

President Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

February 20, 2014

Dear President Obama,

Enclosed please find letters signed by nearly 300 Atlantic Coast businesses urging the administration to take the Atlantic out of the proposed program for oil and gas drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf (2017-2022). Given the impacts of day to day drilling operations from chronic pollution to the industrialization of the coast for oil facilities, not to mention the devastation an oil spill would have on Atlantic Coast beaches, these business owners assert the prudent and precautionary response would be to withdraw your support for offshore drilling and seismic blasting in the Atlantic Ocean.

Sincerely,

Rachel Richardson  
Stop Drilling Program Director  
Environment America Research & Policy Center

# **Our coasts are worth too much to risk**

September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Dear President Obama,

As small business owners, stakeholders and employees of the tourism industry along the Atlantic Coast, we urge you to rescind all plans of drilling off our shores.

Our coasts are lined with beaches visited by tens of millions annually, national wildlife refuges, parks and sensitive marshes and bays. They support a robust fishing and tourism industry, hundreds of miles of beaches and marsh environments, and important ocean ecosystems.

For the sake of our beaches, coastal communities and the significant boon coastal tourism provides to our economy, we the undersigned local business leaders are strongly opposed to drilling for oil off the Atlantic Coast, and we are calling on you to remove any proposals to do so from the 2017-2022 Oil and Gas Leasing Program.

Offshore drilling is incompatible with our tourism and fishing industries. When you drill, you spill, and day to day drilling operations result in chronic pollution and the industrialization of the coast for oil facilities. Look no further than the devastation the BP Deepwater Horizon catastrophe brought to the Gulf of Mexico's fishing, tourism and wildlife to recognize the impact drilling would have here on the Atlantic Coast.

The potential economic losses that new offshore drilling would bring to our existing coastal economies and the potential for damage to treasured coasts and marine resources would be devastating. Tourism in East Coast states generates billions of dollars in economic activity and supports over one million jobs. Commercial and recreational fishing in the Atlantic produces roughly \$1.75 billion in direct value for states along the East Coast and more than \$4 billion in total economic activity. Our clean beaches, coasts and oceans are worth too much to risk to the dangers of offshore drilling.

Additionally, according to the Energy Information Administration, there is only about 209 days' worth of oil and 13 months' worth of natural gas in the Atlantic Ocean. The potential short-term economic gain drilling would bring to our economy is not worth sacrificing the immense and sustained value our coastal tourism and fishing industries bring to Atlantic Coast states and the entire United States.

From our local businesses to bustling boardwalks and populated beaches, it is no wonder families frequent our beaches and people come from all over to experience the wonders of the Atlantic Coast.

Our coasts are worth too much to risk. Rather than exposing our beaches, families and businesses to the inherent risks of drilling, we need to move this country in the direction of renewable energy. Thus are calling on you to halt plans to drill off the Atlantic coast.

Signed,

**Connecticut**

Kajesta, LLC
Craig Chessari – Master Woodworker
Logistics Management Consultant
Ox Bow Press

**Florida**

Chore Cheetah
Gulf Time Condos
Our Waterfront Paradise
Ambrose Services, Inc.
Treasure Trove
Hayley's Jet Ski & Boat Rental
Cocoa Beach Parasail
Alexander's Guesthouse
Gulf Realty
Englewood Beach & Yacht Club
Southern Palm B&B
Crazy Woman Kayaks LLC
Atlantic Bay Resort

Tarpon Flats Inn & Marina
Stone Ledge Paradise Inn
Harbortown Marina-Fort Pierce
Fairbanks House
The Mellon Patch Inn
Edgewater River Guide
Discover Diving Guide & Services
Beachside Candy Co.
Neighbors, A/C
JazzSLAM
Jobbing Hut
Lisaleine LLC
Computer Mercenaries Extraordinaire
Vista-Research
Magic Eye Coffee Service Inc
Supervettes
GadgetsGo
The People's Businesses
Gates Management Services, Inc.
SouthStar Capital, LLC

Wicked Delray Ghost Tours
Predator Services
Senior Express USA
Accents away
Rick's Custom Painting
Carol Lahy Fused Glass
341 Lofts, LLC
BSTP, Inc.
Eagle Yachts, Inc.
Emerald Coastkeeper
J&B Importers, Inc.
RE/MAX Preferred
SMA International, Inc.
Thomas Enterprises
Veritude

**Georgia**

Woods Childcare
BrenMar Woodworking
Girl Dog Studio
Indigo Coastal Shanty
Circa 1875
Papillote
Mrs. Wilkes
Bull River Cruises
Treyler Park Savannah
Pane in the Glass

