is
18 Patrick Lewis and I'm here on behalf of Americans for Tax
19 Reform where I serve as manager of California State
20 Affairs. Americans for Tax Reform is a non-profit
21 taxpayers advocacy and public policy organization. And I
22 come here to express our support for the expansion of
23 offshore drilling.

24 And we do so from the standpoint of taxpayer and
25 also with the state's grave budget situation in mind. So

1 the main point I want to convey today is why the full
2 development of offshore energy resources are of the most
3 importance to California's economy and fiscal health.

4 It's no secret that California is in a great fiscal
5 state due to decades of out of control spending. Facing
6 a \$42 billion budget deficit over the next 18 months,
7 California lawmakers, once again, put taxpayers on the
8 hook for the overspending habit, for raising billions of
9 dollars in taxes, in February, on income, sales, and car
10 taxes. This comes despite the fact that Californians
11 already pay the highest sales and marginal income tax
12 rates.

13 Even before those taxes in February the deleterious
14 effects of these tax (inaudible) are already being
15 (inaudible). In fact, the Legislature's budget analyst
16 reported that the tax increases are already showing
17 shortfall of projection of about \$8 billion.

18 So, once again, even with these tax increases,
19 lawmakers are going to come back to the taxpayer trough
20 to make matters worse. Proposition 1-A, if passed
21 (inaudible) will steal another (inaudible) well over
22 half the year, California taxpayers and employers are
23 (inaudible) the state as a result of taking jobs revenue
24 and (inaudible) with them.

25 Let me be clear:

1 The primary cause of California's budgetary woes is
2 unchecked overspending and profligacy on the part of state
3 officials. State officials got raucous applause this
4 morning for driving the state down a fiscal cliff.

5 However, given the current lack of political will to
6 address this systemic overspending problem, aggressive
7 exploration and utilization of the resources found in the
8 OCS is probably the single most effective, live, measure to
9 help quash this year after year on California taxpayers
10 (unintelligible) off limits.

11 Can generate \$1.7 trillion nationwide for federal,
12 state, and local revenues and development of all U.S.
13 natural oil (unintelligible) with an upwards of estimated
14 \$10 billion off the California coast.

15 California stands to gain significantly off this
16 this, in conjunction with greater state and federal
17 profit sharing, will serve to heighten monetary benefit.

18 Most importantly, though, the substantial injection
19 of revenue provided to California will help mitigate the
20 project of further tax increase proposals on the already
21 overburdened California taxpayers.

22 In closing, since my time is running out, I just
23 wants to say, I agree with the lady earlier who said we
24 should probably have more hearings on this. It's a very
25 important issue and I think the more we discuss it and

1 people are educated and involved, that would be the best
2 possible result.

3 So, I thank you for your time.

4 --oOo--

5 MR. WOODSTOCK: Hi. My name is Rodney Woodstock and
6 I'll just state, for the record, I'm opposed to opening
7 of the OCS. I grew up in the waters of the east coast in
8 Connecticut and I come from generations of lobstermen,
9 fisherman, and lovers of the ocean dating back to the
10 early 1600's.

11 I'm a surfer of 23 years and I spent a lot of time
12 in and on the water. I currently live on the Great
13 Highway here in San Francisco's Ocean Beach.

14 I feel that we are at a time of change as we can see
15 by everyone that spoke here today in this room. We are
16 at a tipping point. Fossil fuels like oil have created
17 our climate crisis that we're currently seeing escalate
18 year after year. We all know this. The oil companies
19 and the energy companies, they know this. The writing is
20 on the wall. Oil and energy companies are, as we speak,
21 shifting their investments towards greener and renewable
22 energies like solar, wind and geothermal energy. They
23 know. The writing's on the wall.

24 CO2 emissions from oil or gasoline vehicles, one of
25 the number one causes of pollution here in the United

1 States. Car and truck companies are shifting their
2 investments to Hybrid electric vehicles, hydrogen
3 vehicles, solar vehicles. They know the writing is on
4 the wall.

5 Let us take this opportunity to say no to fossil
6 fuels and yes to renewable energies here on our lands;
7 and not in our sensitive marine environments. Let us
8 show the world that we can lead again and be a leader.
9 Let us be a super power of renewable energy conservation
10 and efficiency. This country was founded by and with a
11 revolution. I say that the energy revolution begins now.

12 Thank you.

13 --oOo--

14 MS. RANKER: Hi. My name is Anne Ranker and I live
15 in Mendocino County and I really appreciate the chance to
16 speak for our coasts today and I'm glad that science is
17 coming back into the picture.

18 The Mendocino coast is one of the foremost vibrant
19 upwellings ecosystem. As we've heard a few times today,
20 it's vital to the planet; and along with forests it is
21 the lungs of the world.

22 Allowing any industrialization in our ocean puts all
23 the birds, the fish, the whales, the blue whales
24 migrating, and our tourism industry, all in extreme
25 jeopardy.

1 The offshore devices they're proposing will obstruct
2 fishing boats, crab troller, the whale migration path,
3 and create unknown changes in temperature.

4 There's got to be temperature generated whenever
5 energy is generated; and cables and things we just don't
6 know about. So, perhaps it could kill the algae and the
7 (unintelligible) which is very critical to the food
8 chain.

9 And there's no precedent set for this kind of
10 technology. There's no proven usefulness of these new
11 technologies. So, I think, instead of putting noisy,
12 risky devices in our ocean, we should focus on clean,
13 renewable safe methods of energy production, such as the
14 flexscreen solar that's come up lately, the solarization
15 of homes and buildings. I would be one of the first to
16 volunteer my home and buildings that I work in. I know
17 Berkeley has solarized their whole community and it's
18 been a remarkable energy savings. There's a use for more
19 safe land waste than wind energy crisis. We have to stop
20 depending on oil and gas. It's not going to serve our
21 nation's future well either from a global warming
22 standpoint or from a sustainable world where we can
23 maintain the biodiversity and the extinction -- keep
24 the -- avoid extinctions and ocean acidification.

25 Thank you, very much.

1 MR. AURAND: Can I have speakers with a number 11,
2 please?

3 --oOo--

4 MR. GAMBLE: Thank you.

5 My name is Lionel Gamble. I'm past president of
6 Friends of the Coast and former member of the OCS
7 Environmental Coalition.

8 Our dependence on oil is what's driving our global
9 climate to disaster. This is not just a matter of moving
10 our beach umbrellas up the hill. This is much more
11 serious than that. This could mean the end of life on
12 earth.

13 And I keep hearing dollars, dollars, dollars. I
14 would like us to take our crisis much more seriously. I
15 want to respond to the people who are saying we need to
16 use all of our resources -- renewable resources -- on oil
17 and gas.

18 What would you think if someone said to you, if
19 we're dealing with alcohol addiction, we need to use all
20 our resources:

21 12 step program;

22 Psychotherapy;

23 And at least four ounces of whiskey every day.

24 That's the same thing. It's analogous. We're never
25 going to be independent of foreign oil. We have three

1 percent of the world's oil and we're burning 25 percent
2 of it. Come on. We need to be -- we need to become
3 independent of oil. When oil is the problem, more oil is
4 not solution.

5 And I have to confess some skepticism about the oil
6 industry. I'm hearing things that I have been hearing
7 for 30 years. And I want to show a graphic -- this is --
8 I'll show it for the people here first. This is on the
9 shore of Prince William Sound. That's oil from the Exxon
10 Valdez. They've got black stuff. This picture was not
11 taken in 1989; it was taken in 2009. This picture was
12 taken in this year. And you can see what's happening
13 right now.

14 This is the legacy of an energy policy that consists
15 of burn more oil and burn it faster. Thank God, we have
16 an administration now that's moving away from what we've
17 had.

18 I'm going to show another graphic, but, in '91, they
19 wanted to drill up and down our coast. They wanted to
20 lay a pipeline across the San Andreas Fault below 70 feet
21 of water below Bodega Bay. 140 trips of tanker trips
22 along our coast with 500 shipwrecks strewn along there
23 and some of the roughest seas in the world are off our
24 coast. This is the other graphic. On December 31, 1914
25 a wave came in on -- I'll show it for everyone -- that

1 wave swamped the Trinidad Head lighthouse which sits on
2 top of 175 foot bluff. That's the kind of seas we have
3 up there.

4 And they want to put drilling platforms out there?
5 Come on. What we need to do is concentrate on energy
6 efficiency. We need to kick the oil habit. We need to
7 kick the car culture and we need to kick the oil habit.
8 We need to put a lot more passenger trains on the track
9 and rebuild a system that works.

10 --oOo--

11 MS. DUGAN: Thank you. My name is Sharon Dugan.
12 I'm here on behalf of the Environmental Protection
13 Information Center, which is an organization located in
14 Humboldt County, which has decades-long experience
15 advocating for the protection of natural resources.

16 I stand here to oppose offshore oil drilling and gas
17 exploration. I join with all of those who have already
18 laid out to you and to the Secretary this morning the
19 numerous reasons why this kind of program is devastating
20 to our environment.

21 I want to make just three points because I did hand
22 in some written comments this morning.

23 First of all, this ill-advised program would
24 adversely affect the Lost Coast, the King range, and the
25 Sequoia Wilderness, which is Mendocino Humboldt

1 (inaudible) are referred to this area. This is an area
2 that has no highway along it. This is the only stretch
3 of coastline from Canada to Mexico that does not have a
4 highway along it. It has the highest rated water quality
5 along the coast. Three miles offshore, lies the Gorda
6 Trench where significant upwell occurs, bringing pure
7 water and nutrients for fish and marine mammals.

8 EPIC is opposed to this drilling because of what it
9 would do to these resources and is opposed as well to any
10 kind of onshore support facilities such as stripper wells
11 that might be considered.

