

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

IN RE: OIL SPILL BY THE OIL RIG : **MDL No. 2179**
“DEEPWATER HORIZON” IN THE GULF :
OF MEXICO, ON APRIL 20, 2010 : **SECTION J**
:
THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO: : **JUDGE BARBIER**
:
10-4536 : **MAGISTRATE JUDGE SHUSHAN**

NOTICE OF LODGING OF PROPOSED PARTIAL CONSENT DECREE
And
REQUEST THAT THE COURT TAKE NO ACTION
UNTIL A MOTION FOR ENTRY IS FILED

The United States of America respectfully files with the Court a proposed Consent Decree between the United States of America, and defendants Transocean Deepwater Inc., Transocean Offshore Deepwater Drilling Inc., Transocean Holdings LLC, and Triton Asset Leasing GmbH. The settlement relates to the First Claim for Relief in the complaint in the matter of *United States v. BP et al.*, 10- 4536, which is the claim under the Clean Water Act. The settlement also provides benefits to the five Gulf coast states: Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida.

However, the proposed Consent Decree is contingent upon a public comment period, so the United States requests that the Court not sign the Consent Decree until the United States files a Motion for Entry. Pursuant to Paragraph 71 of the proposed Consent Decree, and in accordance with the procedures of 28 C.F.R. § 50.7, the public will have 21 days in which to submit comments to the United States Department of Justice on the proposed Consent Decree. The 21-day period will begin on the date notice of the lodging

of the proposed Consent Decree is published in the Federal Register. If, after reviewing the public comments, the Department of Justice concludes that the proposed Consent Decree should be entered, the United States and will inform the Court of any public comments received and any responses thereto, and will move for entry of the Consent Decree as a final order of the Court.

Plaintiff therefore respectfully requests that this Court receive the proposed Decree for lodging only, and that it abstain from acting upon the Consent Decree until the period for public comment has expired and the Plaintiff has moved for entry of the proposed Consent Decree.

Respectfully Submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing document has been served on all counsel by electronically uploading the same to Lexis Nexis File & Serve in accordance with Pretrial Order No. 12, and that the foregoing was electronically filed with the Clerk of Court of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana by using the CM/ECF System, which will send a notice of electronic filing in accordance with the procedures established in MDL 2179.

Date: January 2, 2013.

/s/ Steve O'Rourke
U.S. Department of Justice