



STATE OF FLORIDA

BILL McCOLLUM
ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 10, 2010

John E. (Jack) Lynch Jr.
U.S. General Counsel
BP America, Inc.
501 Westlake Park Boulevard
Houston, TX 77079

Dear Mr. Lynch:

At this week's meeting of the Governor and Florida Cabinet, BP senior vice president Robert Fryar stated, in response to my question, that he was not aware of whether BP has set aside any funds dedicated to paying out claims to the state of Florida, Florida business owners and individual Floridians, arising from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill catastrophe.

Florida is already suffering significant economic difficulties as a result of this catastrophic oil spill. The lodging, restaurant, tourism and fishing industries have already been seriously impacted. Based on recent estimates from an economist associated with one of our state universities, Florida could ultimately see losses as great as \$2.2 billion, as well as a sharp decline in employment in the industries directly impacted by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

As Florida braces for what will likely be a staggering blow to its economy, with significant impacts to our state's workforce and the revenues of the state and local governments, it is essential that BP immediately establish a dedicated escrow account solely for the purpose of paying claims and damages to Florida and its citizens. I call upon BP to deposit no less than \$2.5 billion into an interest-earning escrow account so we can be assured of its availability to Florida, its citizens and businesses, over the long-term recovery period, with the acknowledgement that the escrowed amount may need to be increased in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill McCollum".

Bill McCollum

cc: Chris Hart, Director, Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development