12 My second point is one which has also been echoed by
13 many which is very, very simple:

14 Offshore oil drilling contributes to global warming,
15 and the impact of global warming is undeniable. By
16 pursuing a continued reliance on fossil fuels, we'll deny
17 our future in our world (inaudible) are not as fortunate
18 as we are in California and, frankly, in the United
19 States.

20 Many in the world already suffer from greenhouse
21 gases as a consequence and their experience in things
22 like drought, fire, lack of food, hunger, flooding, and
23 increasing sea levels.

24 We in this country have an obligation to the rest of
25 the planet to act responsibly. Offshore oil drilling is

1 not acting responsibly.

2 My third point is, fundamentally, this is not really
3 an economic issue; and it's not an environmental issue
4 anymore, primarily, because of what's happening with
5 climate collapse. This is a moral issue and it's one
6 that we need to act on responsibly. We need to end our
7 dependence on fossil fuels.

8 We need radical change. When Barack Obama was
9 elected, he said that he wanted to be held responsible
10 and we have to hold him responsible and (inaudible)
11 practical kinds of things that I don't think are really
12 collateral, but, unfortunately, they have to be brought
13 forward today.

14 One is what is a product, that is, fossil fuel
15 product, a petroleum product? It's a plastic water
16 bottle. Can the Department of Interior give us a promise
17 that at any further hearings they will provide people the
18 local water supply with confidence in our public water
19 system so you don't see plastic water bottles?

20 And provide us with more carbon-neutral events where
21 you do have local public hearings so that people don't
22 have to travel from throughout the West Coast to come to
23 one facility.

24 Thank you, very much for these hearings. We
25 appreciate it.

1 production of energy.

2 MR. AURAND: Ma'am, can I get you to state your
3 name, please?

4 MS. NUDER: Susan Nuder.

5 MR. AURAND: Thank you.

6 MS. NUDER: The Mendocino coast must remain pristine
7 to protect its water and sealife for our children and
8 future generations. We know you're tired, but
9 (inaudible) impacts on (unintelligible) sustainability
10 global warming and pollution.

11 The Mendocino coast is an area that must be
12 protected from oil drilling and wave and wind energy
13 development period.

14 We, therefore, implore you to stop all plans for
15 such industrialization. I gave to Secretary Salazar a
16 very nice video that shows our beautiful coast in case
17 you can't come visit us. Thank you.

18 --oOo--

19 MR. CARTER: My name is Richard Carter and I
20 appreciate the opportunity to present testimony today on
21 behalf of Defenders of Wildlife.

22 Your agency, as you know, has inherited a
23 magnificent legacy of careful bi-partisan ocean
24 stewardship maintained by five presidents and 27 years of
25 bipartisan -- and I stress bi-partisan -- Congressional

1 protection that is inclusive of America's most sensitive
2 and treasured coastline and coastal waters.

3 This is an incredible inheritance. I believe that
4 Secretary Salazar is realizing just how much that
5 inheritance is worth.

6 When "drill baby, drill" chants abruptly faded in
7 the polls last November, the fate of America's coastline
8 was left to the next president and the next team at the
9 Department of Interior -- that would be you.

10 We're glad that the Department of Interior is coming
11 to our communities to better understand our collective
12 coastal legacy as we work to fulfill your role as chief
13 stewards of our precious coastline; and we'd like to work
14 with you in that regard.

15 This kind of visit doesn't happen very often. The
16 last Secretary of Interior to come to California to hold
17 a number of community meetings and join us in our towns
18 and cities was one of your predecessors, Secretary Don
19 O'Dell who, in 1985, toured our state to promote a
20 bi-partisan agreement he had negotiated with our
21 Congressional delegation over a four-month period of
22 time, and with our Governor to grant permanent protection
23 from offshore drilling in perpetuity for most of the
24 California coast. He strongly articulated enthusiasm for
25 his own agreement; was, apparently, temporary and this

1 agreement was inexplicably rescinded by O'Dell, himself,
2 only three months after he proudly announced it in a
3 meeting such as this one.

4 We know that his actions are not a model that you
5 want to follow. Today, we would like to make a specific
6 request to the Obama administration. We would
7 respectfully request that President Obama issue an
8 Executive Order to promptly reinstate the presidential
9 withdrawals of those specific offshore lands previously
10 set aside for protection by Presidents George Herbert
11 Walker Bush and Bill Clinton. This order would allow
12 sufficient time for the National Research Council, or the
13 National Academy of Science to assess current
14 environmental baseline information on the impacts of
15 leasing exploration and development of the ocean
16 ecosystems; and this is very simple to do. We need some
17 time to get science into this decision.

18 And I just wanted to say to you, sir, I was in
19 Atlantic City and you have got the strongest back and the
20 most patience; and I don't know how many airplanes you've
21 been on, but, thank you -- honestly.

22 MR. AURAND: You're welcome.

23 --oOo--

24 MS. GIBSON: Thank you.

25 My name is Fran Gibson. I am President of the Board

1 of Coastal California, 25 year-old non-profit, statewide,
2 committed to coastal access, coastal preservation, the
3 completion of the 1200 mile California Coastal Trail,
4 which, one day, will run unbroken from Oregon to Mexico.

5 We heartily commend Secretary Salazar and your
6 Department for the four public meetings you're holding,
7 calling for open, honest conversation with the American
8 people about these critical issues.

9 You steward 1.7 billion acres of U.S. territory
10 beneath the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and the Gulf of
11 Mexico; and you hold these coastal assets in public
12 trusts for all the American people.

13 Our national coastline has 140 major laws and 20
14 different governmental agencies that operate. We need a
15 less fragmented, a more comprehensive approach to the
16 protection of our nation's coasts.

17 California now has 28 million people living today
18 within 30 minutes of our coastline. Our population of 38
19 million people is projected to swell to 50 million by
20 2050, mid century. That will find 35 million people
21 living in one of our 15 coastal counties. Six of the 10
22 fastest growing coastal counties in America are here in
23 California.

24 We have much to lose if the moratorium is lifted.
25 "Drill baby, drill" must now be changed to, "chill, baby,

1 chill" or the earth is headed precipitously for six major
2 mass extinction of species over it's four-and-a-half
3 billion year history. We have less than 30 years to turn
4 the global crisis around that's leading to climate
5 change.

6 Scientist James Hensen runs the numbers for us and
7 they should terrify every American. Currently, our
8 atmosphere C02 levels are 305 parts per million, up from
9 280 parts per million at the beginning of the industrial
10 revolution in the 1750's.

11 400 parts per million is the datum that we know that
12 we will lose life as we know it on this earth. We're
13 going up two parts per million atmospheric C02 worldwide
14 each and every year now; and this warns us that we must
15 do something.

16 Greenhouse gas emissions are the leading contributor
17 to (inaudible) damage in our atmosphere and they emanate
18 (unintelligible) coal, petroleum and natural gas.

19 We ask you to think seriously, comprehensively, and
20 morally, about the energy issues in America and in
21 California.

22 Thank you for coming and we look forward to your
23 report.

24 MR. AURAND: Are there any other 12's?

25 Could I have Group 13, please?

1 and the executive moratorium. The lapse of these
2 moratoria marked a reversal on some of the strongest
3 ocean protection ever in place; and to be reinstated
4 immediately.

5 New drilling (inaudible) economies. The impacts on
6 (unintelligible) which often leads to death; however, oil
7 in the environment, even from (inaudible) production can
8 result in 100 (inaudible) and liver damage.

9 Additionally, it harms our economy domestically
10 (inaudible) contributes (inaudible) \$30 billion to our
11 country's economy. Coastal recreation adds another \$10
12 billion.

13 Furthermore, there is no need to open more areas to
14 drilling. Oil companies are currently drilling on less
15 than a third of the areas that are already open. Your
16 own Interior Department scientists also estimate that the
17 U.S. has about 86 billion barrels of oil
18 (unintelligible). Estimate 80 percent of the oil exists
19 in areas already open to drilling.

20 In addition, I'd like to rebut some of the comments
21 that we've heard today about oil seeps in Santa Barbara.
22 I was actually in Santa Barbara on Monday and I spoke
23 with Professor Bruce Lyondyke who did the studies on
24 those oil seeps. He said that his research has been
25 manipulated and has been extrapolated to be a

1 justification for oil companies to drill; and it has no
2 merit whatsoever.

3 An oil spill is catastrophic for our marine
4 ecosystem. Oil seepage is natural. There are a great
5 number of people who have signed these petitions and
6 written these letters.

7 What they're asking of the Interior Department is
8 that you uphold your civic duty and act in the best
9 interest of the people of the United States, which means
10 moving to wiser energy plan for the nation with a
11 fundamental cornerstone in ocean conservation.

12 This will, in turn, protect jobs, tourism,
13 recreation, and bountiful ocean life for our (inaudible).
14 Please do not allow drilling off our nation's coast.
15 Restore the moratoria; and, thank you, for time and
16 consideration.

17 --oOo--

18 MR. NELSON: Hi. My name is Chad Nelson. I'm the
19 Environmental Director of the Surfrider Foundation. Like
20 Angela, we represent 70 chapters coastal communities
21 around the United States, several thousands of members,
22 and several thousand supporters who love our oceans,
23 waves, and beaches.

24 I think that just about everything that could be
25 said has been said and I'd just like to add a few quick

1 points for the record;

2 The first is that, I think George Bush got one thing
3 right when he was talking about oil in America, and
4 that's that we're addicted to it. I have yet to see an
5 addiction recovery plan that says as step one --

6 MR. AURAND: Would you get closer to the microphone?

7 MR. NELSON: Yeah.

8 I've yet to see addiction recovery plan that says,
9 step one, if your dealer is nasty and he's prone to raise
10 prices, you should start growing your supply at home.

