January 22, 2018

**Atlantic oil drilling: We don't want it off NJ**

Dear US Senator

The Jersey Shore, from Monmouth County to Cape May County, accounts for nearly half of the state's $41.9 billion tourism industry, according to state figures.

New Jersey’s commercial fishing industry generates over $7.9 billion a year and supports more than 50,000 jobs,

This proposal to open our coastline to oil drilling shows a complete disregard for New Jersey's economy, environment and quality of life and should be immediately rejected.

Mortgaging our state's economic future in order to further pad the fossil fuel energy industry’s bottom lines is unconscionable.

The change in this policy's risks aren't worth the rewards. This change could set the stage for an oil spill, like that of the Deepwater Horizon explosion in 2010, which killed 11 and sent 4 million barrels of crude into the Gulf of Mexico.

Seismic surveying used to find oil reserves can harm marine life.

We must stand firm against any plan for fossil fuel exploration, drilling, or development off the Atlantic Coast – whether it be three miles, 30 miles, or 300 miles from New Jersey.

The United States needs to pursue a clean-energy future, and this plan is in the wrong direction!

Please sponsor or support legislation to protect our waters.

Respectfully,

PS: