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GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana

SCOTT A. ANGELLE SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE OF CONSERVATION

JAMES H. WELSH
COMMISSIONER OF CONSERVATION

MEMORANDUM

January 12, 2009

TO:

All Concerned

FROM:

James H. Welsh

Commissioner of Conservation

SUBJECT: Well Location Policy for Interstate Highway Crossings of Major Waterways

In order to reduce the potential for damage to Interstate highways that cross major waterways and the risks to public safety and commerce caused by the loss of well control near such portions of Interstate highways, it shall be the policy of the Office of Conservation to require a minimum distance of 1,000 feet from the surface location of any newly proposed oil or gas well to the nearest shoulder of any Interstate highway crossing of a major waterway.

This policy shall also apply to the re-entry of existing plugged and abandoned wells which require the issuance of a new drilling permit.

The following list identifies specific crossings that are the subject of this Policy.

I-10

Sabine River (State Line)

Calcasieu River

Atchafalaya Basin (entire elevated span)

Mississippi River (Baton Rouge)

Bonne Carre Spillway/Lake Pontchartrain (entire elevated span)

Lake Pontchartrain (New Orleans East to Slidell)

Pearl River (State Line)

I-12

Amite River

I-20

Red River

Ouachita

Tensas River

Mississippi River (State Line)

I-55

Pass Manchac Area

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I-59

Pearl River (State Line)

I-210

Calcasieu River/Prien Lake

I-220

Red River

Cross Lake

I-310

Mississippi River (Luling)

The Office of Conservation's District Offices will provide specific location information to applicants for drilling permits.

The policy is effective immediately.

OFFICE OF CONSERVATION OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

JAMES H. WELSH

COMMISSIONER OF CONSERVATION

JHW:CS