11 It's clear that we need to get on to different
12 sources of renewable energy. On that note, surfers have
13 been tapping into wind and wave energy for decades and
14 we're ready to share them.

15 The Surfrider Foundation has been working nationally
16 with the coalition of industry utilities and other
17 environmental groups and we believe that we can put
18 together a set of principles to make offshore renewable
19 energy practicable, safe, clean and responsible, and
20 generate energy that doesn't contribute to global
21 warming.

22 We're also working on projects locally; and I
23 believe even in Mendocino we can find ways to work
24 together and try our best and strive to see offshore
25 renewable energies work in a way that is environmentally

1 responsible.

2 Last, I know Secretary Salazar asked some questions
3 this morning about innovation and whether or not all of
4 this innovation in clean energy that's going on today is
5 actually going to meet our needs.

6 And I think since we're here in San Francisco,
7 there's a great analogy with our tech community. I don't
8 think any of us, ten years ago, would have predicted that
9 the Internet would change the way all of us view the
10 world.

11 I think we need to put faith in the technology
12 that's out there and put trust in these people that, if
13 we give them the resources, time, and commitment, they'll
14 be able to solve our energy needs. They've proven it
15 over and over again in this country; and I think we can
16 do it.

17 Again, oil is just a step backwards. Last, I'd like
18 to share a personal note. I was privileged to grow up on
19 the beaches and be taught about the oceans, the marine
20 life, and all the beauty and magic of that by my father;
21 and now I have twin boys and I'd like to see them have an
22 ocean that's cleaner than the one I had and my father
23 had; not one that's dirtier.

24 So, you know, it's clear that we need to get off
25 oil, stop drilling on our coasts, restore the moratorium,

1 and get on with the green energy revolution.

2 Thank you.

3 --oOo--

4 (INAUDIBLE): (unintelligible) My name is Ed
5 (inaudible). I live and work in Mendocino County,
6 California.

7 I'm here to speak in opposition to all the proposals
8 to allow further exploration and testing and drilling off
9 the California Coast; particularly, proposals to open the
10 Point Arena Basin for drilling are wrong-headed.

11 An example of putting (inaudible) of human
12 environmental and global concerns. They represent an
13 unsound science. As these hearings are being held here
14 in San Francisco, in my County, you see tsunami warning
15 signs in areas along the coast. Our citizens are being
16 educated to the dangers of tsunamis and, on March 25th,
17 we had our first tsunami warning drill (inaudible) not
18 only exists from the Atlantic across the Pacific. It
19 also exists in the real danger of a local earthquake.
20 You've already heard that the San Andreas Fault extends
21 to the Basin and earthquake (inaudible) could lead to a
22 devastating accident -- only -- not an accident --
23 because your administration can choose to act
24 responsibly.

25 Now, additionally, other U.S. agencies are currently

1 considering our area for development of wave energy
2 apparatus. PG&E alone has applied for a permit to place
3 up to 100 wave machines in our waters.

4 As many have seen in the pictures, that's been
5 circulated, Pomona's wave energy machine is the only
6 viable commercial apparatus which is larger than an old
7 growth Redwood tree.

8 For those of you who have never seen an old growth
9 tree, picture five BART, Metro, or subway cars bobbing up
10 and down on the ocean;

11 Or picture them slamming up and down, the sound
12 heard miles away;

13 Picture the likes of hundreds more of these things
14 in night following a tsunami and earthquake;

15 Consider these machines (inaudible) 500 subway cars
16 thrown up on our shore;

17 (Inaudible) 250 to 300 steel cables, miles long,
18 attached to each of them.

19 If you can picture this, you can picture devastation
20 the like of which many Americans have never seen, and
21 which our mammals and marine life have never experienced.

22 PG&E could choose to place solar panels with
23 (inaudible) equipment on (inaudible) lifetime and
24 appreciation would make it more cost-effective than the
25 type of major construction and development necessary to

1 create a grid system on 90 square miles of ocean floor,
2 subject to earthquakes.

3 Two years ago, the Bush administration through
4 Homeland Security and the Coast Guard conducted
5 anti-terrorists drills in our waters off the City of Fort
6 Bragg. It makes no sense to try to depend on energy
7 production system which is subject to terrorist activity;
8 and, yet, that is what PG&E is proposing.

9 Finally, I want to say that any comprehensive plan
10 must address conservation. That's a cornerstone.

11 Mr. Obama's (inaudible). It's time for Americans to
12 see their consumption as a scourge on the face of the
13 planet. Food, water, natural resources (unintelligible)
14 rapidly destroying all life on our planet. It's time for
15 conversation and preservation for future generations.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. AURAND: Could I have Group 14, please?

18 MS. MUELLER: Hello. My name is Barbara Mueller,
19 and I'm a protector of the ocean; and, for the record, I
20 gave the Secretary a copy of a tape today called "Holes
21 in Heaven". It's regarding Hard Technology, advanced
22 Teslo technology; and I also gave a copy of it to Barbara
23 Boxer.

24 And I want to comment to both the president and to
25 the Department of Interior that George Bush's 2005 energy

1 plan seems to be carrying over into this administration,
2 because Arctic melting may lead to expanded oil drilling.
3 The ice the rate of sea ice lost, we're observing, is
4 much worst than the most pessimistic projections led us
5 to believe.

6 Said somebody from Greenpeace, the first time in
7 recorded history this past summer, the entire northwest
8 passage between the Pacific and the Atlantic oceans was
9 ice-free, according to scientists.

10 Now, it goes on further to say that the U.S.
11 Department of Interior, last month, sold a
12 record-breaking \$2.6 billion in development bids
13 throughout the Pot Cheek just above the Bering Strait.

14 Additional sales are scheduled for 2010 to 2012.
15 Hard Technology, I believe, not increased CO2 level
16 climate change. Global warming is leading to the Arctic
17 ice melt. It is the Hard Technology. It's located in
18 Juneau, Alaska, which is in the Arctic; shoots
19 electromagnetic waves into the ionosphere. This movie,
20 the documentary, identifies that the electricity comes
21 after it heats up the ionosphere. It comes back down the
22 same way it went up and across the horizon, but, the heat
23 that comes down is 100 times greater than the heat in a
24 lightning bolt.

25 And what does that do to the Arctic Ocean? It melts

1 it. So, I have a problem with that.

2 I also have a problem with the Federal Energy
3 Regulatory Commission having -- and the 2005 Energy Act
4 parceling out the ocean here -- and the Federal Energy
5 Regulatory Commission having lease rights that lease out
6 those sections; and the Federal Energy Regulatory
7 Commission being involved and having a document that are
8 not for public disclosure involved with Enron. And I've
9 given those documents to different senators.

10 And, you know, I think if President Obama wants
11 transparency that means the Federal Energy Regulatory
12 Commission and that also means the Minerals Management
13 Service.

14 Okay, and I'm, you know --

15 MR. AURAND: Can I get you to summarize?

16 MS. MUELLER: I would like to see the Hard
17 Technology shut down. The Soviet Union has a similar
18 device called the Woodpecker. It's not as strong as the
19 Hard Technology, but, the Russians sailed up into the
20 Bering Sea, or one of the seas up there, and they noted a
21 huge methane gas bubble --

22 MR. AURAND: Ma'am, I need you to summarize, please.

23 MS. MUELLER: Okay.

24 And the ocean temperature increased by seven
25 degrees. I'm not in favor. I think we need to stay out

1 of the ocean totally --

2 MR. AURAND: Thank you.

3 MS. MUELLER: Land-based renewable energy needs to
4 be done. We're sure about that. We're not sure -- and,
5 in these economic times, we don't need to go on with
6 something we're not sure of. That's like -- okay --
7 sorry.

8 --oOo--

9 MS. SCHECKMAN: Hello. My name the Barbara
10 Scheckman. I'm the Executive Director of Ocean Defenders
11 Alliance, a non-profit group (unintelligible) based in
12 Southern California, mainly, comprised of highly-skilled
13 scuba divers, motorboat mechanics, engineers, and ocean
14 lovers of all types, and trades, to work together in
15 concert to help remove (inaudible) electric fishing gear,
16 mainly, which traps nets and lines that present a
17 long-term hazard -- to bring wildlife of all kinds,
18 including threatened , endangered mammals that the
19 coastal waters -- we're Orange County -- including a
20 recent campaign off Catalina Island, closely followed
21 (inaudible) a dirty job, but, we love it.

22 I'd like to thank Secretary Salazar and the entire
23 Department of the Interior, including this esteemed
24 panel, for this opportunity to speak at this remarkable
25 federal level public hearing; a real treat for those of

1 us that still believe democracy can work, if allowed.

2 I've learned much here today and in many ways I'll
3 be speaking to the rational voices that have already
4 spoken against offshore drilling and exploration;
5 however, I think it's a real shame that we all had to be
6 here today and take valuable time out of our busy
7 schedules on a beautiful day, actually, to end greenhouse
8 gases in the (inaudible) and beg to restore a smart
9 moratorium that was put in place by smart folk a long
10 time ago for very smart reasons.

11 I feel it's obvious, the village has spoken. The
12 risks associated with offshore oil and gas exploration
13 and drilling is not worth the reward; in fact, the deadly
14 pollution risks, alone, are not worth anything.

15 We now live in a time and age that, perhaps, none of
16 us want to live in; a time and age when the entire
17 (unintelligible) unpleasant climate change caused by
18 (inaudible) on this planet; especially, (inaudible)
19 carbon-based fossil fuels.

20 This is the same life-giving climate that allowed
21 the human race to flourish, multiply and take over every
22 corner of the earth.

23 A new (inaudible) is a severe risk of downturn,
24 change, due to the collective and reckless exploration;
25 but, you already know that already.

1 The humongous stores of the (unintelligible) have
2 been something that the national environment has done
3 specifically (inaudible).

