

Dear Padre Island Superintendent,

As a citizen who enjoys the natural beauty of the nation's seashores, and plans on visiting Padre Island this coming year, I strongly disapprove of the proposed drilling plan for five new BNP Petroleum wells on Padre. Not only would these wells severely tarnish the natural integrity of the seashore, but also the habitat of the endangered Kemp's Ridley sea turtle. From an ethical standpoint, it is unwise to rescind such vital habitat to allow a momentary profit gain through oil extraction for BNP. It would also be in the best interest of Padre Island to preserve this habitat as much as is possible. The continuing return of the turtles to the beach is a significant boon for the park, as an attraction appreciated by visitors, now and into the future.

I ask that you support the alternative of a federal buyout of mineral rights on Padre - this would eliminate the need to allow access to privately owned mineral leases. Furthermore, this plan would be consistent with the NPS environmentally preferred alternative, and also the original intent of the park. In addition, the majority of the Texas coast is currently being used for oil and gas production, and with only 3 percent of Texas being public recreation land, Padre Island should remain as an area of the coast that is absent of industrial development. Please support Alternative A. I respectfully urge that you help ensure that no more wells be built that could damage Kemp's Ridley habitat. I look forward to hearing your response on this crucial issue.

Sincerely, *Stephanie Chang*

Stephanie Chang

13515 Toni Ann Place

Saratoga, CA 95070