

**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**To:** [MacGregor, Katharine](#)  
**Cc:** [Swift, Heather](#); [Bloomgren, Megan](#); [Downey Magallanes](#); [Daniel Jorjani](#); [Katharine Macgregor](#); [Domenech, Douglas](#); [Scott Hommel](#); [Boulton, Caroline](#); [Vincent Devito](#); [Chambers, Micah](#)  
**Subject:** Re: OFFSHORE EO  
**Date:** Thursday, April 27, 2017 3:46:16 PM  
**Attachments:** [FactSheet\\_EO\\_Offshore\\_FINAL.docx](#)

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Here's the FINAL version without tracked changes.

*Laura Keehner Rigas*  
*Communications Director*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*(202) 897-7022 cell*  
*@Interior*

On Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 4:35 PM, MacGregor, Katharine  
<[katharine\\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Few small but necessary edits and good to go.

On Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 3:58 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, Heather! Meg and Kate, pls confirm that you are ok with this and Heather will send it to the WH as FINAL. Need to do Donny 4:15pm.

Also, any feedback on his remarks? Thx!

L

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
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On Apr 27, 2017, at 3:38 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Per Meg, attached is the most updated version of the fact sheet with Kate's edits incorporated. Less of an internal document. More geared toward press.

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Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 2:44 PM, MacGregor, Katharine  
<[katharine\\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

First edits to offshore talking points attached.

On Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 2:27 PM, Rigas, Laura <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
wrote:

Hi all --

We have asked the following people to be in the pre-briefing with the Secretary at the WH at 5pm today:

Kate  
Vincent  
Meg  
Heather  
(and me)

Please let me know if that's a problem. We just need to keep it tight so it's not overwhelming with too many people.

Thanks for understanding. We are also still waiting on a room number.

My best,

L

*Laura Keehner Rigas*  
*Communications Director*  
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@Interior

On Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 1:33 PM, Bloomgren, Megan

<[megan\\_bloomgren@ios.doi.gov](mailto:megan_bloomgren@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Adding Vincent Devito.

Attached are very draft Fact Sheet and Talking Points for review on tomorrow's offshore EO.

I'm leaving for the Hill now and handing off to Kate, Laura and Heather to finalize for the 5pm WH prep session.

On Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Bloomgren, Megan

<[megan\\_bloomgren@ios.doi.gov](mailto:megan_bloomgren@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Draft Fact Sheet - awaiting EO details.

Will work on talking points now.

On Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 12:28 PM, Swift, Heather

<[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I'm pestering Brad in WH cab comms for it. He's trying.

-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 12:26 PM, Bloomgren, Megan

<[megan\\_bloomgren@ios.doi.gov](mailto:megan_bloomgren@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Awesome - are they able to flip us the draft EO?

On Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 12:25 PM, Laura Rigas

<[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Micah will join the briefing as well. Kate, if you can meet us at the WH by 5pm that would be awesome. I just confirmed the press briefing will start at 6pm.

Prebrief room at the WH is TBD.

Thanks, all.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
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On Apr 27, 2017, at 12:19 PM, Katharine MacGregor

<[katharine\\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Just tell me what you want and where you need me to be.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 27, 2017, at 12:15 PM, Swift, Heather

<[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Micah speaks TRCP language too.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) 1  
[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 12:14 PM,

Bloomgren, Megan

<[megan\\_bloomgren@ios.doi.gov](mailto:megan_bloomgren@ios.doi.gov)>

wrote:

would keep the briefing at 6pm.  
Should someone else attend the BBQ since it's in his honor? Doug, could you attend?

On Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 12:08 PM,

Laura Rigas

<[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thx. Are we ok with a 6pm press briefing or move it to 7pm if he's cancelling the BBQ anyway??  
How much prep time does he need?

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
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On Apr 27, 2017, at 12:06 PM,  
Downey Magallanes  
<[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>  
> wrote:

He would like to  
cancel the barbecue  
and is ok with  
cancelling the 5 pm

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 27, 2017, at  
11:44 AM,  
Bloomgren, Megan  
<[megan\\_bloomgren@ios.doi.gov](mailto:megan_bloomgren@ios.doi.gov)>  
wrote:

Thanks -  
all,  
thoughts  
on this  
plan?  
Let's plan  
on getting  
materials  
done by  
1:45pm if  
possible.  
Materials  
include  
remarks  
and fact  
sheet  
(hard Qs  
and

proposed  
As can be  
done  
before  
5pm).  
If  
remarks  
and fact  
sheet  
done by  
1:45pm, I  
can take  
them to  
the Hill  
and show  
to him  
when we  
drive  
back after  
his  
minority/majority  
meetings.  
Should  
have  
quick  
briefing  
here at  
500pm  
and then  
travel to  
WH at  
5:40pm  
for  
background  
briefing  
at 6pm if  
possible.  
Then late  
to TRCP  
BBQ.

