



News from Plaquemines Parish Government

Parish President Kirk Lepine

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY PASSES RESOLUTION ON MC-20 OIL SPILL

The Couvillion Group supports the oil and gas industry's effort to expand offshore drilling, which the parish council acknowledges its importance to our area and to the state's economy.

PLAQUEMINES PARISH, La- In an unprecedented show of unity around the impacts of the 15 year Taylor Oil Spill, the Plaquemines Parish council voted unanimously to adopt a resolution in support of the US Coast Guard and the Couvillion Group, which has successfully installed a containment system over a spill that has been spewing at a rate of over 1000 gallons per day. The total quantity of oil safely collected from this disaster reached over 400,000 gallons this week.

While well into the 15th year of the MC-20 Saratoga Oil Spill, the Couvillion Group, BSEE and USCG's continuous attention to capturing oil is vital to the longevity of Plaquemines Parish. The support of the resolution comes with the support of prevention measures and public awareness.

The councils support stands as a cooperative partnership, in hopes a permanent solution, ensuring a spill of this magnitude, will not harm the water ways and marine life of Plaquemines Parish in the future.

This resolution, when coupled with a letter previously sent to Governor John Bel Edwards by Parish President Kirk Lepine sharing the parish administration's support as well, sends a unified message. The need of environmental stewardship throughout industry, by both active and inactive companies, needs to be monitored, maintained, and dependable.

Parish President Kirk Lepine praised the move by the Council: "The Parish administration is pleased to be in step with the Parish Council on this environmental issue, particularly during these challenging economic times. Together, Plaquemines Parish government is united in raising awareness of this event and of the success achieved by a local contractor, Couvillion Group."

The resolution, offered by Council Member Rousselle reads:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-

A resolution expressing the Plaquemines Parish Council's support of the United States Coast Guard and commending the US Coast Guard and its Contractor, Couvillion Group, for their successful efforts to safely capture oil from the Taylor wells and to support the US Coast Guard and BSEE in their resolve to ensure a final plug and abandon solution in this disaster; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, this is the one-year anniversary of the successful strategy to minimize destruction from the MC 20 Oil Spill; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana is known as the Sportsman's paradise for the beauty of our coast and bounty of opportunities to fish, hunt and recreate; and

WHEREAS, the people of Plaquemines Parish are especially blessed by this bounty; and

WHEREAS, this Council acknowledges the importance of the oil and gas industry to our area and to the state economy as a whole; and

WHEREAS, this Council acknowledges the importance of the oil and gas industry acting as responsible corporate citizens when operating in and along the coast of Plaquemines Parish; and

WHEREAS, this Council acknowledges the importance of holding those in the oil and gas industry who do not act as responsible corporate citizens responsible for the consequences of their actions;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT it lends its support to the United States Coast Guard and further commends the US Coast Guard and its Contractor, Couvillion Group, for their successful efforts to safely capture oil from the Taylor wells and to support the US Coast Guard and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) in their resolve to ensure a final plug and abandon solution in this disaster.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purpose of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

“As the Parish most impacted by this spill, we felt it was incumbent on us to take a leadership role in the hope that other parishes -especially coastal parishes – will follow suit” said Council member Richie Blink. “This has been going on for 15 years, which is far too long” he continued.

“I am so gratified by this vote, especially that it was unanimous”, said Timmy Couvillion. “This confirms what I already know to be true and what I know that all of us in Plaquemines Parish feel: our environment is our way of life. We live to hunt and fish and recreate outdoors, and it is important to protect our waters. Our state relies on oil and gas and there is and can be a safe balance if players are held to account. My thanks to this Council for bravely taking a stand.”

Nevertheless, Plaquemines Parish officials know full containment of the MC-20 Saratoga Oil Spill is an unceasing process. A temporary solution, maybe the answer now. Be assure, officials have full confidence in the remediation efforts, of all parties, assisting in the spill’s full containment.

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