

SENATOR'S NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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LA STATE SENATOR DEMANDS STOPPAGE OF TOXIC CHEMICALS IN THE GULF OIL CLEAN UP

New Orleans, LA - Louisiana state Senator A.G. Crowe and a contingency of government and civic leaders, as well as residents from the local community will stand together on the steps of the Hale Boggs Federal Government Building in downtown New Orleans on Monday, February 14th, 2011 at 3:00 pm to demand that toxic chemical dispersants be banned immediately from US navigable waters, and that the U.S. Administration release the necessary permits to allow the use of effective, scientifically-proven, non-toxic methods to clean up BP's Deepwater Horizon oil rig blow out.

A formal petition addressed to eight US Senators and Congressmen who chair committees related to budget oversight, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) oversight, and environmental protection of US land, waters, and natural resources will be launched as part of the event.

The petition declares that because of on-going actions taken by the EPA, the Clean Water Act is being violated resulting in severe, long-term harm to the public's health, marine life, the environment, the economy and the Gulf's way of life.

The petition names 6 executives from the EPA and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as having blocked the efforts of the Coast Guard and the states of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama to protect their natural resources and the health, safety and welfare of their citizens as guaranteed by the 10th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Senator Crowe states that he was motivated to create the petition following the lack of response of President Obama and his Administration to a letter Senator Crowe sent him on the 16th of January.

I requested answers to a number of serious questions and concerns brought to my attention by constituents in my District," said Crowe. District 1 includes Louisiana's geographic coastline areas hardest hit by the oil disaster.

Over 50 senior government officials were copied on that letter including the Secretaries of the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, Commerce, Agriculture, Defense, the Interior, the Attorneys General of each Gulf state, the Governors of each Gulf state, and others.

The petition goes on to claim that there are on-going reports of the illegal continued spraying of Corexit, on the Gulf's waters and its shorelines. Corexit is the marketing name given to the toxic dispersant used to break up and sink the oil below the surface.

The EPA has provided no valid scientific reason for withholding permits for the full and immediate implementation of thoroughly vetted and demonstrably workable, non-toxic, bioremediation remedies designed to fully detoxify and remediate both the oil and the toxic dispersant.

We're not going to stop. The Gulf is being destroyed by the disregard and neglect of the EPA and we have no choice but to get this resolved, no matter what it takes," said Crowe.

The full petition can be viewed and signed at Senator Crowe's website www.agcrowe.com. For additional information contact Sen. Crowe at 985.788.9772 (cell) or 985.643.3600 (office).