

-----Original Mess  
From: Nan Johnson  
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2006 6:31 PM  
To: Silawsky, Donald  
Subject: protecting Leaf/Pascagoula rivers from petroleum project

Dear Mr. Silawksy,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed expansion of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve in the Richton Salt Domes...especially as it would impact on the Leaf and Pascagoula Rivers.

I find the existing EIS to be inadequate, especially as it does not seem to address the stability of the salt domes with any new studies. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Mississippi field office has stated there are concerns over potential negative impacts to 17 threatened or endangered species and their habitats. Black bears, sturgeon, bald eagles and sea turtles, among others, could all be "adversely impacted by the proposed construction or operation of the oil storage facility."

The proposal comes at a time when the marine environment has taken a huge hit from Katrina.

As a Mississippian, I value the incredible natural resource represented by the Pascagoula River, and feel that short term gain/profit will mean long-term damage, which won't be repaired. I am so tired of us shortchanging ourselves and our children by treating these rivers and other natural resources as expendable commodities.

I agree with President Bush that our addiction to oil must be addressed.

In the meantime, we can do better than this proposed project.

Sincerely,

Nan Johnson

(registered voter and