

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

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BREAKFAST MEETING

Thursday, March 19, 2015

1. Call to order – Ralph Samuels, President
2. Shelf Introductions
3. Head Table Introductions
4. Staff Report – Rick Rogers, Executive Director
5. Program and Keynote Speaker:

State Operating Budget: Critical Crossroads

Cheryl Frasca, Board Member, Commonwealth North
 Eric Wohlforth, Past Board Member, Commonwealth North

Next Meeting:

Thursday, April 2: Why aren't there more metal mines in Alaska? Opportunities and Challenges, Karen Matthias, Executive Director, Council of Alaska Producers

Please add my name to RDC's contact list:

Name/Title: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

ACTION ALERT

New Five-Year OCS Plan: Comment Deadline March 30, 2015

Overview

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is taking public comments on its draft five-year Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) oil and gas lease sale plan for the period 2017-2022. The plan proposes one sale each in the Chukchi Sea, the Beaufort Sea, and Cook Inlet.

The proposed plan places 9.8 million acres of the Beaufort and Chukchi seas permanently off-limits to leasing, including the Hanna Shoal area of the Chukchi Sea. The offshore withdrawals came two days after the Obama administration announced it plans to ask Congress to designate nearly all of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as Wilderness, including the energy-rich coastal plain. These moves come at a time when oil production in Alaska is declining and the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System is running at one-fourth capacity.

The draft proposed offshore leasing program includes 11 potential lease sales in the Lower 48, including 10 in the Gulf of Mexico and, for the first time, one in the mid-to-south Atlantic region.

Action Requested

A 60-day comment period is currently underway and it will end on March 30, 2015. Comments may also be submitted online: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. In the search tab on the main page, enter BOEM-2014-0096. Locate the document, then click "Submit a Comment."

By Mail: Ms. Kelly Hammerle, Five-Year Program Manager, BOEM (HM-3120), 381 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia 20170.

Points to consider for your comments:

Please make the talking points your own, and tell your story and why this is important to you.

Cook Inlet:

- Urge the federal government not to restrict access to development, or to take any areas off the table.
- Despite its enormous resource potential, Alaska does not have the same number of lease sales as other areas of the country, only three in a five-year plan.
- Oil and gas development is the backbone of Alaska's economy.
- The discovery of oil in the Cook Inlet led to Alaska's statehood, and has remained

as a vital resource for energy security for 80% of homes in Alaska.

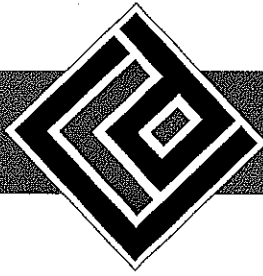
- Oil and gas development and production has coexisted with other industries, including fishing and tourism, for more than 50 years in Cook Inlet.
- Access through lease sales is the first step to development and subsequent production.

Arctic:

- Urge the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management to keep all of the proposed leasing areas in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, and to deny additional restrictions on leasing in the final program
- The Arctic OCS holds enormous oil and gas resources, greater than any other undeveloped energy basin in the United States.
- The Department of the Interior estimates that the Arctic OCS holds approximately 27 billion barrels of oil and 132 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.
- It is estimated that the OCS off Alaska holds approximately one-third of the global OCS reserves.
- Development of the Arctic OCS would produce nearly 55,000 jobs nationwide, with greater than 35,000 direct and indirect jobs in Alaska alone.
- Alaskan jobs would generate over \$70 billion in total payroll, and a cumulative payroll amounting to an estimated \$145 billion nationwide.
- Arctic OCS development would provide money to the federal government as well. In 2008, Lease Sale 193 brought in greater than \$2.6 billion, and further OCS development could amount to nearly \$200 billion in federal, state, and local government revenue.
- Offshore development would help extend the longevity of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System , which is a critical link to the nation's energy security.
- Over its 30-year span, TAPS has transported more than 17 billion barrels of oil from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez to tankers for west coast distribution.
- At one point, TAPS carried more than 2 million barrels per day, but over the last 20 years an annual decline in production from Alaska's North Slope has resulted in TAPS transporting just over 500,000 barrels of oil a day now.
- Arctic OCS development could feed into TAPS and maintain its viability, and employment for Alaskans, for years to come.
- Oil and gas development is the backbone of the economy in Alaska.

