

UPDATE: The [Senate Environment and Public Works Committee](#) is also getting in on the act this afternoon with a hearing on [economic and environmental impacts of the oil spill](#) starting at 2:30 EDT. Witnesses include representatives of the three companies, and representatives of fishing, tourism, and state interests. An environmental law perspective will be provided by [Meg Caldwell](#) of Stanford's Law School and [Center for Ocean Solutions](#).

Tomorrow is the first of what will surely be several Congressional hearings on the Deepwater Horizon disaster. The opening volley takes place in the [Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee](#), starting at 10 a.m. eastern time. Witnesses will include Elmer Danenberger, described on the Committee's web site as "Former Chief, Offshore Regulatory Program, Minerals Management Service." Based on [MMS's web site](#), Mr. Danenberger was in charge of the agency's offshore regulatory efforts as late as November 2009. Also appearing will be the chairman of BP America; the CEO of Transocean, owner of the Deepwater Horizon; and the President of Halliburton, which was cementing the well when the rig exploded. The hearing will be webcast live and then archived at [the Committee's web site](#).

The House Committee on Natural Resources [will hold its hearings](#) on May 26 and 27, witnesses TBA. That one will also be webcast on that [Committee's web site](#).