4 The question is not, you know, whether \$5.00 a
5 gallon gas is too much for our public to handle, but,
6 whether or not \$10 gas will be something we're lucky
7 enough to see; because that's the real cost when you
8 factor everything in.

9 (Inaudible) in restoring marine habitats to its
10 natural state; therefore, hopefully, (inaudible) fish,
11 mammals and to live and prosper as designed by evolution;
12 despite all the other challenges such as pollution of all
13 kinds, including global warming, man-made noise, and, of
14 course, over-fishing.

15 Ocean Defenders' vital, lifesaving mission is
16 because we can and because we should and because we
17 represent a large group of underwater explorers treasures
18 (inaudible) until the mid 20th Century.

19 Jacques Cousteau showed the world decades ago
20 (unintelligible) plants; and, as you note, life all
21 started in the sea and we cry saltwater tears.

22 We clearly see (unintelligible) underwater kingdom
23 is disappearing and regressing into its slimy beginnings
24 right before our eyes.

25 In short, human life spans, our work will be in vain

1 if oil and gas exploration, especially near the water,
2 overshadows the fragile marine environment with risks of
3 toxic and horrendous --

4 MR. AURAND: Can I get you to summarize?

5 A. Yes, okay.

6 In summary, humans and Americans have been provided
7 wonderful double-edged gifts (unintelligible) ruin the
8 planet or save it for ourselves.

9 As you've heard, time is short and we need to act
10 fast and we can. The D.O.I. can lead the way and do it
11 right here and right now. Reverse bad policy made by the
12 previous public servants who had abused intentions.

13 Thank you for your generous time and consideration.

14 --oOo--

15 INAUDIBLE: Thank you and good afternoon. My name
16 is (inaudible) savetheoceanhealth.org, a San
17 Francisco-based ocean conservation organization.

18 We want to ask again for the moratorium to be
19 reinstated. We are opposed to offshore drilling. We'd
20 also like the Bush administration changes to the
21 Endangered Species Acts, which is also critical to
22 protecting our oceans, to be removed; and, really, we
23 want more reinforcement of those because, if you're going
24 to do offshore renewable energy studies, we also need to
25 protect the wildlife that's there.

1 Our group is very concerned about the impacts of
2 potential renewable energy sources in the oceans;
3 although, we cautiously support doing the kind of
4 research that needs to be done to try to look at those
5 opportunities and finding ways to go.

6 As I said, everybody has articulated great reasons
7 why we should not be drilling and we really hope the
8 Obama administration hears those and acts upon them.

9 I'm really here for selfish reasons:

10 I don't want more pollution in the waves that I
11 surf;

12 I don't want more pollution in the fish that I eat;

13 I don't want more pollution that harms the wildlife
14 that I like to go out and observe, like the birds, marine
15 mammals, and sea creatures that are off our coast here.

16 So, I really implore the Department of the Interior
17 and the Obama administration to do the right thing by our
18 oceans and make sure that they're protected for our
19 children and even the children of the oil executives who
20 are here -- for very selfish reasons themselves, but,
21 very different from the ones that brought me here today.

22 We live just west of an area called Altamont where
23 there are wind farms that have had a very negative impact
24 on birds' life; and it's a good reason for us to think
25 very carefully and cautiously about how we do renewable

1 energy in the oceans. We don't need an Altamont in the
2 oceans that kills birds by the thousands or marine
3 mammals or other sea life, so, it's very important to
4 take that into consideration.

5 We hope the Obama administration will think very
6 carefully and use the need for process very wisely; to
7 use science, not economics, to be the deciding factor in
8 how we develop this.

9 And, finally and most importantly, we want
10 conservation of energy to be the cornerstone of the
11 policy. We want to find ways to reduce the consumption
12 of energy; not try to find ways to keep feeding our bad
13 habits.

14 So, we also hope the Obama administration will
15 carefully look at alternatives that will support the
16 economy of the United States by reducing our impact and
17 energy needs overall.

18 And thank you for this opportunity to speak today.

19 --oOo--

20 MS. JONES: Good afternoon. My name is Marcella
21 Jones and I'm here representing Wild Coast. We're a
22 non-profit environmental (unintelligible).

23 Throughout the day, you've heard a little bit about
24 area-based management of marine protected areas --
25 sanctuaries -- and other (inaudible) off our coast. I'll

1 be very brief, but, I'd like to give you a little bit
2 more details on why you should restore the moratorium in
3 relation to that.

4 I'm very proud to be a part of the Marine Reduction
5 Life, which is marine protected areas off the coast of
6 Southern California. As part of this group, we are
7 interested in advising the State of California with the
8 location and sizing, spacing of these areas; and one of
9 our biggest considerations is enforceability.

10 Now, usually enforceability concerns are
11 misinformation, lack of science; you know, not enough
12 warnings, stuff like that.

13 Well, let me tell you something: Not all the
14 warnings in the world and all the science, anything, all
15 the information out there, could protect these reserves
16 from the oil spill accident. All must be -- all the work
17 that's already been done, the results that are coming
18 through here -- not just here, but all over our coast --
19 would be completely and utterly, you know, thrown down
20 the drain due to an accidental mistake.

21 So, please, restore the moratorium; just not on our
22 coast. Throughout the -- you know, these reserves don't
23 stand a chance against accidents like this.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. AURAND: Okay. We need Group 15.

1 And, while they're on their way up, we slipped up a
2 little bit there with time. It offends my midwestern
3 upbringing to talk over someone. It just really bothers
4 me. So, as much as you can, try to stick to the timer
5 light, please.

6 We only have one 15?

7 Okay, go ahead.

8 MS. DRAGON: Good afternoon. My name is Jackie
9 Dragon and I thank you for coming to hear from us. And I
10 bring my words to you not only for myself but from
11 Pacific Environment.

12 Ocean noise pollution has been called the death of
13 1,000 cuts. Each sound on its own may be not a matter of
14 critical concern; but, taken together, when you consider
15 the noise from shipping traffic, seismic surveys, and
16 military activity, alone, they have totally changed the
17 ocean environment that we know of in the last 50 years.

18 Seismic testing, as you know, involves ships towing
19 a rays of air guns that repetitively blast air at the
20 seafloor every 10 to 20 seconds.

21 For instance, one study in the mid-Atlantic taken --
22 monitoring ambient noise levels -- recorded near
23 continuous noise from seismic surveys occurring 3,000
24 kilometers away or more during the entire summer when the
25 survey was done.

1 The concern about ocean noise is that all those
2 creatures that live in the ocean and are part of an
3 ecosystem that also contributes to the very air that we
4 breathe everywhere in the country.

5 They are acoustic beings;

6 They live in a darkened world where they need to
7 communicate;

8 They need to migrate;

9 They need to find mates;

10 They need to find food;

11 And they need to know when prey is in their midst.

12 Their sounds and ability to communicate are masked
13 by ocean noise pollution.

14 So, I hope that you will seriously consider that as
15 you who move forward. A few days ago, President Obama
16 said in a speech:

17 Governments should practice the same principles as
18 doctors: First, do no harm.

19 I could not agree more with our president who, I'm
20 pretty sure, is your boss. If we have the means and the
21 know-how to pursue clean, safe energy -- for instance,
22 urban solar -- why on earth -- this earth that we've been
23 learning about -- that we are now letting our scientists
24 speak out loud about -- would we continue a practice that
25 puts more C02 into our atmosphere? Why would we do that?

1 I personally don't understand.

2 I certainly don't think it's worth money because,
3 first, we should do no harm. I hope that you will
4 seriously consider the coast of California and all of its
5 value, Alaska, and the Arctic. Please do not drill.
6 California constituents are poised and ready to lead us
7 forward to clean safe energy now. I implore you to move
8 us forward and leave drilling behind.

9 MR. AURAND: Can I have Group 16, please?

10 Anyone still here with a 16?

11 MR. CORTIN: My name the Bill Cortin. I'm Chairman
12 of the California Coastal Alliance.

13 36 years ago, California Coastal Alliance put the
14 initiative on the ballot to create the California Coastal
15 Commission because the people of California value, very
16 highly, their coastline. It's the California that's not
17 enough, of course, for Washington to say, we won't drill;
18 but, you have a constituency that is very much here in
19 California, very much against drilling off the California
20 coast.

21 Significantly, that was the first Coastal Commission
22 in the nation;

23 And, significantly, California was first to address
24 global warming: AB32, AB811, SB375 are all instruments
25 to do something about global warming.

1 Some of the areas that are addressed in your report,
2 a few days ago, riding on a streetcar in town, I heard
3 some guys in the seat ahead of me say, you know, I really
4 like nature, but, I just can't be out there in it.

5 The people who live on the north coast of California
6 are out there in. It you heard a lot of people speak
7 today who are residents of the north coast. I know a lot
8 of these people from having lived there, from having
9 spoken with them at other meetings a couple of weeks ago
10 in Ukiah we spoke with. The Navy came out to talk about
11 expanding their training area in the Pacific Ocean here.
12 The American Recovery -- whatever the stimulus bill is --
13 has spending in it for the Department of Defense,
14 including funding for the United States Navy to explore
15 wave energy. Google has filed a patent to use the
16 (inaudible) -- the picture was generated around earlier
17 to provide wave energy to floating islands where computer
18 banks will be stored, because we're getting all this data
19 and we've got to have someplace to keep it. It takes a
20 lot of cool water to keep the computers running.

21 What I'm trying to say, not too articulately, is
22 that there are a lot of unintended consequences of the
23 race towards technology.

24 The people who live on the north coast, while
25 they're not (inaudible) they are not necessarily on the

1 technological edge of things in the United States or in
2 the world.