- The taxes and royalties associated with the oil and gas industry supply approximately 90% of the state's general fund, paying for essential services such as public education, public safety, and health care systems.
- Since 1971, 84 wells have been drilled in the Arctic OCS- all without incident.
- Planned drilling in the Chukchi Sea is in rather shallow water, similar to near-shore Gulf of Mexico, where safe drilling practices have led to a long history of safe operations.
- The Arctic OCS has multiple limitations on exploration, including seasonal drilling limitations and subsistence hunting closures.
- Industry that is currently operating in Arctic Alaska have taken great strides to coexist with the people of the Arctic and subsistence hunters.
- Newly instituted regulations and technologies will further ensure that development and environmental protection can co-exist in the Arctic.
- In the past decade, over 250 studies have been funded in the Arctic, with the majority focused on the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas.
- As the sea ice stays open longer and other industries begin to explore new areas of the Arctic, Alaska's northern seas are left largely unattended with little infrastructure for response or rescue.
- Leasing of the Arctic OCS for exploration and development would bring much-needed infrastructure to a very rural on-shore area and would also provide additional response capabilities in an area where other countries and other industries are moving forward with exploration.
- For the benefit of Alaskans and the nation, BOEM is encouraged to continue to include Alaska leasing opportunities in the final plan.

Deadline for public comments: Monday, March 30, 2015



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March 2, 2015

Kelly Hammerle
Five Year Program Manager
BOEM (HM-3120)
381 Elden Street
Herndon, Virginia 20170

Geoffrey Wikel, Acting Chief
Division of Environmental Assessment Office,
Office of Environmental Program (HM-3107), BOEM
381 Elden Street
Herndon, VA 20170-4817

RE: Draft Proposed 2017-2022 OCS Oil & Gas Leasing Program and Notice of Intent to Prepare a PEIS

Dear Ms. Hammerle and Mr. Wikel:

In response to the request for comments regarding the Draft Proposed 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil & Gas Leasing Program (DPP) and the preparation of a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, the Resource Development Council (RDC) urges the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to maintain all of the proposed leasing areas off Alaska in the final program and resist additional restrictions on leasing in the region. In January alone, the Department of Interior moved to forever block energy development on the coastal plain of ANWR, our greatest onshore energy prospect, and closed nearly 10 million acres of offshore areas to development, essentially putting off limits more than 10 billion barrels of oil.

RDC is a statewide, non-profit, membership-funded organization founded in 1975. The RDC membership is comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, timber, tourism, and fisheries industries, as well as Alaska Native corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. RDC's purpose is to link these diverse interests together to encourage a strong, diversified private sector in Alaska and expand the state's economic base through the responsible development of our natural resources.

These federal actions come at a time when Alaskans are facing a multi-billion deficit due to low oil prices and low production. Throughput in the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) peaked at 2.1 million barrels per day in 1988 and the pipeline is now running at three quarters empty. With its enormous resource potential, the Alaska OCS likely contains enough oil to at least double TAPS throughput, extend the longevity of the pipeline, and sustain our state's economy for decades.

TAPS has played a critical role in our nation's energy security, carrying more than 17 billion barrels of oil to West-Coast markets. It is the economic lifeblood of Alaska's economy and a critical link to the nation's long-term energy security.

One cannot overstate the importance of oil and gas to Alaska. Oil production accounts for more than one-third of the economic activity in the state. It provides and funds thousands of private and public sector jobs, as well as critical public services.

It's clear that Alaskans and our state's economy would benefit significantly from increased oil production. In fact, the very concept of Alaska's statehood is predicated on the development of our natural resources.

More than five decades ago when Alaska statehood was debated, many politicians in Washington, D.C. doubted this northern territory could build an economy and contribute to the union. Alaskans joined together to convince Congress that development of Alaska's vast resources could establish and sustain a strong private sector economy. Washington responded by adding a 49th star to the American flag.

We remind federal policy makers that Alaska was allowed to join the union because of the expectation that the development of our natural resources would sustain our economy.

Now, more than 50 years later, our economic lifeline, TAPS, is starved for oil. It's not because we have depleted our natural resources. In fact, there is more oil in place onshore and offshore the North Slope than what we have developed since statehood. The challenge is achieving access to the resource.

With America still importing more than a quarter of its oil, America needs Alaska oil. For the benefit of Alaskans and consumers across the country, we urge BOEM to continue to include Alaska leasing opportunities in the final plan.

It is vital that the United States maintain and accelerate opportunities to develop offshore oil and gas, particularly in the resource-rich Beaufort and Chukchi Seas. The region holds an estimated 23.6 billion barrels of oil and 104 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, the development of which would create 54,700 jobs and \$193 billion in government revenue. As the DDP notes, "the Arctic areas are especially promising to help meet the country's energy needs." Resource development in the U.S. Arctic would also significantly bolster the nation's influence in a strategically critical area.

In order to advance our energy and economic interests in the Arctic, the federal government must allow opportunities for both current and future lessees to explore and responsibly develop these resources.

