

From: Laura Cantral - Coastal Conservation League <action@scccl.org>
To: Kevin L. BryantKevinBryant@scstatehouse.gov
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Subject: Republicans and Democrats

Senator Bryant,

Yesterday morning, on the steps of the U.S. District Court in Charleston, the Coastal Conservation League, state and national conservation groups, and local mayors announced that **we would take the federal government to court** to stop seismic blasting in the Atlantic and off South Carolina's coast.

A long line of bundled-up elected officials stood behind me. They represented every level of government and both political parties—united to protect South Carolinians and our coast.

Congressman-elect Joe Cunningham, fresh from orientation in Washington, vowed to re-introduce a federal ban on drilling in the Atlantic.

State legislators (Senator Marlon Kimpson and Representatives Robert Brown, Leon Stavrinakis, and Nancy Mace—a former member of President Trump’s campaign team), local coastal mayors John Tecklenburg, Billy Keyserling, and Jimmy Carroll, and Charleston City Councilman Mike Seekings echoed our harsh opposition.

Behind us? Rows and rows of ordinary citizens and activists. We know that even those who could not join us, people like **Governor Henry McMaster**, Congressmen Mark Sanford and James Clyburn, and you, were standing with us in spirit. In a statement from Capitol Hill, Representative Sanford wrote:

I applaud this latest effort by folks at home to prevent drilling off the coast of South Carolina ... This debate has never been about energy independence but instead about the importance of not all decisions being made in Washington ... The residents of towns and hamlets along the coast of South Carolina have made their views clear; they want a voice in the way that their communities grow and develop.

Our state has spoken: We don’t want offshore oil and gas drilling. Seismic airgun blasting is a big step in that direction and threatens fragile ecosystems, marine life, small and big businesses, and our economy.

You are the driving force behind our mighty bipartisan opposition, and it will take all of us, united, to face this tremendous challenge. Stopping seismic blasting and offshore drilling isn’t a red issue or a blue issue. It’s our issue. It’s our collective fight.

It is time to again call, email, or visit your U.S. Representative or Senator. Make clear your opposition and ask for their leadership in Washington to halt this egregious action. **[Use our link to contact your lawmakers quickly here.](#)**

The Conservation League will keep you posted on our legal progress, future developments, and opportunities for you to get involved. We appreciate your vigilance and are humbled to fight with you for the future of our coast.

Onward,

Laura

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