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Regional Supervisor, Leasing and Environment
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement
3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500
Anchorage, AK, 99503

RE: Shell's Development of Oil & Gas Resources in Alaska's Beaufort Sea

Dear Supervisor:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

In my opinion, it's essential for America that responsible offshore exploration in Alaska not only be approved, but encouraged. To my knowledge, Shell has made every adjustment and accommodation it has been asked to make, short of just quitting altogether -- even though it's clear there are forces that will only be satisfied with that decision.

There is a common expression that "...if there is any doubt, let's err on the side of conservation." On the surface, the expression may sound reasonable, but in reality, absolute perfection is impossible to achieve, so there will always be some element of doubt. So taken literally, this apparently reasonable position actually becomes an unreasonably hard line and barrier to virtually any activity.

Again, I believe Shell has made, and will continue to make every effort to abide by all laws, regulations and requirements to safely provide our much needed resources to America.

Thanks you,

David L. Dittman
President, Research Director