



Doug Suttles

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Gulf Coast Region Incident Commanders

Clarification of Media Access

Dear colleagues,

First, let me thank all of you for the tremendous commitment each of you are making to lead and support the response and cleanup effort. We are making good progress and we will stay at this until the job is done.

Recent media reports have suggested that individuals involved in the clean up operation have been prohibited from speaking to the media, and this is simply untrue. BP fully supports and defends all individuals rights to share their personal thoughts and experiences with journalists if they so choose.

BP has not and will not prevent anyone working in the clean up operation from sharing his or her own experiences or opinions. However, while individuals should feel free to speak openly on their own behalf, they are not authorized to speak on behalf of BP or the Unified Command.

It is extremely important that every individual is aware of BP's position to prevent further misunderstanding and miscommunication. They should also be aware that they are under no obligation to speak to media and may refer journalists to the BP press office.

Please ensure that this message is communicated to your leadership team, all clean up workers, volunteers, and VOO operators.

Once again, I thank you for your continued support and efforts.

Doug Suttles

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