

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date: 12-6-11

Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBERS TROMBLEY AND
BIRCH

Prepared by: Assembly Counsel

For reading: December 6, 2011

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AR NO. 2011-348

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING
EXPEDITIOUS BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT REVIEW AND APPROVAL
TO ALLOW TIMELY EXPLORATION OF THE ALASKA OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF IN
THE SUMMER OF 2012 UNDER SHELL'S REVISED 2011 EXPLORATION PLAN –
CHUKCHI SEA.**

WHEREAS, Shell Gulf of Mexico, Inc. (Shell) proposes to conduct a multi-year exploration drilling program on the Alaska Outer Continental Shelf in the Chukchi Sea, beginning in July 2012; and

WHEREAS, Shell's Exploration Plan includes drilling up to six wells within the Burger Prospect, located about 70 miles off the coast in approximately 140 feet of water, using the drillship *M/V Noble Discoverer* and various support vessels, all to leave the Chukchi Sea at the end of each season; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is in the process of evaluating the Exploration Plan, preparing a site-specific environmental assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and determining in the alternative whether to approve Shell's exploration plan, require modifications, or disapprove the plan; and

WHEREAS, public comment on Shell's Revised 2011 Exploration Plan – Chukchi Sea are due December 7, 2011; and

WHEREAS, oil and natural gas development in the Chukchi Sea can substantially bolster our nation's energy security and grow the economy; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Outer Continental Shelf remains one of the most abundant, untapped reserves of conventional hydrocarbons in North America, with estimated resources of 27 billion barrels of oil and 132 trillion cubic feet of gas; and.

WHEREAS, by developing these resources, the United States could boost our energy security by securing the future of the Trans-Alaskan Pipeline System (TAPS); and

WHEREAS, a significant source of stable, North-American energy will support consumers and businesses which depend on oil to fuel their livelihoods; and

WHEREAS, energy development in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas will go a long way to restoring economic growth in the United States, since it is estimated that an annual average of 54,700 new jobs would be created and sustained nationwide for 50 years from Alaskan OCS exploration and production; and

1 WHEREAS, these new jobs will create new payroll and tax revenue for local, state and
2 federal government, serving to jumpstart our nation's lagging economy;
3

4 NOW, THEREFORE, THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY HEREBY RESOLVES:
5

6 **Section 1.** The Municipality of Anchorage urges the Bureau of Ocean Energy
7 Management to move forward expeditiously to complete a second
8 environmental assessment, approve Shell's 2012 Chukchi Sea Exploration Plan
9 and allow exploration of the Alaska Outer Continental Shelf in the Chukchi Sea
10 timely under Shell's revised 2011 Exploration Plan – Chukchi Sea in the summer
11 of 2012.
12

13 **Section 2.** This Resolution of the Anchorage Assembly shall be submitted to
14 the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management as local government comment, and
15 presented to James Kendall, Alaska Regional Director, U.S. Bureau of Ocean
16 Energy Management.
17

18 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 6th day of
19 December, 2011.
20

21
22 Debbie Oslander Beg
23
24 Chair
25

26 ATTEST:
27

28
29 Barbara S. Gruendt
30
31 Municipal Clerk



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM
No. AM 735-2011

Meeting Date: December 6, 2011

From: ASSEMBLY MEMBER Trombley

Subject: AR 2011-348 - A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING EXPEDITIOUS BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT REVIEW AND APPROVAL TO ALLOW TIMELY EXPLORATION OF THE ALASKA OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF IN THE SUMMER OF 2012 UNDER SHELL'S REVISED 2011 EXPLORATION PLAN – CHUKCHI SEA.

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) has begun technical and environmental analysis of the revised exploration plan submitted by Shell Gulf of Mexico, Inc. (Shell) and public comment is invited until December 7, 2011. Shell has augmented the plan to provide additional safety and spill response capabilities, ensuring its program in the Arctic will have access to additional oil spill prevention and response resources—such as a blowout containment system and additional supply vessels. BOEM will conduct an additional environmental study, and then BOEM must decide whether to approve, modify, or disapprove the revised Shell Exploration Plan. The purpose of this Assembly Resolution is to provide local support and comment for expeditious review and approval of the revised exploration plan.

Northern Economics and the University of Alaska Anchorage's Institute of Social and Economic Research, have published an exciting recent study showing an annual average of 54,700 new jobs would be created and sustained through the year 2057 from the development of Alaska Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) reserves; with an estimated total of \$145 billion in new payroll for employees through the year 2057, including \$63 billion to employees in Alaska and \$82 billion to employees in the rest of the U.S. (See *economic studies at www.northeconomics.com/OCS/*.)

The December 6, 2011 Assembly meeting is the last meeting before the public comment period closes.

Upon passage and approval by the Assembly, the Municipal Clerk shall ensure timely electronic transmittal by December 7, 2011 under "*Public Engagement Opportunities*" on the BOEM website (<http://www.boem.gov/ShellChukchi2012>) and to: James Kendall, Alaska Regional Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500, Anchorage, AK 99503.

Respectfully submitted:

Adam Trombley
Assembly Member, Section 5

This is a **preview** only. To edit or submit your comment, close this window.

You are commenting on a Other:

Shell Gulf of Mexico Revised 2012 Outer Continental Shelf Lease Exploration Plan, Chukchi Sea, Alaska. Burger Prospect: Posey Area Blocks 6714, 6762, 6764, 6812, 6915; Chukchi Sea Lease Sale 193 (May 2011) (BOEM-2011-0121-0001)

INFORMATION

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Organization Name:	Municipality of Anchorage
Government Agency Type:	Local
Government Agency:	Anchorage Assembly

COMMENT

See attached file(s)

Please accept this resolution passed and approved by the Anchorage Assembly at last night's meeting

Attachments:

BOEM Chuckchi.pdf

[Print this page](#)

Your comment was submitted successfully!

Thank you for submitting a comment on the following Other:

[Shell Gulf of Mexico Revised 2012 Outer Continental Shelf Lease Exploration Plan, Chukchi Sea, Alaska, Burger Prospect: Posey A Blocks 6714, 6762, 6764, 6812, 6915; Chukchi Sea Lease Sale 193 \(May 2011\)](#)

Agency: BOEM

Document ID: BOEM-2011-0121-0001

Your Comment Tracking Number: 80f7d4a1

Note this tracking number to find your comment at a later date.

Your attached files:

H:\BOEM Chukchi.pdf

✓ Successfully uploaded

When will my comment appear online?

After submitting your comment, you will not be able to view your comment until the appropriate agency reviews and publishes it on Regulations.gov. Given certain regulations may have thousands of comments, processing may take several weeks before it is viewed online. To obtain further information, please follow-up with the agency contact listed in the document soliciting your input. To view this document click the link above.

How do I find my comment in the future?

The best way to find your comment in the future is to enter your Comment Tracking Number in the search field on the homepage. You can also search by keyword or submitter name.



Municipality of Anchorage

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Office of the Municipal Clerk

December 7, 2011

James Kendall
Alaska Regional Director
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500
Anchorage, AK 99503

RE: Shell's Revised 2011 Exploration Plan- Chukchi Sea

Dear Mr. Kendall:

Please accept this resolution in support of expeditious Bureau of Ocean Energy Management review and approval to allow timely exploration of the Alaska outer continental shelf in the summer of 2012 under Shell's Revised 2011 Exploration Plan-Chukchi.

This resolution was passed and approved by the Anchorage Assembly at last night's meeting.

Sincerely,

Barbara E. Gruenstein
Municipal Clerk

Community, Security, Prosperity