

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT Alaska OCS Region 3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500 Anchorage, Alaska 99503-5823

APR 28 2014

BP Exploration (Alaska), Inc. Ms. Pauline Ruddy Land Use Permitting and Compliance Advisor PO Box 196612 Anchorage, AK 99519-6612

Dear Ms. Ruddy:

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Alaska Region (BOEM AKR) has reviewed the BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. (BPXA) *Notice to Conduct Ancillary Activities Liberty 2014 Shallow Geohazard Survey Liberty Development Beaufort Sea, Alaska* (dated February 14, 2014). The BPXA ancillary activities in this notice consist of geotechnical and seabottom activities in support of the Liberty Development (OCS Lease Y-1650 and Y-1585). The notice describes on-lease ancillary activities as defined in 30 CFR 550.105 and 30 CFR 550.207.

BOEM has evaluated the notification under the process outlined in 30 CFR 550.209 and concludes that, subject to the conditions listed below, the ancillary activities described in the notice comply with the performance standards under 30 CFR 550.202(a), (b), (d), and (e). The conditions are:

- Adhere to the Biological Opinion and Conference Opinion for Oil and Gas Activities in the Beaufort and Chukchi Sea Planning Areas (May 8, 2012) prepared by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS);
- Adhere to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7(a)(2) Biological Opinion - Oil and Gas Leasing and Exploration Activities in the U.S. Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, Alaska - NMFS Consultation Number: F/AKR/2011/0647 (April 2, 2013); and
- Provide BOEM a copy of the Incidental Harassment Authorization for the Liberty 2014 Shallow Geohazard Survey, Beaufort Sea.

We ask that BPXA also:

- Inform BOEM of BPXA's meetings or consultations with federal agencies, communities, and resource organizations;
- Provide BOEM and BSEE with daily operations, safety, and environmental compliance reports; and
- Provide BOEM, for submission to the Alaska State Historic Preservation Office (AK SHPO), a brief report of the sub-bottom data and of any Pleistocene landforms that may contain

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archeological sites. This analysis must be performed by a qualified archaeologist and include a summary and analysis of the data obtained or information derived from the ancillary activities.

BPXA is responsible for notifying and complying with all other agencies that have regulatory authority associated with the ancillary activities, and must notify BOEM in writing at least 15 calendar days before conducting other activities not described in the notification, pursuant to 30 CFR 550.208(b)(l).

If you have questions, please contact Bill Ingersoll, BOEM AKR Chief of the Plans Section at 907-334-5224, 907-306-4381 or via email at <u>william.ingersoll@boem.gov</u>.

Sincercly,

David Johnston, Regional Supervisor Office of Leasing and Plans

cc: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 7 Regional Director

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 7 Endangered Species

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 Oil & Gas Sector Management

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 Alaska Operations Office U.S. Coast Guard, Alaska

Bureau of Safety Environmental and Enforcement, Alaska Region, Regional Director Bureau of Safety Environmental and Enforcement, Chief, Environmental Enforcement Division

Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Office of Project Management Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Commissioner's Office North Slope Borough Mayor North Slope Borough, Office of Government Affairs North Slope Borough, Planning Department North Slope Borough, Department of Wildlife Management Native Village of Kaktovik Native Village of Nuigsut City of Kaktovik City of Nuiqsut City of Barrow Village of Barrow **Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope** Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission Alaska Ice Seal Committee Alaska Beluga Whale Committee Alaska Nanuuq Commission