

MOBILE - U.S. Rep. Jo Bonner, R-Alabama, today announced the award of funding to several organizations in South Alabama from the United States Department of Homeland Security.

Three grants, funded through the DHS Port Security Grants Program, are being awarded to the Alabama State Port Authority (\$580,000), the Olin Corporation in McIntosh (\$90,000), and the Shell Chemical facility on Blakely Island in Mobile (\$350,000) and will be used for physical enhancements, surveillance, and security fencing.

"I am extremely pleased the Department of Homeland Security has approved funding for these organizations in South Alabama," Bonner said. "Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the security of America's ports and energy-producing facilities has been of major concern for local, state, and federal officials. This funding for the State Port Authority, the Olin Corporation, and Shell Chemicals will be of tremendous benefit in securing these facilities from outside threats and in providing a greater sense of security for their employees and residents in surrounding areas."

The Port Security Grants Program provides resources for security planning and overall dockside and perimeter improvement for national seaports deemed to be critical by the Homeland Security Department. In this current round of grant awards, DHS has provided funding to 442 projects totaling \$179 million.