



TEXAS CHEMICAL COUNCIL

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Texas Chemical Council (TCC) represents 70 member companies operating approximately 200 chemical manufacturing and research facilities in Texas, with investments of more than \$150 billion in physical assets and paying over \$1.5 billion annually in state and local taxes, while providing over 75,000 direct jobs and over 400,000 indirect jobs to Texans across the state; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Gulf Coast Region is a globally vital economic artery as it is home to the largest concentration of petrochemical manufacturing and refining facilities in the United States, is home to the petroleum strategic reserve and to the vital supply of aviation jet fuel for military and commercial use; and

WHEREAS, the six counties along the upper Texas Coast from Orange County to Brazoria County is home to more than 6.5 million Texans and is one of the most highly concentrated population centers in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Ports along the Gulf Coast Region are integral to the chemical manufacturing industry and the economies of Texas and the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Gulf Coast is vulnerable to major weather events, including historic hurricanes, which have devastated Texas cities and have the potential to devastate the Texas economy with potential impacts of over \$73 billion in gross product, \$61.3 billion in income and 863,000 jobs, and which would cause enormous damage to the United States economy; and

WHEREAS, storm surge resulting from hurricanes and other major weather events can cause significant loss of human life, destruction of residential and commercial property and damage to sensitive ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, Hurricanes Ike and Rita, most recently, had devastating effects to human life and property damage along the Texas Gulf Coast estimated at nearly \$40 billion; and

WHEREAS, a coastal barrier along the Texas coast, utilizing large moveable flood gates placed along the navigation channels is essential to provide comprehensive storm surge protection for citizens and communities in major population centers along the Texas coast, and to protect vital industries, critical infrastructure, and coastal ecosystems in the coastal regions of the state; and

WHEREAS, in response to the devastation and economic impact of Hurricanes Ike and Rita, a coastal barrier has gained wide-spread support from Texas citizens, cities, counties, businesses, as well as local, state and federal elected officials as the appropriate storm surge protection system for the Texas coastal region based on scientific research and the analysis of historical storm data, as well as the impacts to human health, ecosystems, property and the state and federal economy; and

WHEREAS, such a coastal barrier would be technically feasible, economically sound, environmentally friendly, socially equitable, and takes into consideration current studies, models and systems already in use around the world; and

WHEREAS, such a coastal barrier would justify funding from the United States Congress and/or the State of Texas to complete the comprehensive research, design, and construction of the Texas coastal spine, and would warrant the necessary Congressional action to expedite the Army Corps of Engineers' design and construction process so that the coastal barrier can be completed expeditiously in order to protect against future hurricanes and major weather events that threaten the Texas Gulf Coast; and

WHEREAS, a Texas coastal barrier would be a proactive approach to protecting people, property and businesses along the Gulf Coast Region from storm surge, and therefore, would qualify for full funding from the federal government for completion along with the needed state and local funding mechanism required for operation and maintenance of the Texas Coastal Barrier;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Texas Chemical Council fully endorses and supports the development and construction of a Texas Coastal Barrier to protect the Texas Gulf Coast Region from storm surge from major weather events, and furthermore, supports the request for funding from the United States Congress to expedite the design and build of a coastal barrier, to provide comprehensive protection to the people, industries, businesses, schools, government facilities, residences, and associated infrastructure along the Texas Gulf Coast Region.

ADOPTED, on this 13th day of October, 2016.

Neil Ackerman

Neil Ackerman, OxyChem
TCC Chairman of the Board

Hector L. Rivero

Hector L. Rivero
TCC President & CEO