3 These are people who draw their living and their
4 livelihood from the ocean. If you could take a can
5 opener and peel back the lid of the ocean and look what
6 we have already done in our lifetimes and (inaudible) the
7 people with the data to show you more of what we know
8 right now about what is underneath the surface.

9 The money that came from the spending for Homeland
10 Security in the last administration, those funds were put
11 to work in terms of technology that would do, among other
12 things, provide security, but also enable people to
13 measure the waves for energy and so forth.

14 The policies of the last administration, which
15 were -- part of the plan was for oil and it was a
16 pro-war, pro-oil administration that led to the
17 science -- to the data -- that this plan is based on; and
18 I rejected the rush to open up the oceans for this
19 purpose based on policies of the last administration.

20 We in Northern California have great hope that the
21 Obama administration will do as we believed when we voted
22 last year, and we ask that the Minerals Management
23 Service and the Department of Interior do everything in
24 its power to go slowly, use good science, consider
25 unintended consequences, and to reinstate the moratoria

1 for offshore drilling on the Northern California coast.

2 Thank you, very much.

3 MR. AURAND: Could I have number 17?

4 Anyone with number 17?

5 MR. STEWART: All right, well, I'll to try stand up
6 for all the 17's here.

7 First of all, I just want to say hello, thanks for
8 your time today. It's been a long day. I've been here
9 since 8:00 a.m. this morning.

10 MR. AURAND: Your name, sir?

11 MR. STEWART: I was going to say thank you first,
12 but -- Hi. My name is Michael Stewart and I'm a San
13 Francisco resident. I'm also a volunteer member of the
14 San Francisco chapter of the Surfrider Foundation. And,
15 like I said, it's been a long day, so, I'll try and keep
16 it short and sweet.

17 We've heard a lot of facts and figures today that
18 have been tossed around and, instead of, doing all that,
19 I've just got, basically, three quick ones that I'd like
20 to make about the wisdom of planning to drill for more
21 oiled and gas on the OCS.

22 First of all, number one, economics. I'm in a small
23 start-up company. We're looking for venture capital, so,
24 I know a lot about business plans and pitching them. And
25 if you look at the plan to drill for oil and gas as a

1 business plan, it fails. It would get thrown out for one
2 simple reason: This plan simply does not add up or
3 deliver on the promise of energy independence. The
4 numbers that I will toss out were the ones given me by
5 the Department of the Interior. It states that the U.S.
6 sits on about three percent of the world's oil, but we
7 use about 25 of the world's supply. There's no way to
8 square that. What this means is that, simply put,
9 there's no possible way to drill ourselves into energy
10 independence. We just can't do it. I mean, you know,
11 the Obama administration has brought science back into
12 the (inaudible. I think it's time to bring math back
13 into it.

14 Number two, so, basically, on that note, this whole
15 plan should be blown off in the first place; but, if that
16 weren't enough, we have two other big ones:

17 One is the climate and you know (unintelligible)
18 part of what I do is actually work in climate change, so
19 I know a little bit about this, but -- basically, climate
20 change is one of the biggest challenges to our economy
21 and our security. It can only be solved by reducing --
22 by reducing the amount of carbon that's actually being
23 put out; not by drilling for more, extracting it from
24 what's already being stored and putting it into the
25 atmosphere. There's only one way to make it work. We

1 have to go backwards.

2 Three, pollution -- and here's where -- I got 30
3 seconds left, so, I'll hit this (inaudible) real quick.

4 Just kind of quick question:

5 Has anyone else here ever cleaned up after an oil
6 spill?

7 Anybody else?

8 Right?

9 Worst thing you could ever possibly spend a weekend
10 doing. Let me tell you, it's something.

11 Hair matted;

12 Bunny suit on;

13 You're dipping into the waves;

14 You can't believe as you're doing it why you never
15 designed a system that could lead to the end result.

16 Finally, the last -- so, the San Francisco Surfrider
17 chapter -- that's what we're here for -- is this the only
18 sustainable path forward is three things:

19 Conservation, number one;

20 Energy efficiency, number two;

21 And, finally, three non-carbonated, renewable
22 energy.

23 That's the only path forward.

24 Thank you, very much.

25 MR. AURAND: Number 18?

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MR. COLLINS: I'm a short one, so they have to adjust the mic'.

To the surrogates for the Secretary of the Interior, ladies and gentlemen, thank you. It's been a long day. My name is Arthur Collins. I am from Sacramento, and a retired aerospace engineer, and I speak for my family only.

Look around you, at our nation. For years and decades, we have split into warring advocacy groups, as we've seen today:

- For and against the environment;
- For and against renewable energy technologies;
- For and against nuclear power;
- For and against offshore oil.

As a consequence, there is a gridlock and paralysis in our energy policy. As our energy unsolved problems grow bigger, our dependence on Middle Eastern oil only increases. We currently import 65 percent of our oil at approximately \$900 billion a year. In ten years, we will import 75 percent of our oil, requiring billions more.

- Again, I say, look around you.
- Look at the sorry state of our economy;
- Look at our increasing unemployment;
- Look at the export of jobs and energies and

1 technologies;

2 Most of all, look at our resource wars, where our
3 treasures and the blood, sweat and tears of our young men
4 and women and their grieving families pay for yet more
5 imported oil.

6 Concerned that their oil will eventually run out,
7 Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and the Gulf Emirates, i.e.,
8 the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council, are developing a
9 nuclear industry, nuclear reactor construction, advanced
10 technology reactors due by the fourth quarter of 2009;
11 and I have references here for that. They plan to build
12 these reactors for their own energy and water
13 desalinization and manufacture fossil fuels by extracting
14 CO2 from the atmosphere and then sell them to us. So,
15 the Saudi's will solve our energy problem and they'll
16 solve our environmental problems.

17 However, in transitioning to that new world state
18 where they become dominant, we need to drill for offshore
19 oil now, so our economy will not be strangled when the
20 world economy recovers and oil prices, therefore, result
21 in a rise.

22 However, we must solve four problems for our economy
23 to recover, and our oil to flow:

24 One, shorten the current lease permitting cycle from
25 five to two years;

1 On the issue of no geopolitics, part of the cost of
2 oil, as the previous speaker mentioned, are the hundreds
3 of billions of dollars spent every single year and the
4 countless lives lost fighting wars in Iraq and
5 Afghanistan; and then in the Persian Gulf in the early
6 '90's. The last couple of major wars the U.S. has been
7 involved in have been over oil. When my grandfather was
8 alive, he used to tell me, with great pride and dignity,
9 how he served in World War II, fighting for democracy and
10 freedom in the world. I speak to friends who are Navy
11 Seals and Marines, now, who are jaded because they know
12 that all they are fighting for is capitalism, when it
13 comes down to it.

14 A friendly resource that's not indicative of the
15 (inaudible) but there are people out there that feel that
16 way, that we're a lost cause (inaudible) made an
17 observation of America and that was this:

18 There is central conflict that he spoke of and that
19 central conflict was man controlling nature. We're at a
20 critical point right now and you, your staff, and your
21 president, are at a critical point where we can redefine
22 that and enter an era where we no longer try to control
23 nature; but, man works with nature.

24 My third potential action (inaudible) in California.
25 You may be aware. We have a Clean Water and Drinking

1 Water State Revolving Fund that provides low-interest
2 loans for municipal water districts to develop and
3 involve their drinking water systems; and then other
4 clean water related systems.

5 I would suggest that we might look at or you may
6 look at possibility of alternative energy over renewable
7 energy revolving fund, provide the same type of loans and
8 loan structure to start-up companies being (inaudible).
9 Environmental activities, I'm involved in, I know it will
10 be beneficial for us with one of the companies I'm
11 working with right now to have access to those types of
12 funds to build a prototype. And I think it would be a
13 great benefit for the industries if they had the same
14 access.

15 So, thank you, again, for your time, and, have a
16 great evening.

17 MR. AURAND: Can I have number 19?

18 MR. CADWALDER: Good evening.

19 My name is Craig Cadwalder. I'm a resident of
20 Manhattan Beach in Los Angeles County, and I come here
21 today to speak as a citizen of the state.

22 And, although, I am the chairperson the South Bay
23 chapter of the Surfrider Foundation, I'm speaking on my
24 own behalf. I think you've heard the Surfrider position
25 is fairly.

1 Clear things that impress me:

2 The 180 day extension of public testimony; that's
3 smart government.

4 I went to the Department of Interior website the
5 other day and saw a video of Secretary Salazar and part
6 of which he held up foam coreboards with a map of
7 Southern California, and it showed areas where there were
8 possibilities of alternative energy.

9 Then he showed -- took away things that were
10 protected areas, took away where there was endangered
11 species, and said, this is what we have to work with.

12 That is intelligent government; and that is what I
13 think our future is all about with President Obama's
14 election. It was like a wonderful breath of fresh air,
15 and it's a new possibility for us.

16 California has been long known to be a source of
17 innovation. People here accept change a little more than
18 other parts of the country.

19 I've lived in all parts of the country:

20 In the east;

21 In the midwest;

22 Up here;

23 And this is paradise, as far as I'm concerned. I've
24 been here a long time and I don't intend to ever leave.

25 Innovations like the I-Phone, who would have guessed

1 a short time ago that this sort of thing would change a
2 market that quickly?

3 So, it's looking at a new way of thinking. It's
4 taking advantage of technologies. It's not going the
5 same old way where things haven't been working. We've
6 got problems with global warming. We've got problems
7 with pollution. Why continue down the same road? We
8 need to look at alternatives in a balanced way.

9 I am all for growth, but, not at the expense of the
10 environment. There's no reason why our way of life
11 should be tapped off for anything; but, we should do
12 things, intelligently, just like the new administration
13 is, in my opinion.

