UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

THE DIRECTOR

MAY 19 2011

Ms. Miriam Rotkin-Ellman
National Resources Defense Council
111 Sutter Street
San Francisco, CA 94104

Re: FOIA Request # 2010-00482

Dear Ms. Rotkin-Ellman,

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act request # 2010-00482 dated July 13, 2010, and received by our office on July 14, 2010. You specifically requested:

"1. Data and monitoring records (including without limitation records reflecting sampling dates, locations, sampling equipment, constituents sampled. sampling results. and applicable detection limits)

a. Regarding sampling data of Louisiana crude oil from the Deepwater Horizon well;

b. Regarding sampling data of Louisiana crude oil mixed with dispersant Corexit 9500 and 9527 located on surface and in subsea waters;

c. Regarding air and water sampling data of dispersants Corexit 9500 and 9527;

d. Regarding air sampling data conducted offshore;

e. Regarding sampling data of water, soil (including benthic sediment), fish and invertebrate tissue in response to the spill;

f. Regarding sampling data of fish and seafood for oil contamination

g. Related to modeling of wind patterns to estimate air contaminant dispersion patterns and trajectories;

2. Procedures, policies and plans

a. Related to monitoring fish and seafood for oil contamination;

b. Related to assessing health risks posed by consumption of fish and seafood caught in the Gulf of Mexico;

c. Related to procedures for declaring fishing and seafood area closures;

d. Related to coordinating federal and state jurisdictions for fishing and seafood monitoring and criteria for area closures.

e. Related to water column, sediment and soil monitoring;

f. Related to conducting air monitoring in offshore areas;

g. Related to health and safety assessments for NOAA employees and contractors working in offshore areas."

In response to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and other agencies conducted research, collected infirmation, and posted the results on various public websites. Our search located the following websites with records responsive to your FOIA request:

NOAA's Deepwater Horizon/BP Oil Spill Response
http://www.response.restoration.noaa.gov/deepwaterhorizon

GeoPlatform Gulf Response – Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill
http://www.geoplatform.gov/gulfresponse/

Deepwater Horizon/BP Oil Spill: Federal Fisheries Closure and Other Information
http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/deepwater_horizon_oil_spill.htm

Damage Assessment, Remediation & Restoration – Deepwater Horizon
http://www.darrp.noaa.gov/southeast/deepwater_horizon/index.html

NOAA's Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Trajectory Maps
http://response.restoration.noaa.gov/resource_resourcetopic.php?RECORD_KEY%28resourcetopics%29=resourcetopic_id&resourcetopic_id%28resourcetopics%29=123

Deepwater Horizon Chemistry Data
ftp://ftp.orr.noaa.gov/public/ERD/chemistry-data/

Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Joint Analysis Group
http://ecowatch.ncddc.noaa.gov/jag/index.html

National Data Buoy Center - data on ocean currents (see FAQ to learn how to work with the data you need) http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/

NOAA NESDIS Satellite Imagery for the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill
http://www.ssd.noaa.gov/PS/MPS/deepwater.html

NOAA Science Missions & Data – BP Oil Spill
http://www.noaa.gov/sciencemissions/bpoilspill.html

Deepwater Horizon Incident News
http://incidentnews.gov/incident/8220

NOAA BP Site
http://www.noaa.gov/sciencemissions/bpoilspill.html

Related to procedures for declaring fishing and seafood area closures:
http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sf/deepwater_horizon/DWHEmergClosure_051110_published.pdf

Related to coordinating federal and state jurisdictions for fishing and seafood monitoring and criteria for area closures:
http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sf/deepwater_horizon/State-NOAA-FDA_Protocols_Release_6_29_FINAL.pdf
http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sf/deepwater_horizon/attachment1%283%29.pdf

Please review the above websites and clarify and/or narrow the scope of your request to records not already provided to the public. If we do not receive a response from you within 30 calendar days of this letter, we will assume that you do not wish to proceed and will administratively close your request. If you have any questions or concerns regarding our request, please contact me by email, Mike.Justen@noaa.gov, or by phone, (301) 713-1364 ext. 147.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Justen

Michael E. Justen
NMFS FOIA Liaison Officer