Spa Bleu
Brighter Day Natural Foods
Go Fish Clothing
King Enterprise Biz.
Coastal Kitchen
Southeast Adventures Outfitters
St. Simon's Beach & Surf
Beachview Books
Two Brothers Bike Shop
GoGo Jewelry
The Vicar's Wife
The Sentient Bean
Moon River Brewing
Savannah Bee
The Dunes
The Beverage Center
Kennedy Outfitters
Jere's Antiques

### Massachusetts

Community of Travel
FritzTown Productions
BOUNDLESS Apparel
Slonina Photography
2-H FARM
Beachcomber
Donya Melanson Associates
Green Homes Carpet Cleaning
GreenEffects Building & Design
Multi Scopic Instruments, LLC
Patron Travel
RiverRun Media
Shawmut Design and Construction

Valley Designs Landscaping
Kolbo Fine Judaica Gallery

### Maryland

The Crab Claw Restaurant
Crab Alley
Inn at Horn Point
Heartworks Wellness
Pure Boardshop
Behavioral Consultations
J. Murphy Creative
Kite Loft
Jamie Agins Art Glass
Triumph Insurance
Mount Clare Museum House

### North Carolina

Health-Ward Group LLC
ARTSPEAKS
Toops Photojournalist Services

### New Hampshire

Web Express
Saunders Technology Inc.

### New Jersey

East House Antiques
Capt. Henry C. Toft
Citizens For A Clean Pompton Lakes

Granny Green's Green Machine
Heywood Consulting, Inc.
Joseph Brigandi Electrical Contractor
Linda Rossin Studios
SJO Global Enterprise LLC
Visiting Eyeglass Service
Wolfsong and Jonny

### New York

Rentorations Ltd.
Canary Express
Agape House & Aom
Wilk Auslander LLP
Downtown Variety
Domani salon
Studiosmith
Westwood Metes & Bounds Realty, Ltd.
Carlin America, Inc.
S. Goldman Inc.
Wordcraft & Graphics Unlimited
CHAZIN Associates
Ritchie Corp.
BufferedBrain
Genda Video LTD
Power control Technologies
Arch Fiberglass Corp.
Biegun Inc. Photography
Daniel Castro Photography
Judith Ravnitzky Antiques
Kathleen Goodwin Interiors
Melody Lanes LLC
Morrison Cohen LLP

Robert Kolodny & Associates
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Synergy Hypnosis and NLP Services
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The Voice Workshop
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Winston Restaurant
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## **Rhode Island**

Ava Anderson Nontoxic
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## **South Carolina**

Walsh Krowka & Associates, Inc. - Architects & Landscape Architects.
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Island Inspired Inc.
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Homegrown Brewhouse
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Bluffton Oyster Co.
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Island Thyme Catering
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Sea Biscuit Cafe
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## **Virginia**

Gull Computing
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Davenport-Unger Enterprises
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Heritage Rentals LLC
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Mary's Custom Quilts
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Massage by Marcia
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Dear President Obama,

As small business owners, stakeholders and employees of the tourism industry along the North Carolina coast, we urge you to rescind all plans of drilling off our shores.

Our coasts are lined with beaches visited by 11.6 million people annually, national wildlife refuges, parks and sensitive marshes and bays. They support a robust fishing and tourism industry, hundreds of miles of beaches and marsh environments, and important ocean ecosystems.

For the sake of our beaches, coastal communities and the significant boon coastal tourism provides to our economy, we the undersigned local business leaders are strongly opposed to drilling for oil off the Atlantic Coast, and we are calling on you to remove any proposals to do so from the 2017-2022 Oil and Gas Leasing Program.

Offshore drilling is incompatible with our tourism and fishing industries. When you drill, you spill, and day-to-day drilling operations result in chronic pollution and the industrialization of the coast for oil facilities. Look no further than the devastation the BP Deepwater Horizon catastrophe brought to the Gulf of Mexico's fishing, tourism and wildlife to recognize the impact drilling could have here on the Atlantic Coast.

The potential economic losses that new offshore drilling would bring to our existing coastal economies and the potential for damage to treasured coasts and marine resources would be devastating. Tourism in coastal North Carolina generates more than \$1.6 billion in revenue and supports more than 50,000 jobs in the leisure and hospitality industry alone (2013).

Commercial and recreational fishing in the Atlantic produces roughly \$93.8 million in direct dockside value for North Carolina and \$178 million in total economic activity (2012). Our clean beaches, coasts and oceans are worth too much to risk to the dangers of offshore drilling.

