

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

ION Geophysical

Geological & Geophysical Permit 2010 2D Seismic Acquisition Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, Alaska

Introduction

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations at 40 CFR 1501.3(b) and 1508.9, Department of the Interior (DOI) regulations implementing NEPA at 43 CFR Part 46, and Bureau of Ocean Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) (formerly the Minerals Management Service or MMS)¹ policy, BOEMRE prepared an environmental assessment (EA) of the potential effects of ION Geophysical's proposed 2010 seismic survey in the Beaufort and Chukchi Sea Planning Areas of the Alaska outer continental shelf (OCS). The proposed seismic survey activities are authorized under the OCS Lands Act and are regulated under 30 CFR 251 Geological and Geophysical (G&G) Explorations of the OCS.

On August 6, 2010, a notice of preparation of an EA on ION Geophysical's proposed seismic survey was sent to potentially affected stakeholders and posted on the Alaska OCS Region website. The notice provided "additional opportunity for the public to provide views, prior to a decision being made by the Responsible Official(s), that may inform the decision-making process, including issues or information regarding potential environmental effects that should be considered in the preparation of the EA." A summary of the substantive issues in the comments received and our consideration and response to them was prepared for consideration by Regional decisionmakers.

The BOEMRE prepared the EA to determine whether the proposed action may result in significant effects (40 CFR 1508.27) that could trigger the need for an environmental impact statement (EIS) and to assist with BOEMRE planning and decision-making (40 CFR 1501.3b).

The BOEMRE conducted the environmental evaluation to ensure the proposed seismic surveys are conducted "in a safe and environmentally sound manner so as to prevent harm or damage...to any life (including fish and other aquatic life)...or the marine, coastal, or human environment" (30 CFR 251.2). The EA analyzes the potential for significant adverse effects from specific proposed activities on environmental resources.

Purpose of the Proposed Action

ION Geophysical submitted a G&G permit application (ION, 2010) and supporting documents for a proposed 2010 exploration seismic survey within the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas OCS Planning Area. The purpose of the seismic survey is to collect two-dimensional (2D) seismic survey data for use in evaluating potential hydrocarbon accumulations in the Beaufort and Chukchi seas. Ultra-deep 2D lines are used to evaluate the evolution of the petroleum system at the basin level, including identifying source rocks, migration pathways, and play types. ION Geophysical will be interpreting the data collected. The survey will be conducted from the *SR/V BOS Atlantic*, a seismic source vessel using airguns as the energy source, with assistance from the *M/V Talagy* a polar class icebreaker. The *M/V Polar Prince*, a class 2 icebreaker will be used as a supply vessel. Gravity and magnetic surveys will be conducted concurrently with the seismic survey.

¹ On June 18, 2010, the Secretary of the Interior changed the name from Minerals Management Service to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (Secretarial Order No. 3302).

Description of the Proposed Action

ION Geophysical's proposal is to conduct a single season of marine seismic surveying in the Beaufort and Chukchi seas between September 25 and December 15, 2010. ION Geophysical proposes to conduct a 2D seismic survey primarily in the Alaskan Beaufort Sea with two survey lines extending into the Chukchi Sea (Fig. 1 of the attached EA). The survey area would extend from 138° to 168° W longitude and 70° to 73° N latitude and range from about 12 to 250 km (7 to 155 mi) offshore in water depths from less than 20 m (66 ft) to greater than 3,500 m (11,483 ft). Approximately 62% of the proposed survey lines would be conducted in water depths greater than 200 m (656 ft), where few marine mammals occur. The survey area would cover the continental shelf, the continental slope, and the abyssal plain. The approximate total length of the proposed survey lines is 7,250 km (4505 mi). For mitigation and operational reasons the survey area has been bisected by a line running from 70.5° N, 150.5° W to 73° N, 148° W (Fig. 1). ION Geophysical plans to begin survey operations in the eastern survey area in deep water (>1000 m, 3281 ft). The survey would then progress to shallower waters in the eastern survey area before moving to the west survey area in late October or early November. Ice conditions during the survey are expected to range from open water to 10/10 (91%-100%) ice cover.

