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December 22, 2010

Mr. John Goll, Regional Supervisor
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement
3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500
Anchorage, AK 99503-5820

Re: Camden Bay EP

Dear Mr. Goll:

The BOEMRE is encouraged to approve Shell Oil's Revised Camden Bay Exploration Plan. Oil and gas development in the OCS will promote sustainable job growth, reduce America's dependence on foreign energy supplies and generate revenue for the State and Federal governments.

According to University of Alaska's Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER), offshore energy production in Alaska could sustain 35,000 jobs with a total payroll of more than \$72 billion over the next 50 years. Additionally, thousands of quality jobs would be sustained throughout the country.

Failure to develop our offshore energy resources will negatively impact energy intensive domestic industries, resulting in the loss of millions of jobs. Combined with other negative impacts, it is estimated the ultimate cost to our county's economy would be on the order of more than \$2 trillion according to a recent report by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

Oil and gas are the backbone of Alaska's economy accounting for about 90 pct of the State government's budget. More than 40,000 jobs are directly related to the industry and these jobs add more than \$6 billion to the gross state product. In addition to the exploration, production, refining, transportation and marketing arms of the industry, many other industries are dependent on the oil and gas industry for much, if not most, of their business.

This and other OCS oil and gas exploration and development projects are critical to our nation's welfare.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

June A. McAtee
Vice President, Land and Natural Resources