

ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
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MEMORANDUM

May 30, 2010

To: Members of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Fr: Chairmen Henry A. Waxman and Bart Stupak

**Re: Documents Concerning Issues Raised in Recent News Media Accounts
Related to the Deepwater Horizon Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill**

Yesterday, *The New York Times* published an article entitled “Documents Show Earlier Fears About Safety of Offshore Well.” The article described documents from BP that, according to *The New York Times*, “show serious problems and safety concerns with the Deepwater Horizon rig.”¹

Some members have asked whether we were the source of the documents cited by *The New York Times* and whether they can review the documents. We were not the source of the documents, but we have been able to identify most of the documents mentioned in the article. We are providing them to the members as attachments to this memorandum.

Some of these are technical documents about well design. Others are documents that raise questions, but their connection to the blowout, if any, require additional investigation. The Committee staff is continuing its investigation of these issues.

¹ *Documents Show Earlier Fears About Safety of Offshore Well*, *The New York Times* (May 29, 2010).