



Interior Alaska – The “Place” To Do Business

August 4, 2009

Secretary Ken Salazar
U. S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce respectfully submits the attached resolution in support of oil and gas leasing, exploration, development, and production in Alaska’s Outer Continental Shelf.

Development of Alaska’s Outer Continental Shelf is just as important to the general Fairbanks area as it is to the rest of Alaska; the oil and gas industry is responsible for 6% of our employment. The Outer Continental Shelf, if developed, would play a significant role in extension of the Alaska petroleum industry into the next generation.

We urge you to support oil and gas lease sales in Alaska’s Outer Continental Shelf.

Sincerely,

Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce

Jack Wilbur
Chairman of the Board

- Cc: The Honorable Senator Lisa Murkowski
- The Honorable Senator Mark Begich
- The Honorable Representative Don Young
- The Honorable Governor Sean Parnell
- Members of the Alaska State Legislature
- Mayor Jim Whitaker, Fairbanks North Star Borough
- Mayor Terry Strle, City of Fairbanks
- Mayor Doug Isaacson, City of North Pole

INVESTORS

DIAMOND

- BP Exploration
- ConocoPhillips
- ExxonMobil
- Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
- FMH & Denali Center
- Flint Hills Resources Alaska

PLATINUM

- Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.
- Carlson Center
- Fred Meyer
- GCI
- Golden Heart Utilities
- Mt. McKinley Bank
- Wells Fargo Bank Alaska

GOLD

- Alaska USA FCU
- Birchwood Homes
- Denali State Bank
- Design Alaska
- Doyon, Limited
- First National Bank Alaska
- Kinross-Fort Knox Mine
- Laborers Union Local 942
- MAC Federal Credit Union
- The Boeing Co.
- Usibelli Coal Mine

SILVER

- ACS
- Alaska Airlines
- Alaska Railroad
- AT&T
- Denali – The Alaska Gas Pipeline
- Everts Air Cargo
- Fairbanks Natural Gas
- Flowline Alaska
- Fountainhead Development
- GVEA
- Hale & Associates, Inc.
- JL Properties, Inc.
- Key Bank
- K Janitorial Services, LLC
- Northrim Bank
- Operating Engineers Local 302
- Personnel Plus
- Pogo Mine
- Santina’s Flowers & Gifts
- Spirit of Alaska FCU
- Tanana Valley Clinic
- TDL Professional Staffing
- TOTE
- WAL-MART Stores, Inc.



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RESOLUTION 09-0713

A RESOLUTION BY THE GREATER FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (GFCC) URGING U. S. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR KEN SALAZAR TO SUPPORT OIL AND GAS LEASE SALES IN THE ALASKA OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF (OCS)

WHEREAS, the U. S. Minerals Management Service is seeking comments on the development of energy resources in the Outer Continental Shelf and intends to use such input to develop an energy plan over the next six months for offshore areas; and

WHEREAS, the leasing, exploration and development of both conventional and renewable energy resources offshore Alaska are vital to the economy; and

WHEREAS, the OCS development has an outstanding safety and environmental record spanning decades in Alaska’s Cook Inlet, Gulf of Mexico, the North Sea, Sakhalin Island, Russia, and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, oil and gas production can move forward in the Alaska OCS in an environmentally-sensitive and responsible manner, through a strong regulatory regime, state-of-the-art oil spill response, seasonal operating restrictions as needed, and mitigation measures to avoid conflicts with other resource and subsistence users; and

WHEREAS, the oil and gas industry generated directly and indirectly approximately one-third of Alaska’s employment of 42,000 jobs, 9.4% of all employment and \$2.4 billion in wages; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 6,000 direct oil and gas sector jobs would be created by OCS activity in Alaska, in addition to an estimated 29,000 indirect jobs; and

WHEREAS, OCS development and growth could more than offset losses from the decline of petroleum production on state lands, could help sustain the economy for several decades, and increase throughput in the trans-Alaska oil pipeline, which is operating at one-third capacity; and

WHEREAS, the responsible development of Alaska’s offshore energy resources would help meet future U. S. energy demands; and

WHEREAS, if revenue sharing is established with the State of Alaska, OCS development could more than offset losses from petroleum production on Alaska State lands, and help sustain the Alaska economy for several decades. Revenue sharing from OCS production with the State of Alaska and local communities should be enacted to help address State and local impacts; and

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ExxonMobil
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
FMH & Denali Center
Flint Hills Resources Alaska

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SILVER

ACS
Alaska Airlines
Alaska Railroad
AT&T
Denali – The Alaska Gas Pipeline
Everts Air Cargo
Fairbanks Natural Gas
Flowline Alaska
Fountainhead Development
GVEA
Hale & Associates, Inc.
JL Properties, Inc.
Key Bank
K Janitorial Services, LLC
Northrim Bank
Operating Engineers Local 302
Personnel Plus
Pogo Mine
Santina’s Flowers & Gifts
Spirit of Alaska FCU
Tanana Valley Clinic
TDL Professional Staffing
TOTE
WAL-MART Stores, Inc.

WHEREAS, opportunities related to OCS activities in Alaska would provide many benefits, including thousands of new jobs in rural and urban areas, additional tax income to the state, local, and national governments, and provide new local sources of fuel and energy; and

WHEREAS, access to Alaska's OCS resources may be a key factor in the economic feasibility of the proposed natural gas pipeline from the North Slope to the Lower 48; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive energy plan for the nation must include Alaska, which accounts for over 30 percent of the nation's technically recoverable oil and gas resources; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska OCS is an important future source of U. S. energy supply with an estimated 27 billion barrels of oil and 132 trillion cubic feet of natural gas potentially in place; and

WHEREAS, the Chukchi Sea is considered the most prospective unexplored offshore basin in the U. S.; and

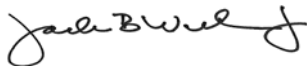
WHEREAS, the demand for energy will continue to rise and reality will require development of America's oil and gas resources as the nation transitions to the new energy sources of the future; and

WHEREAS, development of wind, solar, hydro, geothermal, and other alternative energy sources, which the GFCC also supports, should not preclude oil and gas development in Alaska as America needs more from all energy sources to reduce its reliance on foreign energy sources.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE GREATER FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STRONGLY SUPPORTS OIL AND GAS LEASING, EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION IN THE ALASKA OCS, INCLUDING MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY AND CERTAINTY OF THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR THE CHUKCHI SEA, BEAUFORT SEAS, AND THE NORTH ALEUTIAN BASIN.

Passed on the 13th day of July, 2009

GREATER FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Jack Wilbur
Chairman of the Board



Chairman
Natural Resources Committee