14 We've seen things like the past in Louisiana where
15 abuses happened. We used to have the public
16 transportation system; no more. Let's not do that again.
17 I think a lot of jobs could come from innovation and
18 alternate energy. I'm a business consultant and web
19 developer. I deal with small to mid-sized businesses and
20 we need the innovation.

21 Thank you for listening to us.

22 --oOo--

23 MR. HEIGHT: Hello. My name is Jack Height and I'm
24 with Wilderness Planners. We're based in Southern
25 California. We do work in the local government, as well

1 as regional government, to come up with solutions that
2 better planning, smarter planning; and the whole goal is
3 to protect our wilderness resources, as well as open
4 spaces and wild places, basically.

5 I went undergraduate at U.C. Santa Barbara, studying
6 environmental studies, and I had the experience of
7 surfing in the black waves as they come down on you. I
8 know what it's like to be in the middle of that. I know
9 what people were talking about, that's a reason for
10 actually drilling. I would say that's not true at all.
11 The offshore drilling does nothing to reduce seeps. They
12 just keep going; and it is a natural process and it does
13 not kill birds the way it was stated.

14 But, I think what I liked, that I've heard here, is
15 there seems to be an interest in leadership on this issue
16 of the Interior Department as well as USGS and MMS to
17 come up with regulating this drilling. I think that
18 considering we only -- we did not see any political
19 support today for keeping -- I mean, all of the
20 politicians who showed up today seemed to support the
21 moratorium being reinstated.

22 And I would say that that's what needs to happen.
23 First of all, for this -- for this government to lead for
24 the 21st century, we need to not be looking backwards and
25 not be investing our funds in this sort of thinking that

1 we know -- we know -- it's damaging to the environment on
2 the front end and on the back end and trying to approve
3 these projects.

4 We saw in Santa Barbara recently a proposal to, you
5 know, environmentalists to work with oil companies. The
6 reason it didn't work is because they couldn't guarantee
7 the end dates. They could never guarantee that those
8 wells would be taken out once they're put in until all of
9 that oil is gone; so, it didn't work.

10 What will work is thinking forward; not wasting
11 money, time, effort, on a solution that is proven to be
12 warming the environment all across the board, as well
13 as -- you know, there's so much action against it here, I
14 think that we need to be looking at renewables -- but, I
15 think it's a very risky process here when you're talking
16 offshore.

17 So, I just want to thank you for holding these
18 hearings and listening to my comments and thank you.

19 MR. AURAND: Number 20?

20 MR. ROSE: Hi. My name is Darren Rose and I live
21 here in San Francisco and, actually, the coast right
22 there at Ocean Beach; and I'm also with Surfrider
23 Foundation.

24 In November of '07, we had an oil spill that we
25 leaked out about 58,000 gallons of bunker fuel oil, and

1 we're the group responsible for doing the cleanup. We're
2 very innovative, so, we used hairnets to pick up the oil.
3 We spent three days -- we spent three days -- with 750
4 people. We picked up 1.5 tons of oil, just off of Ocean
5 Beach alone. The ocean here, the ocean in the world,
6 cannot afford another pollution -- another pollution
7 catastrophe -- such as this oil spill that struck us back
8 in November.

9 We heard earlier about how the gas crisis put
10 somebody out of their local business, ran their prices up
11 so high, and, eventually, pushed them out. We witness
12 businesses, local industries, go under because of the
13 result of the oil spill; so, that's another side of the
14 story.

15 The gas prices are the highest in San Francisco. We
16 definitely know the pinch of the hike. We're willing to
17 seek alternative methods to finding (inaudible). We
18 strongly oppose offshore drilling or any kind of energy
19 out of the ocean. Please enable this country to move to
20 in a progressive, innovative direction in the development
21 of alternative resources.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. HARRISON: Good afternoon.

24 My name the Leticia Harrison and I'm with the
25 American Petroleum Institute. We represent nearly 400

1 members who are involved in all aspects of the oil and
2 gas industry.

3 And API believes that it is very important for us to
4 maintain access to all offshore oil and natural gas that
5 is available in our Outer Continental Shelf.

6 API also believes that it's important for us to
7 utilize all forms of energy development that we can. e.

8 That includes renewables;

9 That includes alternatives;

10 That includes yet-to-be-discovered,
11 yet-to-be-invented technologies.

12 But, until we get there, we believe that it is
13 important for us to use all the oil and natural gas that
14 we have available to us as a bridge to the future.

15 It is very important that, if this country is going
16 to reduce its dependence on foreign oil and maintain
17 energy security, that we have access to and utilize all
18 forms of energy that we have currently, including oil and
19 natural gas, as well as investing in future technology.

20 Thank you.

21 MR. AURAND: At this time, we don't have a 21.

22 At this time, I'd like to ask if there's anybody in
23 the room now who missed their group earlier during the
24 day.

25 Is there anybody who came and got here after the

1 numbers were unavailable who wishes to make a statement?

2 And that would, I guess, now, include you.

3 Okay, what we did in Anchorage, if you could just
4 sit there and put up your hand -- sir, why don't you go
5 first?

6 The only thing I would ask you is, did you all sign
7 a registration form?

8 Okay, so, just state your name, for the record.

9 MOKAI: Hi. My name is Mokai. I'm an artist, so I
10 only have one name.

11 I've been an activist -- as of today, I will have
12 spoken at Department of Interior hearings under six
13 presidents, and I've been involved in a number of
14 environmental issues.

15 I just want to caution the Department of Interior on
16 how they're proceeding. Ten years ago, under the Clinton
17 administration, I was involved in trying to advise you
18 guys, or advise the then-department, not to trust the
19 Exxon Corporation with their Sustaining Yield Plan in the
20 purchase of the Headwaters Forest.

21 As a result is that later this month the head of
22 Maxim Corporation will go on trial for fraud, charged
23 with fraud in the creation of that Sustained Yield Plan.

24 So, the point that I'm making is:

25 Don't trust the studies that you have before you;

1 Don't trust studies that are were created before the
2 water shed moments we're having right now where people
3 are beginning to understand the effects of climate
4 change;

5 Beginning to understand that we need to move rapidly
6 away from petroleum-based economy and petroleum-based
7 energy plan.

8 I'll just ask you once again. Please protect our
9 coasts. Restore the moratorium and do not go down the
10 road of continuing to try to, basically, kowtow to the
11 (inaudible) that are pushing this process forward.

12 Do whatever you can to move us as quickly as
13 possible towards a green energy policy. You've heard
14 today from people involved in alternative energy and
15 people who are looking towards the future. These are
16 the people that are going to create the future that we
17 need. Let's move past the old ways, the old
18 technologies, and the old lifestyles which are destroying
19 the planet.

20 Thanks, very much.

21 MS. DiPOLO: Hi. My name the Stacey DiPolo.

22 I'm a resident here in San Francisco;

23 A taxpayer;

24 And small business owner;

25 And I will spare you a long testimony here;

1 But, I first of all want to thank you for inviting
2 us to speak and urge you to please do something to stop
3 this nonsense with offshore oil drilling.

4 The people of California have been opposed to this
5 for a long time. I'm here in support of the polar bears.
6 Oil drilling anywhere off the coast of the United States
7 will generate global warming pollution from inevitable
8 burning of oil for energy. Global warming is the leading
9 threats to the polar bear. In the government's own
10 studies predict that by mid-century two-thirds of the
11 world's polar bears will be gone; and that includes all
12 of the polar bears in the United States. If polar bears
13 are to survive, we need clean energy with the clean
14 energy future, in addition to the moratorium on offshore
15 oil.

16 It's Interior Secretary Ken Salazar's responsibility
17 to rescind the Bush administration's illegal Endangered
18 Species Act Regulations. Congress has given the
19 Secretary a precious 60-day window of opportunity, which
20 expires May 9th, to rescind the Bush regulations with the
21 stroke of a pen. These extinction regulations are among
22 the most damaging and illogical of Bush's environmental
23 attacks at eliminating the consideration of global
24 warming pollution from the Endangered Species Act review.

25 Please, use your power. We voted for change. We

1 still have hope. We're counting on you.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. KROEGER: I will be brief. My name is Chris
4 Kroeger. I live in Napa; a long ways from the coast.

5 I just want to talk to your survey. I think it's
6 very good and I appreciate -- I think we all
7 appreciate -- the desire to look at alternative energy
8 sources, specifically, your renewable energy sources such
9 as wave action energy and wind.

10 And one thing I hope the survey will do more
11 research into is the different kinds of wind turbines
12 that are available.

13 And one of the things that we're doing in Napa is
14 we're looking at vertical wind -- vertical access wind
15 turbines. And most of the time people are looking at
16 horizontal wind access. And we're looking at some --
17 I'll just leave something, if I may -- just a picture of
18 something we're doing ourselves, that we're trying to put
19 vertical wind turbines on bridges in places where there's
20 a lot of wind. We think that's going to be a valuable
21 future; so, I'll leave that here.

22 MR. AURAND: Again, I would ask that, if you are all
23 registered -- okay -- just state your name.

24 --oOo--

25 (INAUDIBLE): Hi. I'm (inaudible). I'm a public

1 high school chemistry teacher in San Francisco. Some of
2 my students just came. I teach my students how chemistry
3 works and affects their lives; and I've been doing that
4 for about 15 years now. Sorry.

5 I live on the Great Highway. That's also the last
6 road on the continent in this area. Out my front window,
7 I can see the dunes. 20 years ago, the Exxon Valdez
8 killed Prince William Sound. It was a very alive, rich
9 environment and it's dead today, still. If you pick up a
10 rock, you find oil. The fish are gone. The animals are
11 gone. The ecosystem is dead, once killed in finite
12 consequences.

13 My students face an uncertain and somewhat horrific
14 future due to a large number of bad and greedy decisions
15 made over a long long period of time. We are now in the
16 middle of the 6th greatest extinction in this planet,
17 where we're looking at 90 percent or more of old species
18 gone within my lifetime -- not theirs -- mine -- okay?

