CALIFORNIA OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

Mike Chrisman, *Secretary for Resources, Council Chair*
Cruz Bustamante, *Lieutenant Governor*
Alan Lloyd, *Secretary for Environmental Protection*
Sheila Kuehl, *State Senator, Ex officio Member*

April 4, 2005

Rep. Henry Waxman
30th Congressional District
2204 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C., 20515

Rep. Anna G. Eshoo
1725 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C., 20515

Rep. Lois Capps
23rd Congressional District
1707 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C., 20515

Rep. Hilda Solis
32nd Congressional District
1725 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Waxman, Eshoo, Capps and Solis:

Thank you for your March 15, 2005 letter to the California Ocean Protection Council regarding the pending national energy bill and your concerns about potential impact of this legislation on ocean and coastal protection.

The California Ocean Protection Act is intended to help California coordinate and act on ocean and coastal issues of statewide and national significance. The membership of the Council includes the Secretary of the Resources Agency, who serves as chairman, the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA), and the Chair of the State Lands Commission, who is currently the Lieutenant Governor. One State Senator and one Assemblymember also are appointed to serve as non-voting members of the Council.

The Council is committed to maintaining California as a leader in ocean and coastal management. The Council stands ready to fully implement the California Ocean Protection Act and Governor Schwarzenegger's Ocean Action Plan. At our first meeting on March 21 the Council discussed the need to maintain strong ocean and coastal

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311, Sacramento, CA 95814 Phone: (916) 653-5656 Fax: (916) 653-8102 Email: COPCpublic@resources.ca.gov
http://resources.ca.gov/ocean/copc

protection measures. As a Council we did not suggest a position on the energy bill, but reached consensus on the need to re-affirm California's position on the following ocean and coastal protection issues:

- **Congressional Oil and Gas Moratorium.** The Council opposes any effort to lift the Congressional moratorium on offshore oil and gas leasing activities that has been protecting our shores since 1982.

- **Coastal Zone Management Act.** The Council opposes efforts to reduce the ocean and coastal protections provided by the Coastal Zone Management Act.

- **Liquefied Natural Gas Facility Siting.** The Council objects to efforts to reduce or eliminate a state's role in the siting of Liquefied Natural Gas facilities.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide input on these critical issues facing California and other coastal states. Please contact Brian Baird, assistant secretary for Ocean and Coastal Policy, California Resources Agency if you have additional questions, or would like to further engage California in efforts to protect and manage ocean and coastal resources. He can be reached at (916) 657-0198 or via e-mail at brian@resources.ca.gov

Sincerely,

Mike Chrisman

MIKE CHRISMAN
Chairman, California Ocean Protection Council
Secretary for Resources

Cruz M. Bustamante

CRUZ BUSTAMANTE
California Lieutenant Governor

Alan Lloyd

ALAN LLOYD
Secretary for California EPA

cc: Sheila Kuehl, Senator
State of California