

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA,
SUPPORTING THE FLORIDA KEYS
ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION AND ITS EFFORTS
IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEEPWATER HORIZON
OIL SPILL; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE
DATE.**

WHEREAS, the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill is the worst oil spill in US history, and environmental and economic threats continue to escalate due to the continuing release of oil and toxic dispersants into the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, these unprecedented threats may approach Key West and Monroe County via currents within the Gulf of Mexico and could represent peril to the unique ecosystems of South Florida, including the Everglades, the coral reef, and a wide variety of fish and wildlife habitats;

WHEREAS, the citizens of Key West and Monroe county are knowledgeable and experienced with regard to preparation and survival of disastrous events such as hurricanes, the specific behaviors and workings of local ecosystems, and the effects of environmental changes on the way of life of the community and residents; and

WHEREAS, many leading experts in marine biology, ecosystems and wildlife stewardship specific to the Florida Keys reside and practice their expertise in Key West or Monroe County and they have attracted the support of additional experts from around the US and world; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Keys Environmental Coalition (FKEC) is composed of a number of environmental and community organizations which collectively include more than 4,000 volunteers, many of whom have already taken essential

hazardous material, oiled wildlife, and National Incident Management System (NIMS) training to enable effective communication and coordination with all Incident Command participants; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Key West recommends that the volunteer expertise and resources available through members of FKEC should be incorporated into the Unified Command for Deepwater Horizon spill response actions;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the City Commission supports the efforts of the members of FKEC in research, emergency operations, deployment of environmental protection systems, strategies, and tactics, as a significant idea and implementation organization for a community defense strategy.

Section 2: The City Commission hereby directs staff to take all action necessary to prepare for oil spill response, including active participation in the Unified Command to provide protection, clean-up and remediation, as well as the ability to file claims for the City.

Section 3: The City Commission recognizes the importance of ensuring the best protection of its ecosystems, livelihood and people from the pending threats of the Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill and desires to include the full cooperation of all participating Keys entities in this effort.

Section 4: The Clerk shall send copies of this Resolution to Federal, State, and local representatives involved in response to the Deepwater Horizon Spill,

including: President Barack Obama; Vice President Joe Biden; Honorable Senator Bill Nelson; Honorable Senator LeMieux; Honorable Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen; Governor Charlie Crist; FL Representative Dean Cannon; FL Representative Ron Saunders; FL Senator Larcenia Bullard; Secretary Ken Salazar, US Department of the Interior,; Col. May, District Supervisor, Army Corps of Engineers; Col. Terrance "Rock" Salt, Asst. Sec. for Civil Works, Army Corps of Engineers; Lisa P. Jackson, EPA Admin. Environmental Protection Agency; Secretary Michael Sole, FL Dept. of Environmental Protection; Anne Morkill, U.S. Fish & Wildlife; Commander Pat deQuattro, U.S. Coast Guard Sector Key West; Lisa Gordon, Emergency Response Specialist, Bureau of Emergency Response, FL Dept of Environmental Protection; Irene Toner, Director Monroe County Emergency Management; Sean Morton, NOAA33; Christopher T. Ziegler, National Park Service Liaison, DOI Representative to Unified Command USCG Sector Key West.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this _____ day of _____, 2010.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on the _____ day of _____, 2010.

Filed with the Clerk on _____, 2010

CRAIG CATES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK