



January 23, 2026

The Honorable Doug Burgum
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Ms. Kelly Hammerle
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (VAM-LD)
45600 Woodland Road
Sterling, VA 20166-9216

Subject: Comments for the 11th National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program

Dear Secretary Burgum:

As Governors of California, Oregon, and Washington, we vehemently oppose the inclusion of any new oil and gas lease sales off California's coast as proposed in the 11th National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program (OCS Program).

For over 20 years, the states of California, Oregon and Washington have been unified and definitive in our opposition to new offshore oil and gas development off the West Coast, given the devastating risks to our economies, communities, and environment. Any new oil and gas development off our coasts threatens the entire West Coast. Our opposition is joined by leaders across the political spectrum—including Republican elected officials along both coasts—who recognize that offshore drilling threatens their states' economies and coastlines. Decades of offshore drilling history have demonstrated that well blowouts, pipeline ruptures, and catastrophic spills are inherent risks of offshore drilling, not isolated incidents. A major spill could profoundly impact our region's ecosystems, commercial and recreational fishing, cultural resources, tourism, recreation, military operations and shipping across our shared coastline, with consequences for public health and safety and our multi-billion-dollar coastal economies. These disasters can take decades to remediate, with long-lasting impacts on marine ecosystems and the communities that depend on them.

Moreover, our states are deeply invested in a transition to a cleaner, reliable and affordable energy future. California, Oregon, and Washington work together to advance policies and investments that will expand access to clean energy, alternative fuels, and energy across the West Coast. While the Trump administration is making energy more expensive by doubling down on costly fossil fuels of the past and pulling the rug out from under solar and wind projects already under construction, China is racing ahead to dominate the clean energy economy of the future.

By clinging to outdated offshore oil drilling instead of investing in the technologies that create good-paying local jobs, the Trump administration is ceding American leadership and prosperity to our competitors and adversaries. Rather than expanding offshore oil development and taking our nation backwards to outdated and risky energy development, the federal government should prioritize energy investments and policies that reflect the innovation and technologies of the future. We urge you to accelerate the transition to clean, affordable energy and create economic opportunities that mitigate climate change.

For decades, the states of California, Oregon, and Washington have been unwavering in our opposition to new offshore oil and gas development. The risks to the thriving coastal economy and environment along the West Coast from additional OCS oil and gas exploration in California far outweigh the potential benefits. It is also notable that while this proposal puts our coastlines at risk, the Administration has conspicuously excluded waters off the East Coast. Given these risks, we strongly urge BOEM to remove all proposed oil and gas lease sales from the Pacific Region in the 11th National OCS Leasing Program.

Sincerely,

A black ink signature of Gavin Newsom, consisting of a stylized 'G' followed by a series of vertical strokes.

Gavin Newsom
Governor of California

A black ink signature of Tina Kotek, written in a cursive style.

Tina Kotek
Governor of Oregon

A blue ink signature of Bob Ferguson, written in a cursive style.

Bob Ferguson
Governor of Washington