

Attention Elizabeth Young

From: Kathy Marche [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, November 01, 2012 4:01 PM  
To: Information  
Subject: Attention: Elizabeth Young

Dear Ms. Young,

I am writing to you today to add my voice to the growing number of concerned citizens over the proposed development of offshore oil and gas off the west coast of Newfoundland. I feel strongly that the risks of drilling in the Gulf of St. Lawrence are far too great and the potential of a catastrophic oil spill or blowout is a matter of utmost concern to all of us who live here. It is a matter that would affect not only my province but also four others. Whether to allow drilling in the Gulf is a national issue.

Newfoundlanders, like myself, who deeply value our coastlines must be listened to on this issue. Right now I understand that now may be the only opportunity to speak out and seize the opportunity to give my input while environmental assessments for exploratory drilling projects such as the one at the Old Harry site are still legally required. That is a very scary thought. I attended the CNLOPB open house in Stephenville on October 1. For a matter of such grave concern, I felt very disappointed with the whole thing. I felt there was minimal notice of the meeting, there was no structured dialogue among those present and there was an inadequate amount of information provided on a mere few maps and posters. I really felt that the process barely accounted for the concerns I have.

What I really would like to see is the absolute protection of our waters and shores from development because with any development, there is ALWAYS a risk of an oil spill. We can NOT afford that in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and off our west coast shores. I feel there should be a complete moratorium on oil and gas development to protect our Gulf's economic and environmental health which in doing so will protect ALL of us living here. I feel very strongly about this not only for the present generation but for our future as well.

Sincerely,  
Kathy Marche