

KEITH T. WILKINS

From: Darryl Boudreau [dboudreau@TNC.ORG]
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2013 3:04 PM
To: KEITH T. WILKINS
Subject: FW: Tonight's RESTORE advisory meeting

fyi ...

Darryl

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From: Darryl Boudreau
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2013 3:02 PM
To: Jessica Koelsch; Christian Wagley [christianwagley@earthlink.net]
Cc: Ann Birch; Janet E. Bowman; Jennifer A. Conner
Subject: Tonight's RESTORE advisory meeting

Hey there Jessica. Thank you very much for covering this evening's meeting. If possible it would be great if you could pass the following thought on to the Committee for me:

The RESTORE Act has given the Gulf of Mexico communities a significant opportunity to improve our ability to withstand and recover from natural and man made disasters. This funded opportunity to improve our resiliency is one that not many communities have gotten or will ever get. As you move forward in your deliberations I hope that you will keep two thoughts in mind:

1. This is not a choice between economic or environmental projects as the two are intrinsically related. Without a healthy environment, stabilizing and diversifying our economy will be challenging at best. We must continue to provide and improve the quality of life we can offer potential businesses for their personnel. Also, if our waters and air are impaired these new businesses will find it difficult if not impossible to receive permit authorizations for their operations. Conversely, if we don't stabilize and diversify our economic base, it will be increasingly difficult for those of us who cherish living here to stay here due to a lack of good - family sustaining - job opportunities. Environmental and Economic interests must work together.
2. We must recognize that sea levels are rising, storm intensities are increasing and the private and public costs associated with recovering from these events are becoming astronomical. Becoming more resilient will require that we include these factors in our planning and we must strive to move development and infrastructure such as roads and high dollar development out of harms way and restore our natural infrastructure such as oyster beds, coastal marshes, wetlands and dunes to help absorb the force of these storms.

Let our legacy be that we recognized this opportunity, met it head on and provided our children and grandchildren with a community that is healthy and economically vibrant.

Thank you so very much for your incredible service to our community,

Darryl

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