

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

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RESOLUTION 26-007(A)

A RESOLUTION OF THE OF CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA
PROVIDING COMMENTS ON THE BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY
MANAGEMENT'S 11th NATIONAL OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OIL
AND GAS LEASING PROGRAM FOR THE ALASKA REGION

WHEREAS, The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is in the process of developing a five-year the 11th oil and gas lease sale program for the United States Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) called the National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program; and

WHEREAS, BOEM released its first proposal on the 11th National OCS Program on November 20, 2025 and comments on the proposal are due on January 23, 2026; and

WHEREAS, The first proposal includes 34 potential lease sale areas in three OCS regions, one of the regions is Alaska; and

WHEREAS, The Alaska region includes 21 proposed sales starting in 2026, and the proposed sale areas occur in the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, and Chukchi Sea; and

WHEREAS, The Gulf of Alaska includes four proposed lease sale areas including Cook Inlet (proposed sales in 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, and 2031), Shumagin, Kodiak, and the Gulf of Alaska from the tip of the Kenai Peninsula east and south to the Alaska border with Canada (proposed sales in 2030), Kodiak; and

WHEREAS, Whereas, important documents related to the lease sale are available at the website <https://www.boem.gov/oil-gas-energy/national-program/national-ocs-oil-and-gas-leasing-program>, the Federal Register notice may be found at the link <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/11/24/2025-20760/notice-of-availability-of-the-11th-national-outer-continental-shelf-oil-and-gas-leasing-draft>, and the comment docket (BOEM-2025-0483) may be found at the link <https://www.regulations.gov/document/BOEM-2025-0483-0001>; and

WHEREAS, oil and gas leasing in the OCS in Alaska could result in impacts (positive and negative) on the livelihoods and economies of Homer residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska has the following comments on the 11th National OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sale for the Alaska region, particularly lease sales planned in the Gulf of Alaska, including Cook Inlet:

- Many residents of Homer and elsewhere on the southern Kenai Peninsula make their living (whether commercially or for subsistence) from the fisheries resources of the Gulf of Alaska, Cook Inlet, and the Bering Sea. Impacts to the fisheries resources in these regions, directly affects our residents and the city's economy.
- Homer and southern Kenai Peninsula residents have expressed considerable concern about the potential environmental harm of Cook Inlet Lease Sale 258, and these concerns have not been adequately addressed. Conducting additional lease sales while the issues of Cook Inlet Lease Sale 258 persist seems ill-advised, demonstrates a disrespect to local residents.
- Many residents of the Homer area were harmed by the 1989 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) and recognize the very real hazards of oil and gas industry spills into the marine environment. Some species injured by EVOS have not recovered after more than 30 years.
- ~~Residents of the southern Kenai Peninsula have expressed concern about the impacts of Northern Edge Navy training in the Gulf of Alaska on marine mammals, birds, and fish. Some of the impacts of Navy training could be similar to that of oil and gas development and should be fully evaluated before lease sales are conducted.~~
- The waters of the Gulf of Alaska are harsh and unforgiving, even in summer months, and any emergency on oil or gas rig in the Gulf of Alaska would be extremely difficult to control and respond to in a timely manner.
- ~~Much of the Gulf of Alaska lease area is deep and far offshore, making oil and gas exploration and development extremely expensive. Given the costs and risks associated with deep water development, it seems impractical to offer these deep waters for lease.~~
- We request BOEM conduct full National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review and documentation for the proposed lease sales in Alaska. Following the NEPA process would allow for evaluation of the practicalities and reasonable considerations of oil and gas leasing and development in Alaska waters and the harsh environment in which oil and gas facilities would operate, include consideration of the overall interest of oil and gas development these regions by industry provide, and provide disclosure of the potential impacts of lease sales and development. The NEPA process, as outlined in law, would allow for public comment from the residents who depend on these waters for their livelihoods, subsistence lifestyles, and economies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Homer will submit these comments to BOEM through comment docket BOEM-2025-0483, <https://www.regulations.gov/document/BOEM-2025-0483-0001>, by the January 23, 2026 deadline.

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89 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 12 day of January, 2026.

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97 ATTEST:

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100 AMY WOODRUFF
AMY WOODRUFF, CITY CLERK

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102 Fiscal information: NA

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CITY OF HOMER

RACHEL LORD, MAYOR

