

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA**



Wilson B. Robertson
District One

Gene M. Valentino
District Two

Marie Young
District Three

Grover C. Robinson, IV
District Four

Kevin W. White
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April 8, 2011

Ms Mimi Drew
Special Advisor to Secretary Herschel T. Vinyard, Jr.
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Dear Ms Drew:

Escambia County is in receipt of your April 4, 2011 response to a recent email by Commissioner Gene Valentino. We understand your concerns and would like to take this opportunity to assure you it does not reflect the position of this Board or Administration. Please understand that a single Commissioner is free to voice their individual opinion but that it does not necessarily reflect the position of the Board or County. While we do not condone what was said, Commissioner Valentino's District was impacted greatly by the Oil Spill. Consequently, he is passionate about the issue.

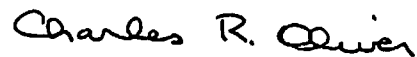
The Board and staff position is that we have enjoyed a very cooperative and productive relationship with FDEP in addressing the Deepwater Horizon Incident. Both your staff and ours have worked long hours and continue to do so, together protecting the public interest and environment. We would hold the same examples as the

ones you present as proof of this good relationship and cooperation. The weekly meetings and teleconferences, the laboratory and human health conference call, addressing submerged oil mats, public meetings and daily interactions with FDEP staff have all enabled Escambia County to successfully progress through this response. We look forward to continued agency and staff goodwill, cooperation and support. We appreciate your commitment to the State of Florida Escambia County and our environment.

Sincerely,



Kevin W. White
Board Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
Escambia County



Charles R. "Randy" Oliver
CPA, PE, County Administrator

cc: Commissioner Wilson B. Robertson, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Grover C. Robinson
Commissioner Gene M. Valentino
Commissoner Marie Young
Keith Wilkins, Escambia County
Henry Barnet, Director, Division of Law Enforcement, DEP
Shawn Hamilton, Acting Director, Northwest District Office, DEP
Phil Wieczynski, Chief, Bureau of Environmental Response, DEP