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To: Louisiana Gulf Fishermen and the Seafood Industry
From: Senator David Vitter
Subject: Vessel Opportunities Program and BP Coordination
Date/Time: Thursday, April 29, 2010 at 11a.m.

BP is currently working on efforts to coordinate and deploy marine fishing vessels for use in the comprehensive response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. This memorandum is to inform available fisherman of the efforts and appropriate contact information should you be willing and capable to help.

Pertinent Information:

Vessel of Opportunities Program

BP is looking to contract with vessels for hire (shrimp boats, oyster boats, etc.) to deploy boom in the Gulf of Mexico. The response contractors for this program are already collecting information on vessels. Specifically, they need the name, owner, dimensions, characteristics (including length, draft, horsepower, etc) and other pertinent information you can provide. Direction and training will be provided and determined by area response plans based on the highest priority areas on down.

Current staging areas for the program are Venice, LA; Mobile, AL; Biloxi, MS; Pascagoula, MS; and Pensacola, FL. So far, more than 100,000 feet of boom has been deployed, with another 400,000 available. So if you can help, please do so. There is intended to be deployed launch barges staged in areas where additional boom may be deployed.

As soon as you have gathered the relevant information on your vessel, please email that information to the managing contractor Vince Mitchell at vince.mitchell@lamor.com or 425-745-8017. As well, please copy BP's coordinator Grant Johnson at grant.johnson@bp.com.

If you have further questions please contact Bryan Zumwalt in my office at bryan_zumwalt@vitter.senate.gov or at 202-224-4623.

Thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

David Vitter
U.S. Senate

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