

402 WALL ST. • KEY WEST, FL 33040 • 305-294-2587 • FAX 305-294-7806 • WWW.KEYWESTCHAMBER.ORG

February 16, 2010

Governor Charlie Crist, State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Governor Crist,

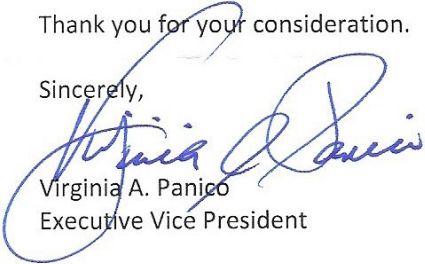
On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Key West Chamber of Commerce and our membership, I am writing to express our opposition to drilling for oil and gas off the coast of Florida.

We support the strongest possible protection for Florida and its fragile marine environment from the impacts of offshore oil and gas exploration and development. We support additional efforts to expand exclusionary zones, to extend Presidential and Congressional moratoria and to defeat legislation to open our coast to offshore oil and gas exploration.

Our coral reefs, mangroves, seagrasses, beaches, fisheries, endangered species, tourism and quality of life depend upon clean ocean waters. Please do your part to protect them from the impacts of drilling muds and spills which can be carried great distances by the Gulf Loop Current onto Florida's coasts. We encourage you to work for the strongest possible protections and to protect us from the potential risks that oil and gas exploration off our coasts would bring to the State of Florida and to the Florida keys.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Virginia A. Panico
Executive Vice President

Cc: Hon. Bill McCollum, Attorney General, FL State Cabinet
Hon. Alex Sink, Chief Financial Officer, FL State Cabinet
Hon. Charles H. Bronson, Commissioner, FL State Cabinet
Hon. Bill Nelson, Senior Senator, U.S. Senate
Hon. George S. LeMieux, Junior Senator, U.S. Senate
Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Congresswoman, U.S. Congress
Hon. Ron Saunders, Representative, FL State House of Representatives
Hon. Larcenia J. Bullard, Senator, FL State Senate

"The mission of the Greater Key West Chamber of Commerce is to serve its members and maintain a viable economy for the businesses and working people of Key West."



402 WALL ST. • KEY WEST, FL 33040 • 305-294-2587 • FAX 305-294-7806 • WWW.KEYWESTCHAMBER.ORG

Cc: Hon. Mayor Craig Cates, City of Key West Board of Commissioners
Hon. Commissioner Jimmy Weekley, City of Key West Board of Commissioners
Hon. Commissioner Mark Rossi, City of Key West Board of Commissioners
Hon. Commissioner Billy Wardlow, City of Key West Board of Commissioners
Hon. Commissioner Barry Gibson, City of Key West Board of Commissioners
Hon. Commissioner Teri Johnston, City of Key West Board of Commissioners
Hon. Commissioner Clayton Lopez, City of Key West Board of Commissioners
City Clerk Cheri Smith, City of Key West
Hon. Mayor Sylvia Myrphy, Monroe County Board of Commissioners
Hon. Mayor Pro Tem Heather Carruthers, Monroe County Board of Commissioners
Hon. Commissioner Mario Di Gennaro, Monroe County Board of Commissioners
Hon. Commissioner George Neugent, Monroe County Board of Commissioners
Hon. Commissioner Kim Wiggington, Monroe County Board of Commissioners
Clerk of Circuit Court Danny L. Kohlage, Monroe County
Board of Directors, Key West Chamber of Commerce

"The mission of the Greater Key West Chamber of Commerce is to serve its members and maintain a viable economy for the businesses and working people of Key West."