

Date: Wednesday, December 21 2016 04:52 PM

Subject: [Redacted] Obama announces withdrawals of offshore areas from leasing in Alaska and Atlantic

From: [Redacted]

To: [Redacted]

Attachments: image001.jpg

[Redacted]

As you are aware, yesterday the President announced that he is exercising his authority under Section 12(a) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to withdraw areas from offshore leasing in Alaska and the Atlantic.

Here is a link to the DOI Press Release - <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-applauds-presidents-withdrawal-atlantic-and-arctic-ocean-areas-future>

[Redacted]

Best regards,

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
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From: Reid Porter

Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2016 4:09 PM

To: _All API Staff

Subject: News release - API: America needs forward-looking offshore energy plan

The following release, [API: America needs forward-looking offshore energy plan](#), went out to news

media. Read the full release below or go to the API Newsroom.

Reid Porter | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

API: America needs forward-looking offshore energy plan

WASHINGTON, December 20, 2016 – The administration’s decision to remove key Arctic and Atlantic offshore areas from future leasing consideration ignores congressional intent, our national security, and vital, good-paying job opportunities for our shipyards, unions, and businesses of all types across the country, according to API Upstream Director [REDACTED]

“Our national security depends on our ability to produce oil and natural gas here in the United States,” said [REDACTED]. “This proposal would take us in the wrong direction just as we have become world leader in production and refining of oil and natural gas and in reduction of carbon emissions. Blocking offshore exploration weakens our national security, destroys good-paying jobs, and could make energy less affordable for consumers. Fortunately, there is no such thing as a permanent ban, and we look forward to working with the new administration on fulfilling the will of American voters on energy production.”

A permanent withdrawal conflicts with Congress’ stated purpose in creating the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA), which was to make the outer continental shelf “available for expeditious and orderly development.” In addition, a permanent and unilateral withdrawal by the president conflicts directly with the special role that OCSLA gives governors in OCS leasing decisions. Past instances show that the next president has power to undo a 12(a) withdrawal through a presidential memorandum. In 2008, President George W. Bush used a simple memorandum to remove previous 12(a) withdrawal areas and make all OCS lands available for leasing except marine sanctuaries.

“We are hopeful the incoming administration will reverse this decision as the nation continues to need a robust strategy for developing offshore and onshore energy,” said Milito. “The U.S. offshore industry has a long history of safe operations that have advanced the energy security of our nation and contributed significantly to our nation’s economy.”

API is the only national trade association representing all facets of the oil and natural gas industry, which supports 9.8 million U.S. jobs and 8 percent of the U.S. economy. API’s more than 625 members include large integrated companies, as well as exploration and production, refining, marketing, pipeline, and marine businesses, and service and supply firms. They provide most of the nation’s energy and are backed by a growing grassroots movement of more than 30 million Americans.

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