

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 7, 2014

The Honorable Sally Jewell  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW, Room 7229  
Washington, DC 20240-0002

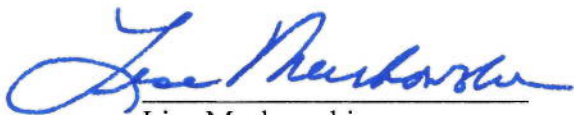
Dear Secretary Jewell:

There is no issue more important to our nation than energy security. With our allies under threat, our friends under attack, and our enemies on the move, continued exploration and production of energy from federal lands in the United States is absolutely vital. Our offshore resources, which the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act of 1953 declares "should be made available for expeditious and orderly development," are critical to this effort.

As you proceed with planning the next Five Year Program (2017-2022), we urge you to reconsider the Administration's disappointing decision not to include lease sales in the Atlantic region in the current program, contrary to the original vision for OCS development during this time period. In addition to the areas in Alaska and the Gulf of Mexico that are presently open to exploration and production, the new program should include lease sales in the Arctic, the Atlantic Ocean and Cook Inlet in Alaska, and retain area-wide leasing. Shifting to targeted lease sales in Alaska or elsewhere could prematurely preclude access to and development of vital oil and gas resources.

We must not return to the constrained vision of the past wherein America's resources remain untapped just off our coastline. As the next program is finalized, please know that we will only support a leasing program that continues to develop in current exploration areas and includes new access in areas such as Alaska and the Atlantic regions.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senator



James Inhofe  
United States Senator



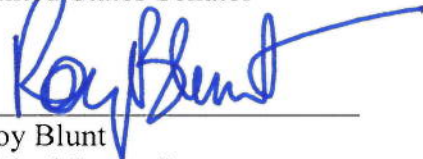
Rob Portman  
United States Senator



John Barrasso  
United States Senator




Tim Scott  
United States Senator



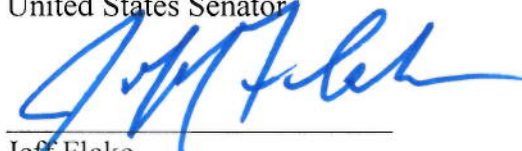
Roy Blunt  
United States Senator



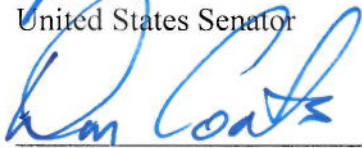
Mike Enzi  
United States Senator



John Thune  
United States Senator



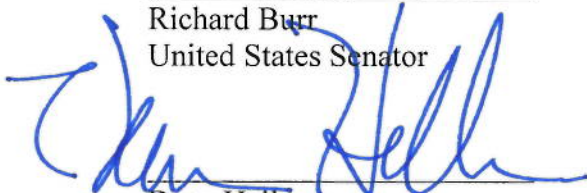
Jeff Flake  
United States Senator



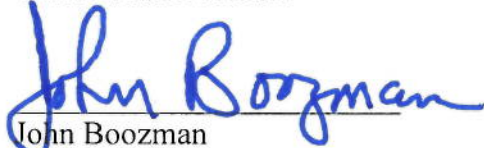
Dan Coats  
United States Senator



Richard Burr  
United States Senator



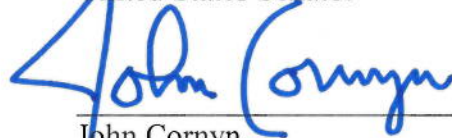
Dean Heller  
United States Senator



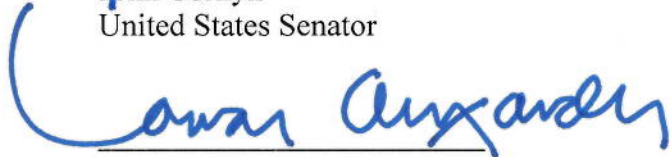
John Boozman  
United States Senator



James Risch  
United States Senator



John Cornyn  
United States Senator



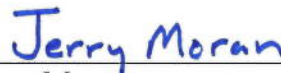
Lamar Alexander  
United States Senator



Lindsey Graham  
United States Senator



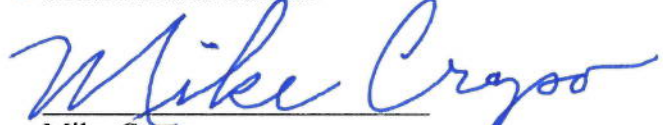
John Hoeven  
United States Senator



Jerry Moran  
United States Senator



Jeff Sessions  
United States Senator



Mike Crapo  
United States Senator