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USCG-2004-16860-45

La. Department of Wildlife & Fisheries  
P. O. Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
2000 Quail Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

FAX COVER SHEET

TO: DEREK M. DOSTIE	DATE 08/11/04
FROM: HEATHER FINLEY	NUMBER OF PAGES C+1
PHONE:  FAX:	
<p>THANKS AGAIN</p> <p><i>HWF</i></p>	

If any portion of this transmission is illegible or incomplete, please contact me at the above number.



## State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO  
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU  
SECRETARY

August 09, 2004

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Room PL-401  
400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590-0001

RE: Proposed Gulf Landing LLC natural gas deepwater port in the Gulf of Mexico (Docket Number USCG-2004-16860)

Dear Sir or Madam:

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff have reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed Gulf Landing LLC natural gas deepwater port in the Gulf of Mexico (Docket Number USCG-2004-16860). The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) is considering three alternatives; 1) to approve, 2) to approve with amendments, or 3) not approve the license application by Gulf Landing to own, construct, and operate a natural gas deepwater port in the Gulf of Mexico.

Our primary concern with the proposed plan is the unknown effect of the open rack vaporizer regasification system's entrainment, impingement, and discharge characteristics on populations of marine species, particularly considering the number of license applications for this type of facility being currently considered by the USCG across the Gulf of Mexico. The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) is on record opposing the use of open rack vaporizers for precisely this reason. The Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service have both requested additional information in order to assess population-level impacts of open rack vaporizers on stocks of important marine species. We concur with the need for these additional data.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this document. Should you require additional information or wish to discuss the ideas in this letter further, please contact Jim Hanifen at 225 765-2935 or at [jhanifen@wlf.louisiana.gov](mailto:jhanifen@wlf.louisiana.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Roussel", written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

John E. Roussel  
Assistant Secretary, Office of Fisheries

jhwf