

Clean Ocean Advocate



BIG OIL STRIKES AGAIN AT OUR SHORE

Adding insult to injury, **Exxon Mobil Corporation** announced plans on December 11th to seek regulatory approval for BlueOcean Energy, a floating liquefied natural gas (LNG) receiving terminal. The project will be located 20 miles off New Jersey.

"Here's another bad actor that wants to bring fossil fuels, pollution, and industrial development to our cleaner, healthier ocean. Who's next, Darth Vader?" said **Cindy Zipf, Executive Director of Clean Ocean Action (COA)**. "Exxon Mobil is known around the world for drunken sailors, massive oil spills, and destroying communities, such as in Prince William Sound, Alaska. This company's track record is not one we would welcome to the Jersey Shore to manage hazardous material off our coast."

"I oppose Exxon Mobil's proposal to build a Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) terminal off the NJ coast. We cannot allow our pristine coastline to be turned into industrial facilities," said **US Representative Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-D-6)**. "The building, staging, and maintenance of an offshore LNG terminal would be a tremendous environmental burden, and an accident waiting to happen."

The law that will apply to this application is the Deepwater Port Act (same as the proposed LNG island, see *article below*). However, the specific location has not been revealed so it is not clear if New Jersey will have a role in the review process as an "adjacent coastal state."



LNG tankers are nearly 4 football fields in length
Source: www.timrileylaw.com

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPER FIGHTS NJ'S RIGHT TO VOTE

While no legal provision allows it, the **Atlantic Sea Island Group (ASIG)** is appealing the US Maritime Administration's (MARAD) decision that granted New Jersey veto power in the company's project to build a massive man-made ocean island. The industrial complex on the island would serve to offload, store, and process LNG. The facility, called "Safe Harbor Energy," is planned for 19 miles off New Jersey and 13 miles off New York.

"This company's fight to block New Jersey's right to vote is appalling," said **Cindy Zipf, Executive Director of Clean Ocean Action (COA)**. "New Jersey's resources are at risk and citizens' voices must be heard."

The ASIG has consistently worked to oppose NJ's voice and wrote to federal agencies in September 2007 asserting that there are "no risks to the coastal environment of the State of New Jersey" from the proposed facility.

US Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-D-6) says MARAD must maintain NJ's ACS status due to the state's "close proximity to this proposed facility and the impact such a facility would have on our coastal environment."

"The ASIG is acting like it is above the law, trying to appeal under a law that clearly does not apply," said **David Byer, COA Water Policy Attorney**.

Recently, ASIG Chairman Howard Bovers showed his true colors with the statement at a November public meeting, "It's not your ocean, it's the federal government's ocean." Also, in a letter to the *Two River Times* in December, Bovers accuses COA of taking lines from "Big Oil's playbook."

Stay tuned for updates, or for email updates, sign-up for *The Wave*, COA's email action alert list, by following the link on COA's website.

Our COalition

Featuring... Concerned Businesses of COA
"What's good for the environment is good for business." That's the motto of the **Concerned Businesses of Clean Ocean Action (COA)**, which is a task force of bait & tackle shops, restaurants, professionals, and corporations.

The group was organized in 1988 after ocean pollution events sent the tourism industry into a tailspin. The Concerned Businesses defend the ocean at public hearings and support efforts to protect the ocean. Also, they advocate eco-friendly practices in the workplace, as well as coordinate and participate in programs.

In 2007 alone, over 225 businesses, large and small, participated in volunteer activities such as COA's Beach Sweeps, attended seaside celebrations, and donated financial and in-kind resources. The Concerned Businesses of COA include the Corporate Ocean Guardians (business contributors of \$1,000+), who support a range of programs and events.

"Aveda is excited to expand our partnership with COA, whose accomplishments in pollution prevention and ocean protection make it a natural fit for Aveda's Earth Month Campaign," said **Katie Galloway, Aveda Earth and Community Care**.



Employees from United Teletech Financial

"United Teletech Financial is proud to sponsor Beach Sweeps. Their efforts to clean our shores not only beautify our local area, but also preserves it for generations to come," said **Leo Ardine, President and CEO**. "Supporting this cause is another way we can live our philosophy of 'Neighbors Helping Neighbors.'"

For a list of concerned businesses or more information, contact Jennifer Smiga.

January 2008 Highlights
- Big Oil Strikes Again at Our Shore
- Industrial Developer Fights NJ's Right to Vote
- 2008 Clean Ocean Action Events Calendar

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The Heat is On: For every one degree you turn up down the thermostat in the winter, you will save up to five percent on your heating costs. Not to mention, reducing the temperature by just two degrees can reduce 2,000 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions a year.
Source: Earth 911

Eco-Tip of the Month

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
www.CleanOceanAction.org
732-872-0111
Highlands, NJ 07732
18 Hartshorne Drive, Suite 2
Clean Ocean Action



✂ Please clip and send to COA.

