

# MARIA CANTWELL TRIES TO GET BP TO DEFINE “LEGITIMATE CLAIMS”

One of the highlights of the first of several Deepwater Horizon hearings in Congress this week came when Maria Cantwell tried to get BP American President Lamar McKay to commit to what BP would pay as “legitimate claims.” She asked about:

- Long term and short term harms to the fishing industry
- Business loss to tourism
- State and local governments for lost tax revenue
- Long term damages to LA fishing industry and it’s brand
- Additional troubles with fisheries
- Shipping impacts
- Impacts on further drilling operations
- Impacts to the pristine beaches in this area

He balked about the tax revenues, the brand of LA’s fishing industry, and further drilling operations.

In any case, he certainly didn’t commit to what he meant by “legitimate claims.”