Industry and regulators continue to adapt to the challenges of operating in the Arctic, and forthcoming regulations and technologies will further ensure that development and environmental protection can coexist in the Arctic. Operators have taken great strides to implement lessons learned and enhance prevention and response capabilities. Finally, through smart planning, Arctic offshore energy development and subsistence lifestyles can be compatible.

For the benefit of Alaskans as well as businesses and consumers across the country, RDC respectfully urges BOEM to continue to include Alaska leasing opportunities in the final plan. Reasonable regulation and advancing technologies ensure that development of these resources can proceed safely.

Sincerely,



Carl Portman
Deputy Director



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March 16, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel

Alaska State Capitol

Juneau, AK 99801

Re: HJR 4, Offshore oil and gas revenue sharing

Dear Senator Giessel:

The Resource Development Council (RDC) is writing to support HJR 4, which urges the U.S. Congress to provide a means for consistently and equitably sharing with all oil and gas producing states adjacent to the federal Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) a portion of revenue generated from offshore energy development.

RDC is an Alaskan business association comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, forest products, tourism, and fisheries industries. Our membership includes all of the Alaska Native Regional Corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. RDC's purpose is to expand the state's economic base through the responsible development of our natural resources.

Under the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006, the federal government recognized the contributions of national security made by the oil-producing states of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas and agreed to distribute to those states 37.5 percent of revenue from oil and gas development in newly leased federal waters in the Gulf. Alaska also contributes to national energy security through onshore oil and gas development, and has generated billions of dollars to the federal treasury through offshore leasing. These leases could contain tens of billions of barrels of oil, which in turn could generate hundreds of billions of dollars in revenue.

RDC has consistently supported federal revenue sharing to benefit the State of Alaska and local communities. We agree that states sustaining offshore energy development and production deserve a share of the revenue generated because they support offshore operations and experience impacts to local services and infrastructure.

Federal government grants are inadequate in addressing the need for additional investment in state infrastructure or the increased demands on state and local government resources resulting from offshore development, especially here in Alaska which has more coastline, more rural communities, and less infrastructure than any other state.

Given recent actions by the federal government to block future oil and gas development in Alaska, federal revenue sharing is vital. In January alone, the Department of Interior moved to forever block energy development on the coastal plain of ANWR, our greatest onshore energy prospect, and closed nearly 10 million acres of offshore areas to development, essentially putting off limits more than 10 billion barrels of oil.

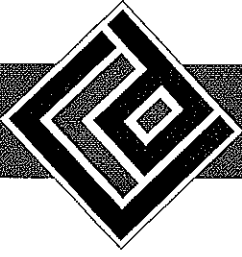
These federal actions come at a time when Alaskans are facing a multi-billion deficit due to low oil prices and low production. It's clear that Alaskans and our state's economy would benefit significantly from increased oil production and federal revenue sharing from offshore development. In fact, the very concept of Alaska's statehood is predicated on the development of our natural resources. Alaska was allowed to join the union because of the expectation that the development of our natural resources would sustain our economy. With federal revenue sharing, offshore development can help sustain Alaska's economy for decades.

RDC endorses HJR 4 and fully supports Alaska sharing in the revenues generated from offshore oil and gas leasing, development, and production. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important revenue-sharing resolution.

Sincerely,



Carl Portman
Deputy Director



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Governor Bill Walker

March 13, 2015

Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve - GMP Amendment
Fairbanks Administrative Center
4175 Geist Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Submitted via parkplanning.nps.gov/

Re: Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve

To Whom It May Concern:

The Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc. (RDC) is writing in response to the National Park Service's (NPS) release of the Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve General Management Plan Amendment, Wilderness Study Plan and Environmental Assessment.

RDC is an Alaskan business association comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, forest products, tourism and fisheries industries. RDC's membership includes Alaska Native Corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. RDC's purpose is to encourage a strong, diversified private sector in Alaska and expand the state's economic base through the responsible development of our natural resources.

RDC encourages the NPS to adopt Alternative A, the no action alternative. It is a policy of RDC to encourage multiple use of lands, such as mining (exploration, leasing, development), recreational, and other potential uses. RDC believes the no action alternative is the best option to advocate for multiple use.

RDC does not have further comments at this time, but thanks the NPS for the opportunity to comment and remain involved in this important planning process.

Sincerely,

Marleanna Hall
Projects Coordinator



alaskaresource
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Wednesday, June 10th
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Breakfast and lunch included for all players
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Breakfast, Registration & Hosted Driving Range 6:00 am, Shotgun Start 7:00 am

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Item description: _____

(160 of each)