STAY INVOLVED IN YOUR COALITION!

MAILING LIST RENEWAL OR SIGN-UP FORM

- ➔ If you received a message on your address label, it's time to renew.
 - ➔ Your contribution will ensure that you receive this monthly newsletter, action alerts, and notices of events for one year.
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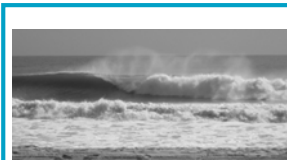
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Please include organization name & contact, if applicable:

Please make check payable to
Clean Ocean Action, 18 Hartshorne Drive, Suite 2, Highlands, NJ 07732
To pay with MasterCard or Visa, please call 732-872-0111.

COA is a 501(c)(3) organization and contributions are tax deductible.



**SEAsOn's Greetings
and
Happy New Year
from the crew at
Clean Ocean Action**



**See inside and mark
your calendars for
Clean Ocean Action's
seaworthy and beachy
events in 2008!**

COASTAL WATER QUALITY

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Oyster Creek Nuke Plant: Third Try to Fit-in With the Coast



Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (OCNGS) in Lacey Township, NJ, seeks to extend its operating license for 20 years after it expires in 2009. As a result, OCNGS must demonstrate that its continued operation is consistent with New Jersey's Coastal Management Program.

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) already denied a positive federal consistency determination **twice** (the latest being May 31, 2007). The DEP denied consistency on several grounds, including the lack of data on OCNGS' impacts on marine fish and fisheries, adverse affects on endangered and threatened sea turtles, and the lack of a plan for public access to the waterfront. On September 13, OCNGS began submitting its response to DEP's May 31 determination.

COA, the American Littoral Society, and Save Barnegat Bay submitted joint comments on this third consistency review with several important concerns. OCNGS' submissions fail to address impacts from killing endangered turtles, as well as fish and shellfish. For a copy of the groups' comments, go to COA's website and follow links for "Issues & Campaigns."

Working for Clean BEACH Water



Same-day, rapid water tests would protect beach-goers

Recently, COA met with staff at the Washington, DC, offices of Reps. Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-D-6) and James Oberstar (MN-D-8), Chair of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, who are seeking to introduce a Bill to amend the BEACH Act. The BEACH Act provides measures for water quality testing at public beaches, but it is in need of improvements. For example, the law needs to require the use of rapid testing methods for bacteria so beach-goers know that day, not the day after, whether it is safe to swim.

A weaker version of the Bill passed the Committee. At the DC meeting, Rep. Oberstar's staff committed to several improvements including clarifying language to ensure that immediate warning signs will be posted at beaches when high bacteria test results are obtained.

Also, there is a commitment to maintain current law that

allows for closings based on predictive modeling, as opposed to actual test results. This allows states to close beaches when experience shows certain rainfall amounts impact specific beaches, such as those in the area of Wreck Pond in Monmouth County, NJ. We are still working toward a Bill that will mandate the use of rapid testing methods by a certain date so that states will not continue to use testing methods that are on their way to becoming archaic.

Dredged Material as a Resource

Waterways and marinas must be dredged to support maritime activities such as commercial and recreational fishing, shipping, and boating. Over the years, dredged material has become a resource, rather than a waste.

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In 2004, Atlantic Highlands, NJ, sought a dredging permit for 41,000 cubic yards (CY) and was approved. Recently, the Belford Landfill agreed to accept 15,000CY of dredge material from Atlantic Highlands for beneficial use in capping the landfill. A letter of consent states that the dredged material meets the quality criteria for the landfill, established in the Solid Waste Permitting Program.

The Bayshore Regional Watershed Council and its partners have received grant funds from the NJ Department of Transportation, Office of Maritime Resources to create a regional Dredged Material Management Plan for the Bayshore region of Monmouth County, NJ (including Atlantic Highlands). The plan, which is being developed with extensive community input, will present dredging needs and beneficial uses for the material in the region.



**Need a last minute gift?
Give gifts this
holiday season that
support a clean ocean.
For ideas, go to
www.cleanoceanaction.org.**

SEA SCENE: The Cosgrove Family of Bahrs Landing Famous Seafood Restaurant & Marina

Since 1917, Bahrs Landing Restaurant in Highlands, NJ, has served delicious seafood to shore visitors and residents. Together, owners Ray Cosgrove and his son Jay, the 4th generation great grandson of founders John and Florence Bahrs, the family and dedicated staff have served over 10 million customers. Bahrs is considered one of New Jersey's famous landmarks, as well as one of the country's oldest family run restaurants.

