

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

February 5, 2018

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Ryan Zinke
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Subject: 2019-2024 Draft Proposed Program for the Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Agreement

Dear President Trump and Secretary Zinke:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the inclusion of offshore lease sales in the Pacific Region of the 2019 -2024 draft proposed program (DPP) for the Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing (OCS) Agreement. I echo Governor Jerry Brown's request and ask that you expeditiously grant California the same exemption that you granted Florida and take our coast out of the five-year DPP plan. As you move forward with this process, I also request you hold a hearing in my district to hear directly from constituents who have seen and suffered from the devastating oil spills our region has experienced.

As the Representative for Santa Barbara and the Central Coast of California, I am particularly concerned that expanding drilling into the Pacific region fails to recognize input from local stakeholders, ignores the impacts to our environment, and threatens our local tourism and commercial fishing industries. In California, nearly 70 percent of residents are opposed to increased drilling off our coast. Furthermore, 73 percent of Californian's support investing in renewable energy and would rather see the development of offshore wind projects.

During the January 28, 1969, Santa Barbara oil spill, 100,000 barrels of crude oil spewed into the Santa Barbara Channel. This was the largest oil spill in California's history and it had significant and lasting impacts on Santa Barbara's unique marine ecosystem and economy. This was followed by the 2015 Refugio oil spill, also in Santa Barbara County, where the clean-up costs hit \$92 million. These incidents should serve as a reminder that our coastal communities cannot afford another disastrous oil spill.

California's coastal region generates over \$1.9 trillion a year and supports more than \$731 billion in wages. As in Florida, future oil drilling would pose a direct threat to California's local tourism economy, fishing industry, and a wide range of local businesses, which are inextricably tied to clean coasts and healthy thriving ocean ecosystems. The threats of oil spills to local economies are no different in Florida than in California.

Again, I urge you to grant California the same courtesy you gave Florida and remove our coastline from the five year DPP plan. It is our responsibility to be good stewards of our environment and protect our unique communities, which are directly linked to California's natural beauty and economic strength.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S.O. Carbal", written in a cursive style.

SALUD O. CARBAJAL
Member of Congress