

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

U.S. Senator
David Vitter

Congressman
Bobby Jindal

November 8, 2006

BY HAND
IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUESTED

The Honorable Bill Frist
The Honorable Mitch McConnell
The Honorable Pete Domenici
The Honorable Jim Inhofe

The Honorable Dennis Hastert
The Honorable John Boehner
The Honorable Roy Blunt
The Honorable Richard Pombo
The Honorable Don Young

Re: Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) And Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)
Bills

Gentlemen:

In light of yesterday's election results, we write to urge you to make both the OCS and WRDA bills absolute must-pass priorities for this 109th Congress.

The OCS Bill is not only important for our home state; it is important for the country because it is critical to the security of our nation's energy supply. It is very doubtful that this legislation would pass in the new 110th Congress. A majority of Democrats, led by their liberal leadership, are adamantly against any increase in domestic oil and gas activity. (Note that Nancy Pelosi, Steny Hoyer, James Clyburn, John Spratt, Rahm Emmanuel, and Nick Rahall – the entire House Democratic Leadership and the ranking member on the Resources Committee – all voted against the legislation on final passage in the House.)

Similarly, tremendous work has gone into the WRDA bill, which addresses crucial Corps of Engineers projects and needed change. Much of that work would be thrown out of the window if we don't pass a conference committee report, compromising the House and Senate versions, before the end of the year. While this bill is not as divided along party lines as the OCS bill, many of the key chairmen and others leaders who have fashioned the bill and advanced it to the five yard line will no longer be in those crucial positions in the next Congress.

Please make these two bills must-pass items for the few weeks remaining in this 109th Congress. Please ensure that we do not adjourn until this crucial work is done.

We look forward to working with you very closely toward these important goals.

Sincerely,



David Vitter
U.S. Senator



Bobby Jindal
U.S. Representative