19 And we cannot blame business as usual;

20 We cannot remain a carbon exploitative species or we
21 absolutely will not survive; and we will take 90 percent
22 of all life on this planet down with us.

23 Why aren't we having hearings on what oil-based
24 technologies we will eliminate?

25 Why are we having to fight, yet, again, to save a

1 bare minimum, to protect a little bit left, somewhat
2 untouched, while we keep having to fight off Rear Guard
3 actions, fighting the same battle over and over. The
4 planet is burning around us.

5 Thanks.

6 --oOo--

7 MS. NAGLE: Hello. My name the Susan Nagle and I'm
8 an oil addict and I need some help; and I'm asking if
9 you'll just please cut me off. Just -- I'll go cold
10 turkey. I've done periods of time without oil and it's
11 uncomfortable, at first, but, you know, it felt really
12 good.

13 And so I'm asking that all of us can give up our oil
14 addiction; and one way to do that is to stop using it and
15 find new ways -- and, if I had more money, I would have a
16 hybrid car or I would be growing biodiesel crops or doing
17 something more, but -- I feel impoverished by my poverty,
18 and so I've been educating myself. And there are many
19 ways to produce fuels.

20 And if you read "Alcohol Can Be A Gas" by David
21 Bloom, he tells you all kinds of incredible ways besides
22 corn and monocropping and oil drilling. He also talks
23 about Brazil who was 90 percent oil-free for many years
24 running on alcohol gas; and so they have shown us that it
25 can be done.

1 period, our own.

2 And it gives me great pleasure to say this, but,
3 Former President Bush said himself that we're a country
4 that's addicted to oil; and I can't think of any
5 situation in which an addiction would be involved by
6 giving more of the substance that you're addicted to.

7 I think we need to cut back on that substance.
8 We're so addicted to oil, ourselves, we need to get off
9 it and find other ways to sustain our energy needs.

10 I mean, we are the most innovative, I think, and
11 powerful nation on the face of this planet. I don't
12 think there's anything that we can't do, and no obstacle
13 that we can't overcome. And I just don't see that
14 turning back and going into more of this substance, this
15 oil that's got in us into the problems that we're in
16 right now, how that's going to help us.

17 So, I am definitely, absolutely opposed to drilling
18 for anymore oil on the OCS or anywhere else. I think
19 that we need to find other solutions for the situation we
20 find ourselves in.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. AURAND: Okay, it's 6 o'clock, and the schedule
23 calls for a one-hour break for dinner.

24 I, honestly, can't tell you what you will find if
25 you hang around and come back at 7:00. There could well

1 be some people who show up to make comments. We'll
2 certainly wait for them.

3 But, if you choose not to do, so, I want to thank
4 you for your very positive contributions to the evening.
5 You've been a great crowd to work with. We're adjourned
6 until 7:00.

7 (Recess taken)

8 MR. AURAND: Okay, it's 7:00, and I'm going to
9 reconvene the meeting to comment on the Five-year Oil Gas
10 Leasing Plan and Comprehensive Energy Efficiency Plan.

11 The first thing I want to do is just run through the
12 few rules that are still relevant, if you weren't here
13 this morning.

14 The one that is the most relevant is, despite the
15 fact that it's late and there aren't very many people
16 here, you're still limited to three minutes; and that's
17 not because I'm just perverse. It's because we really
18 have to be fair to all the people who spoke before; and
19 they were only given three minutes, so, we have to apply
20 the same standard to everybody.

21 So, with that, the first order of business, is there
22 anyone who had a speaker number from this morning who
23 didn't get to speak?

24 MR. COPE: Yes, sir.

25 MR. AURAND: Okay, go ahead.

1 by implication.

2 The gigawatts availability from wind in California
3 are nearly 400 gigawatts and now 60 (inaudible) the wave
4 energy potential is awesome here; and the ocean current
5 potential should be exploited; and that is the transition
6 we better make as a national society.

7 Why should we even pull petroleum that took mother
8 nature hundreds of millions of years to put in the ground
9 and off the shore and throw it back in the air to add to
10 the global pollution proliferation?

11 I do not trust the government. I've been there.
12 I've seen it at the levels I've mentioned; and neither
13 should anyone else.

14 And the Obama administration and if Ken Salazar was
15 here, I would make clear to him he has an opportunity --
16 he has an opportunity to point out denial of science, the
17 corruption, the sellout of the Department of Interior's
18 mission and others, and other agencies grotesque,
19 inappropriate by Bush and Cheney; and to point out -- and
20 that's where you should start.

21 Finish with an Inspector General Inspection Report
22 of how the Department of the Interior has been
23 manipulated and the national interest has been
24 disregarded to the corrupt greed of Bush, Cheney, and
25 their minions on Capitol Hill; and those assist them in

1 the coal and oil industry and hold up instead.

2 How you're going to confront that, disclose it,
3 expose it, and point out how you've got a national energy
4 proposal and plan that will mitigate it and will be
5 honest with the public and honest with the environment or
6 don't bother having meetings like this.

7 MR. AURAND: Ma'am, did you have a card from this
8 morning?

9 MS. RICHARD: No.

10 MR. AURAND: Okay, hang on, just a second.

11 Is there anyone else who was here this morning, that
12 had a speaker card, and did not get a chance to speak?

13 Only thing I would ask is, did you register?

14 MS. RICHARD: Yes.

15 MR. AURAND: Okay, just state your name and
16 organization, if any.

17 MS. RICHARD: Cheryl Richard. I'm a native-native
18 Native American and San Franciscan.

19 Someday in the not too distant future, we will be
20 drinking ocean water, desalinated, and, gotta tell you,
21 folks, we need to clean up our oceans and stop
22 interfering with them in destructive ways.

23 I just came from Australia where they're drinking
24 desalinated ocean water; or, if they're lucky, they're
25 drinking reclaimed sewage that's cleaner than ocean

1 water.

2 And I met a young man, a young pharmacist, who has
3 Morgellons Disease, the nanotech disease. San Francisco
4 Bay area is one of the epicenters for Morgellons Disease,
5 as is Los Angeles County.

6 The biosynthetic fibers and genetically engineered
7 parasites that are growing through people's bodies and
8 emerging through their skin, contact with the shed
9 fibers, spreads the disease; pandemic potential.

10 Morgellons Disease might be spread through water;

11 It might be spread through insect bites;

12 It might be spread through contact with soil;

13 It might be spread through genetically engineered
14 pests on food crops and cotton crops.

15 If we're going to be drinking ocean water in the
16 future, we need to think about Morgellons Disease. If
17 we're drinking water coming from our reservoirs, we need
18 to think about Morgellons Disease.

19 There is this spraying of chemical trails going on
20 currently. Scientists have found kelp trail chafe
21 contains the same stuff that is Morgellons Disease that
22 is growing in people's bodies.

23 I met a young man in Australia -- they're drinking,
24 again, reclaimed ocean water. He had Morgellons Disease.
25 Biosynthetic fibers had grown all around the base of his

1 spine, immobilizing him. Doctors, surgeons, had to cut
2 out all of the tissue around the base of his spine to
3 remove the fibers so that he could continue to function.

4 Okay, offshore drilling? That is just some dinosaur
5 thinking. We need to be focusing our energy and efforts
6 and resources on cleaning up the mess; nanotech and
7 biotech are going on. A huge problem. Stop them now.

8 MR. AURAND: Are there others who wish to speak?

9 --oOo--

10 MR. COLLINS: My name is Bill Collins.

11 I first would like to thank you all for hanging in
12 there at this late hour. You seem attentive and that's
13 nothing to take for granted.

14 Petroleum is the energy source of the prior century.
15 We need to be forward looking. If petroleum products
16 were free and limitless, I would still say, we need to
17 phase that out. It's polluting; it's contributing to
18 climate change; and the fact that that seems somewhat
19 gradual, it shouldn't allow us to think that our future
20 has to be the same as our past.

21 And a lot of us voted for the Obama administration
22 because he promised change. Remember, the guy who
23 advocated offshore oil drilling is not in the White
24 House. He got walloped in the election.

25 So, as somebody who has done a lot of ocean swims

1 off our coast from San Francisco to San Diego, with
2 thousands of other Californians, and someone who has
3 cleaned up oil-soaked birds from oil spills at 2 o'clock
4 in the morning, and tried to wipe off the oil and
5 force-feed the birds, and then pick up the dead bodies
6 and throw them in a pile, with all the other dead mirours
7 and shore birds, we don't need more oil we'll keep
8 wasting.

9 We have the highest per capita energy consumption of
10 any society in history. That is not sustainable in the
11 long run, and we all know it. So, let's stop looking to
12 the past through the rear view mirror and figure out what
13 our energy solutions are because it's not about
14 petroleum. Eventually, it's limited and the price to our
15 environment and to our health is too high. Thank you.

16 MR. AURAND: Okay, again, as you're coming in, if
17 you wish to speak, we'll certainly recognize you; but,
18 just make sure you all are registered at the counter so
19 we know who is speaking.

20 Go ahead, sir.

21 --oOo--

22 MR. SUPKER: My name is David Supker and I represent
23 myself. I just wanted to point out that when gas was
24 over four dollars a gallon, people did cut back; and, if
25 we had a decent tax on oil, people would drive less.

1 And I think, for the sake of our environment, we
2 really need to be doing more conservation to encourage
3 people to use less oil; and we shouldn't risk our your
4 oceans by engaging in offshore oil drilling.

5 MR. AURAND: Are there any --

6 --oOo--

7 MR. NGUYEN: My name is Alex Nguyen. I'm high a
8 school student here in San Francisco. I do not know much
9 about the statistics of oil and offshore drilling, but, I
10 do know that releasing anything into our water, that does
11 not belong there, is horribly wrong.