The Cosgroves are also committed to donating their time and resources to better their community and environment. In addition to COA, they support many organizations including NY/NJ Baykeeper and The Sandy Hook Foundation, to name a few.

"There are few family businesses along the NJ coast with such a long legacy and commitment to community. Bahrs is an icon along the shore and the Cosgrove family are steadfast champions and stewards of marine resources," said **COA Executive Director Cindy Zipf**. "The Cosgrove family has been a COA supporter since our earliest days and we are honored to stand with them to ensure a healthy ocean for the future."

Bahr's delicious chowder has been a long-standing gem of COA's events, including COA's annual Memorial Winter Flounder Tournament and Sunset at Sandy Hook.



Jay & Becky Cosgrove with their daughter, Grace

(Sea Scene appears every other month in the *Clean Ocean Advocate*.)

Jay is also a Committee Member and Host of the Tournament, enthusiastically taking over the leadership of the 15-year old community event when dear friend Bob Hunter of The Clam Hut passed-on. In addition, Jay has donated catered dinners and gift baskets for fundraising auctions.

Please visit www.bahrs.com for the menu, events, and Jay's Weekly Fish Report. The restaurant also includes Moby's Outside Deck, marina facility, and a newly renovated catering room.

EVENTS

Jennifer Smiga, 732-872-0111, Events@cleanoceanaction.org
Emily Hackett, 732-872-0111, Programs@cleanoceanaction.org

Billabong 5% Day for Clean Ocean Action



On December 1, 5% of all sales at **Billabong** (540 Route 35, Shrewsbury, NJ) went

to COA as the store continued their Grand Opening celebrations. Billabong owner and surfer Greg Mesanko celebrated with two "5% Days," one day to benefit COA, and the other to benefit Surfers' Environmental Alliance.

Greg recalled his connection to COA starting in the 1980s when garbage was washing-up on beaches. Greg (then owner of Grog's Surf Palace in Seaside Park, NJ) ran several fashion shows to raise awareness and funds for COA.

Greg says, "The 5% day was a way to reconnect with COA and to continue to support the health of this region's ocean and beaches."



A Picture-Perfect Team from FUJIFILM U.S.A.

2007 Corporate Beach Sweeps End On A Picture Perfect Day

On November 2, a team of employees from **FUJIFILM U.S.A.** joined COA for our Corporate Beach Sweeps, concluding this exciting program for the year. This enthusiastic team worked for several hours cleaning a stretch of beach on Sandy Hook Bay. Thrilled to help the environment, yet disgusted by the large amount of small pieces of debris they found, the group was inspired to make big changes in their own lives.

Some of the litter collected during the FUJIFILM U.S.A. Beach Sweep include: **335** plastic food and candy wrappers and bags, **727** plastic caps and lids, and **292** plastic pieces.

About the Program

During the Corporate Beach Sweeps Program, participants learn about nonpoint source or "people" pollution and its ill effects on marine life and the ocean. Teams collect harmful and unsightly litter from beaches and record information about the debris using data cards. The program provides worthy "take-home" lessons. Participants learn ways to reduce the amount of trash they produce and proper ways to dispose waste, including recycling. Further, they are reminded that litter and other pollutants in streets and parking lots, sometimes miles from the shore, wash into storm drains with every rainfall and dump directly into our waterways, untreated.

For available spring/summer 2008 cleanup dates, please call Emily.

MARK YOUR NEW CALENDAR! 2008 COA Events

January 1, New Years Day:
*Sons of Ireland
Polar Bear Plunge*
11am check-in, 1pm plunge,
Donovan's Reef, Sea Bright

**January 26: 3rd Annual Brahma
Yoga Day, Brahma Yoga Spa,
Sea Bright**

**Month of April: Aveda Earth
Month Campaign, Stay Tuned for
Salons, Store, and Spa Events**

**April 5: 14th Annual Memorial
Winter Flounder Tournament,
Bahrs Landing, Highlands,
9am Blessing of the Waters,
5pm Awards and Festivities**

**April 26: Spring Beach Sweeps,
9am-12:30pm, Statewide**

**May Date TBD: Spring Student
Summit, 9am-12:30pm,
Sandy Hook**

**May 10: Ted Shred's Beach
Cruiser Bike Race, Sandy Hook**

**May 18: Family Beach Ball,
Ship Ahoy Beach Club, 3-7pm,
Sea Bright**

**June 5: Blue Tulip Store
Fundraiser, Middletown Township**

**June Date TBD: Spellbinders
Clean Rides Surf Clinic**

**September 19: 10th Annual
Sunset at Sandy Hook,
6-10:00pm, Sea Gulls' Nest,
Sandy Hook**

**October 2 & 3: Fall Student
Summit, 9am-12:30pm, Island
Beach State Park**

**October 25: Fall Beach Sweeps,
9am-12:30pm, Statewide**