

North Slope Borough

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Edward S. Itta, Mayor

July 25, 2011



VIA EMAIL: AK_OSCP_Comments@boemre.gov

Regional Supervisor
Field Operations
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement
3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

RE: Comments on Shell Offshore Inc.'s 2011 Revised OCS Lease Exploration Plan, Camden Bay, Beaufort Sea, Alaska and Revised Beaufort Sea, Regional Exploration Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan

Dear Regional Supervisor:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Shell Offshore Inc.'s 2011 Revised Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lease Exploration Plan (EP) and Revised Beaufort Sea, Regional Exploration Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan. The attached North Slope Borough comments represent a thorough and serious review of Shell's proposed plan and offer a number of detailed suggestions that we trust you will consider in making your decision.

Shell's proposed plan represents the first serious OCS exploration activity since the 1990s. Activities in the Arctic OCS will have a significant impact on the residents of the North Slope and raise concerns about impacts on marine mammals, fish, birds and Alaska Native subsistence practices. The recent disaster in the Gulf of Mexico makes clear that our concerns are well-founded. The potentially significant impacts of industrial activities and environmental changes offshore—individually and cumulatively—demand a comprehensive review of this Plan and proven mitigation prior to the approval of Shell's EP.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Edward S. Itta
Mayor

Attachments