Additionally, according to the Energy Information Administration, there is only about 209 days' worth of oil and 13 months' worth of natural gas in the Atlantic Ocean. The potential short-term economic gain drilling would bring to our economy is not worth sacrificing the immense and sustained value our coastal tourism and fishing industries bring to Atlantic Coast states and the entire United States.

From our local businesses to bustling boardwalks and populated beaches, it is no wonder families frequent our beaches and people come from all over to experience the wonders of the Atlantic Coast.

Our coasts are worth much more wild. Rather than exposing our beaches, families and businesses to the inherent risks of drilling, we need to move this country in the direction of renewable energy. Thus we are calling on you to halt plans to drill off the Atlantic coast.

Signed,

**North Carolina Businesses**

22 North
Annex Surf Supply
Aussie Island Surf Shop
Banks Channel Pub and Grille
Blockade Runner Beach Resort
Buddy's Crab House and Oyster Bar
Café del Mar
Cape Fear Paddleboarding
Carolina Paddle Board Company
Crystal South Surf Camp
Fasse Construction
Hallelu
Hardee, Hunt and Williams Real Estate
King Neptune Restaurant
Lagerheads
Lighthouse Beer and Wine
Mellow Mushroom-Wrightsville Beach
Outer Banks Hammocks
Shred the Gnar
South Beach Grill
South End Surf Shop
Surf City Surf Shop
SurfBerry
Sweetwater Surfshop
Tower 7 Restaurant
Two Wheeler Dealer

WB Surf Camp
Wrightsville Beach Art Company
Wrightsville Beach Chamber of Commerce
Wrightsville Beach Scenic Tours
Wrightsville Beach SUP
Addicted to the Bean
Ann Street Inn
Ashtanga Yoga Center
Beach Treats
Blue Heron Gallery, Inc
Blue Mainsail Inc,
Blue Water Point Motel and Marina
Clamdigger Inn and Restaurant
Cola Vaughan Realty
Crystal Coast Cuisine
Custom Audio
Daddy Mac's Beach Grille
Dafni's Touch
Duck Village Yoga
Erin Whittle Photography
Fat Boys Seafood
Flytrap Brewing
Gary Schena Tax and Financial Services
Glynne's Soaps
Hooper Family Seafood
Hot Wax Surf Shop

Indo Jax Surf School
Innovation Renovation
Island Massage Day Spa
Keith Power Plumbing and Solar
LeeWard Design & Advertising
Mahanaim Adventures
Mainsail Restaurant
Nautilus Productions LLC
Ocean Atlantic Rentals
Ollie Raja Fishing Charters
Outer Banks Counseling Service, LLC
Outer Banks Yoga
Pecan Tree Hospitality Inc.
Pineapple Studios
Pirates Cove Realty
Pleasure Island Rentals
Rittenmeyer & Associates LLC
Roanoke Island Animal Clinic
Sandpeddler Inn and Suites
Secret Spot Surf Shop
Shuckin Shack Oyster Bar
Spinnakers Reach Realty Inc
Studio 12
The Cypress Moon Inn
The Spot
Topsail Realty, Inc

Waterbug Tours
Wild About Nature OBX
Wrightsville Kayak Company
Bay River Pottery
Beaufort Pet Provisions
Beaufort Trading Company
Burbridge & Wilson Restoration & Refit, Inc
Chinaberry Gifts
Crystal Coast Lady Cruises
Diane Brown LPC
DOT Construction
Frances Marian Photography
Georgia Mason Art
Good Fortune Sail Charters
Handscapes Gallery
Hungry Town guidedTours
Island Ferry Adventures
Kitty Hawk Kites
Meg Forward Designs
Queen Anne's Revenge Restaurant
Ribeyes Steakhouse
Samadhi Farm
Scuttlebutt
Sunset Slush of Crystal Coast
Taylor's Creek Massage Bodyworks
The Loft
Tierra Fina

Coastal Acupuncture & Massage
Dr. Bogus.com Cyberfishing & Crafts
Emerald Isle Beach & Pool Club
Emerald isle Beach Gear & Linens
Emerald Isle Books
F3 Fitness LLC, Emerald Isle
Jessi Holland Hair Stylist
Leni Newell Studios
Paul F. Getty, DDS
Playa Graphics
Reel Outdoors
South Swell Surf Shop
The Emerald Club
Tip Top Frame
Aussie Island Surf Shop
Cape Hatteras Kiteboarding
Carolina Beach Furniture
Making Waves
Barrier Island Kayaks
Elly's Gift Shop
K & V 1 Stop Shop
New Bridge Organic Market
New Bridge Organic Market
Stir it Up Coffee Shop
Flipperz Restaurant
Flipperz Retail
Shark's Den Restaurant

Carolina Wine Mixer
Ocean Grill Tiki