I'll take  
lead on  
fact  
sheet.  
Heather  
will draft  
remarks.  
We'll get  
both to

Kate and  
this group  
for  
review/signoff.  
Sound  
good?

On Thu,  
Apr 27,  
2017 at  
11:36  
AM,  
Downey  
Magallanes  
<[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)

> wrote:

I will  
tell  
him

Sent  
from  
my  
iPhone

On Apr  
27,  
2017, at  
11:35  
AM,  
Swift,  
Heather  
<[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
wrote:

WH  
CONFIRMED

-  
-  
-

Z  
will  
give  
press  
briefing  
tonight  
EO  
Signing  
tomorrow

at  
WH

EO  
attached

Caroline,  
can  
you  
cancel  
Ben  
Collins  
for  
prep  
and  
press  
briefing?

-

Heather  
Swift  
Department  
of  
the  
Interior

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[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov)  
1  
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<OffshoreEO.pdf>

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Kate MacGregor  
1849 C ST NW  
Room 6625

Washington DC 20240

202-208-3671 (Direct)

<FactSheet\_EO\_Offshore\_married.docx>

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Kate MacGregor  
1849 C ST NW  
Room 6625  
Washington DC 20240

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**FACT SHEET**  
**Executive Order: Offshore Energy Development**

Past administrations have been overly restrictive of offshore energy exploration and have taken off the table hundreds of millions of offshore acres for development. As a result, 94 percent of the Outer Continental Shelf is off limits to responsible energy development. The America First Offshore Energy Executive Order directs a review of the locations available for offshore oil and gas exploration and of certain regulations governing offshore oil and gas exploration.

**BACKGROUND**

- The Five-Year Program for oil and gas development establishes a schedule of oil and gas lease sales proposed for planning areas of the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The Program specifies the size, timing, and location of potential leasing activity that the Secretary of the Interior determines will best meet national energy needs. On January 17, 2017 the Obama Administration approved the 2017-2022 OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program.
- The Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, created on August 7, 1953, defines the OCS as all submerged lands lying seaward of state coastal waters (3 miles offshore) which are under U.S. jurisdiction. Under the OCSLA, the Secretary of the Interior is responsible for the administration of mineral exploration and development of the OCS. The Act empowers the Secretary to grant leases to the highest qualified responsible bidder on the basis of sealed competitive bids and to formulate regulations as necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act. The Act, as amended, provides guidelines for implementing an OCS oil and gas exploration and development program. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) are the agencies at the Department charged with management of our nation's 1.7 billion OCS acres.
- Today, 94 percent of the Outer Continental Shelf is off limits for responsible development and only 16.3 million acres on the U.S. OCS (out of a total 1.7 billion acres) are under lease for oil and gas development (3,087 active leases) and 4.4 million of those acres (885 leases) are producing oil and natural gas. More than 97 percent of the leases are in the Gulf of Mexico; about 3 percent are on the OCS off California and Alaska. The 16 million acres accounts for 18 percent of domestic oil production and 4 percent of U.S. natural gas production.
- Offshore energy development is one of the leading sources of revenue into the U.S. Treasury behind tax payments to the IRS. That revenue comes in the form of bids paid from leasing, rents and royalties paid on production. (The Department of the Interior in March [established a Royalty Policy Committee](#) to ensure taxpayers get a fair value for energy leases and rents.)
- In 2008 federal leasing revenues for the OCS were nearly \$18 billion dollars. By contrast, in 2016, leasing revenues approximately \$2.8 billion. That's a drop of more than \$15 billion that would otherwise go to the Treasury or toward funding important conservation programs like the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Historic Preservation Fund.
- Encouraging energy exploration and production, including on the Outer Continental Shelf, in order to maintain the Nation's position as a global energy leader and foster energy security and resilience for the benefit of the American people, while ensuring that any such activity is safe and environmentally responsible.