12 As a youth who's lived here all my life, I do not
13 want to see my already-oil-contaminated bay get any
14 worse. Only today, my friend, Reese, told me that he
15 once jumped into the bay water, unaware that there had
16 been a recent oil spill. He walked out, maybe ten
17 minutes later, with fine sand stuck to his body; but, he
18 could not wash it off his body for weeks. If that can
19 happen to a person just swimming for a couple minutes,
20 just imagine what effects can be seen in the water's
21 inhabitants.

22 Thank you very much.

23 MR. AURAND: You guys all registered? Right?

24 MS. LI: Yes.

25 MR. AURAND: Okay.

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--oOo--

MS. LI: Hi. My name is Mai Li and I don't want to grow up. I mean, I feel grown up most of the time, but -- and I feel like I can understand most of the things grownups do, but, sometimes, I don't.

I don't get that if oil and gas is so bad for the environment and for us, then, why don't we just stop using it?

There are so many other ways to get energy, then, why pick -- do this?

We really even want to decimate this world even more. There are oil spills and dioxin poisons. The slow process of making our ocean acidic and one out of one hundred children born in my generation made autistic by mercury poisoning.

It is in your power to stop some of the problems in our world today. And please don't waste our beautiful bay and our beautiful world on such short-sighted solutions that just add to the problem.

Thank you.

MR. AURAND: Are there any other people who wish to comment?

--oOo--

MS. STASS: Hi. My name is Stacey Stass. I'm representing myself.

1 A little bit of background about me is I, basically,
2 grew up in South Louisiana and I've seen that the oil and
3 gas companies and their, you know, refineries are not
4 good corporate citizens. They do not seem to care about
5 the public health impacts and the impacts to the natural
6 environment that their industry produces.

7 And I moved to California about eight months ago, in
8 large part to get away from that, after Katrina; and you
9 know how politics and the agencies are supposed to be
10 representing the public, just seem to turn a blind eye to
11 what's really going on, especially when money is
12 involved.

13 And I really fell in love with the Northern
14 California coast, a couple years ago, coming out here to
15 visit my boyfriend's family for Christmas and taking road
16 trips. And I would really love to wind up living in
17 Mendocino County soon. And I can't imagine moving there
18 and watching, you know, the five miles, 10 miles, off the
19 coast be developed for oil and gas activity, knowing all
20 that goes along with that onshore.

21 And, you know, I spent time in Santa Barbara on the
22 beaches in that area and hearing the stories about what
23 happened, you know, a few decades ago and it's really
24 disturbing to me that the Bush administration did this.

25 But, it's even more disturbing to me that, under the

1 Obama administration, it hasn't been put to a complete
2 halt, yet. And I really hope this agency does everything
3 in their power to change the energy policy of this
4 country.

5 There's so many things going on especially here in
6 California. Solar energy, alternative, renewable
7 energies, and I think that that is this where the future
8 is. And we're wasting our time in looking and moving
9 backwards as we consider this offshore oil and gas
10 drilling in new pristine areas.

11 Thank you.

12 --oOo--

13 MS. JAMES: Hi. My name is Alice James.

14 I'm 15 years old and that means I have a lot of my
15 future ahead of me. But, the way the world is going
16 right now, the way global warming is going, how toxic
17 this earth is becoming, I might not have a future. I
18 pretty much speak for a lot of my generation because many
19 species of animals have died in my lifetime -- well,
20 basically, there's just been a lot of destruction of this
21 planet in my lifetime.

22 And drilling on our shores is going to add a lot to
23 this. A lot in this room is toxic. Pretty much
24 everything in this room had to be shipped here. Gas was
25 wasted on the shipping that we could have used something

1 eco-friendly. Plastic water bottles, extremely toxic.
2 And they were shipped here and the water was shipped.
3 Everything in this room is toxic.

4 And there are so many other ways that we can do all
5 of this. We can do all of this eco-friendly, but, we're
6 killing this planet.

7 And drilling on the shores of San Francisco where so
8 many people come here, I live here, drilling on these
9 shores is horrible. It's really horrible and please
10 don't. Like, I don't know what else to say. Just stop.

11 Thank you.

12 --oOo--

13 MR. O'CONNELL: Hello. My name is Quinn O'Connell.

14 I'm representing myself. I'm 16 years young and I'm
15 a sophomore at the Arts High School.

16 My fellow Americans, first, I'd like to reiterate
17 just how much oil we're using from the plastic pen I used
18 to write this statement, to the packaging it came in, to
19 the trucks and planes that were used to deliver it, to
20 the oil used to run the factory that produces them, as
21 well as the paper I wrote on, the plastic water bottles
22 around the chairs, the carpet, even us -- us and our
23 surroundings -- were used significant amount of fossil
24 fuels just to get here.

25 Now, I'm sure we all know how long of a process it

1 will take to change the substantial usage of renewable
2 energy -- under renewable energy -- excuse me -- brings
3 me to this:

4 That simply cutting down ten percent of our oil
5 usage will have a profound effect on our earth and given
6 the dependency on oil and other fossil fuels now, none of
7 us are asking for change to simply occur overnight.

8 We simply want to get the ball rolling:

9 Ten percent becomes 20 percent;

10 Then 20 to 50;

11 And, eventually the cease of fossil fuel use.

12 A gentleman spoke earlier of our nation with high
13 regard, that we have a capacity to use renewable energy;
14 and we already are right here in San Francisco. We see
15 wind turbines, solar panels on roofs, and light posts,
16 even on billboards. Now, I know we can do this. So,
17 please, let's start it.

18 And one final thing I want it to be known that I
19 love this country and that I take great pride in saying,
20 I'm an American. And it kills me to see these plastic
21 corporations, car companies, and energy corporations,
22 having a profound effect on our lawmaking of reducing
23 emissions, setting a high standard for the efficiency of
24 our cars, and spending more money on clean, renewable
25 energy that we need so much.

1 still wishes to?

2 --oOo--

3 MR. BROWN: Hi. My name is Jackson. I'm 16 years
4 old. I go to School of the Arts with these kids here.

5 MR. AURAND: Could you give your full name, please?

6 MR. BROWN: Jackson Van Fleet Brown.

7 MR. AURAND: Thank you.

8 MR. BROWN: I'm strongly opposed to the offshore
9 drilling, especially here in Northern California. I've
10 seen it in Southern California, all the oil derricks that
11 dot the coastline. And I do not thinking oil is the
12 energy resource of the future, and I think we should
13 avoid going for more of it. I think we need to invest in
14 other forms of energy.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. AURAND: Is there anyone who has not spoken who
17 wishes to do so?

18 --oOo--

19 MS. WANG: Hi. My name is Tui Wang and I'm here to
20 represent myself.

21 For years, one of the things I loved best about
22 living in California is the beautiful coastline and
23 that's why I chose to live in the Bay Area. I do not
24 want to see San Francisco Bay area become like Santa
25 Barbara. I think that the oil derricks should not exist

1 in the ocean or on land because it is unrenewable source.

2 I used to belong to the Peak Oil Task Force and the
3 Postcard Institute in San Mateo Institute in San Mateo
4 County. We've already hit peak oil, so, it's going to
5 cost more to extract the oil than it will to benefit from
6 the profits that you get from that.

7 So, if it's not cost effective, I don't know why
8 we're expending all this energy and money and resources
9 and labor to extract something that is not going to
10 produce a return.

11 So, even looking at it from the economic
12 perspective, it's not beneficial, much less all the
13 harmful consequences of, you know, burning up the oil and
14 how it leads to global warming and degradation of the
15 environment.

16 And also environmental health effects. I used to
17 live in Burlingame and I lived in an apartment surrounded
18 by car lots. And sometimes just to sell these cars and
19 keep them running, they would warm it up and they would
20 leave the engine running, spewing pollutants in the air.

21 And Burlingame's biggest source of pollution is
22 transportation because we're near the airport and we have
23 all these car lots there near where I lived, so that
24 accounts for 60 percent of it.

25 And so we can't just think about the oil coming

1 being extracted from the ocean floor. We have to think
2 about also all the various industries that will benefit
3 by the usage of the oil and how they all end up causing
4 adverse health effects.

5 So, there's many, many consequences that are bad
6 from extracting oil from the ocean. So, please, think
7 about all that when you work with the Secretary of the
8 Interior, Ken Salazar, to advise him about what you've
9 heard from us.

10 And so I know you know what to do. I know you know
11 the right thing to do. Please listen to your conscious.
12 That's the one thing my English teacher in high school
13 taught me. She said, if you don't remember anything else
14 in high school, just remember this: Please, whatever you
15 do, do not violate your conscious. Thank you.

16 MR. AURAND: Is there anyone who has not commented
17 who wishes to do so?

18 There being no additional comments, the meeting is
19 adjourned. It's 7:25 p.m.

20 Thank you for your attention.

21 (Hearing adjourned at 7:25 p.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, MARYANN P. COSTA RPR, RMR, C.S.R. NO. 5820, Certified Shorthand Reporter, certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me at the time and place therein set forth;

That the statements made at the time were recorded stenographically by me and were thereafter transcribed;

That the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of my shorthand notes so taken.

I further certify that I am not a relative or employee of any of the parties, nor financially interested in the action.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated this day of , 2009.

MARYANN P. COSTA RPR, RMR, C.S.R. NO. 5820

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION OF CERTIFIED COPY

I, MARYANN P. COSTA, RPR, RMR, CSR No. 5820, a Certified Shorthand Reporter in the State of California, certify that the foregoing pages 1 through , constitute a true and correct copy of the original Department of the Interior Public Hearing taken on Thursday, April 16, 2009.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated this day of , 2009.

MARYANN P. COSTA RPR, RMR, C.S.R. No. 5820