

SIGNAL

INTERNATIONAL
A Marine & Fabrication Company

April 8, 2008

Mr. Donald Silawsky
Office of Petroleum Reserves
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585-0301

Ref.: Richton Salt Dome Project

Dear Mr. Silawsky,

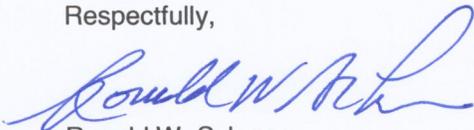
I am writing you with respect to the Richton Salt Dome Project and specifically about this project's potentially devastating impact to our companies business. Our company, Signal International, LLC, owns and operates a significant marine fabrication and construction business located on the east bank of the Port of Pascagoula's Bayou Cassotte industrial channel. Our company currently employees 2200 skilled marine craftsmen and professionals who serve the offshore oil and gas industry with the repair, conversion and modernization of offshore drilling rigs as well as supporting Northrop Grumman with the fabrication and outfitting of modules for the US Navy's LPD program. All of which is vital to our countries strategic energy and defense needs, and vital to our local economy.

We have just been advised by the Jackson County Port Authority that the southern half of our East Yard facility is being considered by the DOE as 1 of 3 potential sites within the Pascagoula Port to locate an oil terminal and tank farm. We must advise you that we strongly object to the location of the tank farm and the associated facilities on Signal's property. This location would severely impact the current business, would take away valuable property currently being used by the business to conduct blasting and painting operations and material storage (both vital to our ability to perform services required), would eliminate a significant number of jobs, would prevent future growth currently in planning, and could result in the ultimate loss of the business. Additionally, we object to the offloading terminal location south of our property because it would also interfere with ongoing work, especially during its construction and it would also interfere with our future expansion plans for the business.

We do not understand why the tank farm and its associated facilities could not be located north of the port on property currently undeveloped. Doing so would eliminate the impact to our business, as well as to the port and to the other business within the port currently being considered for this terminal facility. We do appreciate the need for strategic oil reserves and the associated infrastructure required, however, not at the sacrifice of existing businesses, jobs, and facilities currently in use, especially when other alternatives are readily available.

We would appreciate the DOE's reconsideration of the proposed terminal and tank farm location.

Respectfully,



Ronald W. Schnoor
Sr. VP/GM – Signal International, LLC