## **OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS**

- The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) estimates the U.S. OCS contains about 90 billion barrels of undiscovered technically recoverable oil and 327 trillion cubic feet of undiscovered, technically recoverable natural gas. The Gulf of Mexico, covering 160 million acres of OCS, has 48.46 billion barrels of technically recoverable oil and 141.76 trillion cubic feet of technically recoverable natural gas.
- The sales value of the oil and gas resources amounted to about \$26 billion, and generated about \$55 billion in total spending in the economy. These expenditures supported approximately 315,000 domestic jobs.

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER: DETAILS**

### **What the Executive Order does:**

- 5-Year Plan: The EO directs Interior to revise or initiate a new 5-year plan that considers access to areas that the last Administration closed down, without interrupting the lease sales that are scheduled in the current plan.
- Arctic withdrawal: The EO reverses President Obama's withdraw of our Arctic OCS Planning Areas, and several other areas. Some withdrawals are left in place – like the North Aleutian Basin.
- Seismic surveying: The EO encourages Interior and Commerce to work together to come up with a more streamlined seismic surveying process in order to better use this science so that Americans can get a better grasp of our energy wealth.
- Regulatory Measures: The EO directs Interior to reconsider several regulations that have been finalized very recently so that responsible development can continue without compromising safe operations.
- Smart Planning: The EO allow DOI and other agencies like DOD to have an input on offshore Marine Monument and Marine Sanctuary designations and expansions. Just like on land, our federal waters have multiple uses, such as DOD training, offshore energy, commercial and recreational fishing, and protecting our marine borders.

### **What the Executive Order doesn't do:**

- This Executive Order does NOT require leasing in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico.
- This Executive Order does NOT increase conflicts with military uses of the OCS
- This Executive Order does NOT address wind energy leasing.
- This Executive Order does NOT guarantee development in any area, it simply restarts the planning process.
  - The planning process will be similar as previous 5-year plan processes. The same areas will be open (all of the OCS) - and by law, Interior will go through a "winnowing" process where the Department collects input from states, other agencies, the public, etc. Over months of study, the available area is narrowed down to the areas that make the most sense to lease. Some areas may not make sense for energy development – but our statute-driven process provides Interior with that discretion. For example: the State of California has opposed increased access in the past, even from existing platforms. While it was "open" when the previous Administration last initiated the 5-year plan, it was not chosen for leasing. This Administration values local input and will be making careful and deliberative choices again as a part of this statute-driven process.

**The order directs the Secretary of the Interior to:**

- Revisit the five year plan of proposed oil and gas development and consider leasing in each of the following Outer Continental Shelf Planning Areas: Western Gulf of Mexico, Central Gulf of Mexico, Chukchi Sea, Beaufort Sea, Cook Inlet, Mid-Atlantic, and South Atlantic
- Work with the Secretary of Commerce and to the maximum extent permitted by law, a streamlined permitting approach for privately funded seismic data research and collection aimed at expeditiously determining the offshore energy resource potential of the United States, within the Planning Areas.
- Review the following rules and regulations:
  - Notice to Lessees and Operators of Federal Oil and Gas, and Sulfur Leases, and Holders of Pipeline Right-of-Way and Right-of-Use and Easement Grants in the Outer Continental Shelf (September 2016)
  - Oil and Gas and Sulfur Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf-Blowout Preventer Systems and Well Control (April 2016)
  - Air Quality Control, Reporting, and Compliance (April 2016)
  - “Oil and Gas and Sulfur Operations on the Outer Continental Shelf—Requirements for Exploratory Drilling on the Arctic Outer Continental Shelf,” (July 2016)

**The order directs the Secretary of Commerce to:**

- Refrain from designating or expanding any National Marine Sanctuary under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, unless the sanctuary designation or expansion proposal includes a timely, full accounting from the Department of the Interior of any energy or mineral resource potential within the designated area and the potential impact the proposed designation or expansion will have on the development of those resources.
- Within 190 days, conduct a review of all designations and expansions of National Marine Sanctuaries, and of all designations and expansions of Marine National Monuments under the Antiquities Act of 1906 designated or expanded within the 10-year period prior to the date of this order.
- Review the following rules and regulations:
  - NOAA’s Technical Memorandum of July 2016 (Technical Guidance for Assessing the Effects of Anthropogenic Sound on Marine Mammal Hearing)