



# CITY OF KENNER

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**MICHAEL S. YENNI**  
MAYOR

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ASSISTANT TO THE MAYOR,  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **KENNER JOINS JEFFERSON IN MONITORING LAKE WATERS**

Because of the concern over Monday's announcement of oil entering Lake Pontchartrain at the Rigolets, Jefferson Parish and the City of Kenner are closely monitoring the effects of tar balls and other forms of oil from the Gulf of Mexico spill may have on our area.

Jefferson Parish issued the following announcement and Kenner Mayor Michael S. Yenni said his city joins with the parish in its concern over oil moving into the lake:

On June 5, St. Tammany Parish detected the presence of tar balls in the very eastern edge of Lake Pontchartrain where the lake meets the Rigolets Pass. This was the first sighting of any type of oil from the British Petroleum (BP) Deepwater Horizon rig entering Lake Pontchartrain.

While this revelation is upsetting, the citizens of Jefferson Parish should know that the Parish is closely monitoring this situation and is communicating with the Coast Guard, St. Tammany Parish and New Orleans on any risks to Jefferson Parish.

The City of New Orleans, St. Tammany Parish, the Coast Guard and BP have placed barges and booms at the entrances to the Lake from the Rigolets and Chef Menteur Passes. Skimming vessels are also on scene should they be needed.

So far, the tar balls and other forms of oil do not pose a threat to Jefferson Parish waters. The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has not closed the fishing season in any parts of the lake in Jefferson Parish.

Jefferson Parish does not have any marsh or wetlands along the coast of the lake that would need protection from the oil. Steps will be taken to boom off pumping stations and harbors to protect them from the oil should that become necessary. The Parish will push BP and the Coast Guard to protect the Lake and clean up any oil quickly should any oil enter this estuary.

Citizens wishing to fish or recreate on the Lake should check the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries web site before their outing to insure that they do not enter closed areas.

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