

Energy and the Environment



Kendrick is the only candidate who has consistently opposed offshore drilling off the coast of Florida's beaches both before and after the BP Oil Spill and the only candidate to oppose additional development in the Everglades.

He has long argued that the cost of drilling for our environment, economy, and military are too great. Even when President Obama announced his support for opening up new areas for drilling in the Atlantic and in the Gulf of Mexico, Kendrick urged caution over expediency. After the Oil Spill, he called for a moratorium of any new offshore drilling along with Senator Nelson.

Kendrick is the only candidate who supports comprehensive energy reform, including a cap-and-trade system, to break our dangerous addiction to foreign oil and transition to a clean energy future. As the "Sunshine State", Florida should be leading the way in developing solar and other clean energy technologies.

In 2007, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) declared that evidence of global warming was "unequivocal" and that human activities have markedly increased atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases. Unless we make changes, experts uniformly expect that greenhouse-gas emissions will continue to grow and lead to uneven precipitation, more extreme weather events, and rising levels and temperature of ocean waters. This has already begun to effect Florida's fishing and agriculture industries, and Kendrick believes we must do all we can to stem this tide.

Florida's unique coastline and climate make it home to more than 100 endangered and threatened plant and animal species. Kendrick supports using our resources wisely and making every effort to restore the Everglades, reinstate its natural water flow, and prevent further destruction of unique natural habitats, such as the coral reefs found just off Florida's coast. That is why Kendrick supports funding for alternative energy research. He believes that Florida's sun, wind and biomass hold part of the key to a future free of oil.