

The fight to restore the settlement **has not changed our commitment to the Gulf.**

We recently reached an agreement with the federal government that allows BP once again to obtain new deepwater exploration leases. Within days, BP bid on and won 24 new leases in the Gulf of Mexico, further expanding our position as a leader in exploration and production there:

- We are the largest investor and leaseholder in the Gulf of Mexico, with ownership in more than 600 leases.
- We operate 4 of the largest production hubs in the Gulf and currently have 11 rigs in the deepwater Gulf – more than any other company.
- BP employs more than 2,300 people in its Gulf of Mexico business and supports tens of thousands of additional jobs in the region.

Our resolution with the government clears the way for us to continue investing billions of dollars in the Gulf each year, bolstering employment in the region and advancing America's quest for energy self-sufficiency.

BP's fight to restore the settlement agreement to its intended purpose – paying the legitimate claims of those who suffered real financial losses from the spill – has caused some to say we no longer care about the Gulf. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Our continued Gulf investments – as well as the \$26 billion we've spent to date on the region's economic and environmental recovery – are proof of our commitment. We are proud to play a key role in the Gulf region, partnering with its workers, its businesses, and its communities. And we intend to play that role for years to come.

For more, go to [theStateoftheGulf.com](https://www.theStateoftheGulf.com) or follow [@StateoftheGulf](https://twitter.com/StateoftheGulf).

