

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1804

June 14, 2010

Admiral Thad Allen
National Incident Commander
Deepwater Horizon Response
2100 Second Street, SW
Washington, DC 20593-0001

Dr. Anthony Hayward
Group Chief Executive
British Petroleum
1 St. James's Square
London SW1Y 4PD
United Kingdom

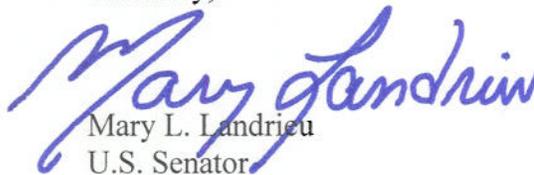
Dear Admiral Allen and Dr. Hayward,

As you both are aware, on May 24th, BP announced a commitment of up to \$500 million for independent research into the impact of the spill on the marine and the shoreline environment of the Gulf of Mexico. This is a necessary step to help the Gulf Coast's recovery.

As you both work on this matter, I want to encourage you to work with the universities on the Gulf Coast, especially the universities in Louisiana. Louisiana's universities have the skill and the particular expertise to address the impacts on Louisiana's ecosystem. Louisiana's marshes and coastline are unique to the United States and the state's universities are well-suited to address their degradation, which is one of the nation's most pronounced ecological disasters. Louisiana's universities should be the lead researchers on this effort and I hope they will not be overlooked as you put the \$500 million to use.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and thank you both for your dedication to helping Louisiana.

Sincerely,


Mary L. Landrieu
U.S. Senator

MLL: elc