

Mercer, Jennifer

From: Burley, Dave
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2011 5:06 PM
To: Young, Elizabeth; Hicks, Darren
Subject: Fw: Old Harry

dburley@cnlopb.nl.ca

via Blackberry

From: Janice McGuigan
To: Burley, Dave; Ruelokke, Max
Sent: Mon Mar 28 16:18:30 2011
Subject: Old Harry

The coalition SOS Gulf of St Lawrence supports sustainable uses of Planet Earth and opposes exploration and drilling for hydrocarbons such as oil and natural gas in highly productive and fragile ecosystems such as the Gulf of St-Lawrence. I hold these beliefs too. Given that THE HYDROCARBONS ARE NOT NEEDED and that the social, economic, and environmental RISKS FAR OUTWEIGHT ANY POTENTIAL BENEFITS, WE ARE CALLING FOR A MORATORIUM ON ALL SEISMIC EXPLORATION AND DRILLING IN THE GULF.

From what I gather the PEI Fisherman's Association has some concerns as well. They say the government has slackened regulations for drilling that cuts out community input. Exploratory wells no longer need comprehensive assessments. Not only that, but the waters entering the Gulf swirl counter clockwise, right towards PEI, and since Newfoundland has jurisdiction over the waters on the proposed drilling site, they make the strategic environmental assessment which only has to take care of Newfoundland Fisheries in the event of a disaster.

The folks who depend on fishing and tourism in the Gulf are not happy – especially as they watch the United States cope with the aftermath of the biggest oil spill in its history. The Save Our Seas and Shores Coalition, and it's founding member Mary Gorman have been trying to stop oil exploration in shallow waters. These people have prompted a number of voices to join the call for a moratorium on drilling in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The Quebec chapter of the Sierra Club of Canada wrote to the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board, the regulatory agency that both promotes exploration and is responsible for its safety, to express its opposition to the enterprise. They said that Quebec's natural resources, in the broadest sense, are at the same risk as those of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and PEI. Consequently, they hereby demand, in the strongest terms possible, an immediate moratorium to all hydrocarbons exploration and drilling in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Whoever has been evaluating the costs and benefits of such drilling has completely ignored the priceless and irreplaceable benefits which sustainable natural systems, such as the Gulf of St. Lawrence, have contributed to our collective economic, social, and spiritual well-being.

Please consider my voice and my concern for the health of the Gulf and the industry and beauty presently sustained.

Sincerely,
Janice McGuigan

