

Alaska Legislature

Representative Charisse Millett

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District 30

Co-chair, House Special Committee on Energy

May 2, 2010

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

RE: [Remand of the 2007-2012 OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program MMS-2009-OMM-0016]

Secretary Salazar,

Alaska's Outer Continental Shelf is a vast warehouse of energy that can be combined with renewable forms of energy to help our country become more energy independent.

I understand your department is preparing to issue its decision on a leasing program for the Chukchi Sea and I strongly support the decision to maintain the Chukchi leases issued in Sale 193. I also support and encourage you to include the cancelled lease sales in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas in the next five year OCS leasing plan.

Offshore petroleum exploration and production in the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas will not be deep water operations like those found in the Gulf of Mexico. The petroleum industry also has decades of experience operating in remote arctic environments.

OCS development will also create new jobs and generate billions of dollars in new revenue for the federal government. Some of those new jobs will be filled by Alaskans in rural areas where jobs are almost nonexistent.

As a co-chair of the House Special Committee on Energy I have learned how crucial energy is to Alaska and the rest of the nation. Meeting our energy needs requires us to

use all viable sources and Alaska's Outer Continental Shelf must be a part of any national energy plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charisse Millett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rep. Charisse Millett