The seismic source vessel to be used is *SR/V BOS Atlantic*, an ice strengthened, ice class 1A vessel. It is 65 m long, with a beam of 14 m and a draft (loaded) of 7.8 m. The *SR/V BOS Atlantic* has a cruising speed of 13 kts, but would travel at a speed ranging from about 4 to 5 kts while conducting seismic operations. The vessel is equipped with standard navigation, radar, communication and depth sounding equipment. The airguns and hydrophone streamer towed by the *SR/V BOS Atlantic* have been specially designed for operations in ice covered seas.

The vessels would enter the Alaskan Beaufort Sea from Canadian waters on or about September 25 and return to Dutch Harbor on or before 30 December. The seismic survey is scheduled to occur over about 76 days during the timeframe from September 25 to December 15, 2010, with some variation possible given the uncertainties in ice conditions and other environmental variables. Vessel travel between the survey area and Dutch Harbor will remain outside of the Ledyard Bay Critical Habitat Unit except in an emergency or as specifically authorized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS).

Related Environmental Documents

The site-specific EA incorporates information by reference from previous NEPA documents prepared by BOEMRE (formerly MMS), the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). These documents address issues and analyze potential effects of seismic surveys in the Arctic OCS. The tiering-process is detailed in NEPA's implementing regulations (40 CFR 1502.20 and 1508.28) and is intended to eliminate repetitive discussions of issues and concentrate on specific issues related to specific activities.

This EA incorporates by reference the following documents which provide a comprehensive characterization of the Arctic Ocean's physical, biological and socio-economic resources and Alaska Native subsistence activities, and evaluate a broad spectrum of potential seismic survey-related impacts. These documents can be found at: <http://www.BOEMRE.gov>.

- Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment, Arctic Ocean Outer Continental Shelf, Seismic Surveys – 2006 (OCS EIS/EA MMS 2006-038) June 2006. (2006 Final Seismic PEA)
- Final Environmental Impact Statement, Beaufort Sea Planning Area Oil and Gas Lease Sales 186, 195 and 202—2003 (OCS EIS/EA MMS 2003-001) February 2003

- Environmental Assessment, Proposed OCS Lease Sale 202 Beaufort Sea Planning Area—2006 (OCS EIS/EA MMS 2006-001) August 2006
- Final Environmental Impact Statement, Chukchi Sea Planning Area Oil and Gas Lease Sale 193 —2007 (OCS EIS/EA MMS 2007-026) May 2007.
- Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Beaufort Sea and Chukchi Sea Planning Areas Oil and Gas Lease Sales 209, 212, 217, and 221—2008 (OCS EIS/EA MMS 2008-0055) November 2008
- Biological Opinion for Oil and Gas Leasing and Exploration Activities in the U.S. Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, Alaska; and Authorization of Small Takes Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. NMFS, July 2008.
- Biological Opinion for Beaufort and Chukchi Sea Program Area Lease Sales and Associated Seismic Surveys and Exploratory Drilling. FWS, September 2009.

Environmental Evaluation

The following issues and concerns were identified by the technical analysts for consideration during this environmental review:

- potential effects of seismic survey sound and ice breaking on bowhead and beluga whale migration patterns;
- potential effects of seismic survey sound and icebreaking on marine fish and essential fish habitat (EFH);
- potential effects of seismic survey operations and icebreaking on marine mammals, marine birds, threatened and endangered species and proposed polar bear critical habitat; and
- potential effects of seismic survey operations on subsistence activities of Alaska Natives.

Previous seismic survey-related environmental evaluations (2006 Final Seismic PEA, 2003 Final Beaufort Sea Planning Area EIS and 2007 Chukchi Sea Sale 193 FEIS) concluded that the effects to terrestrial mammals, air quality, and water quality from seismic survey operations in the Beaufort and Chukchi seas would be negligible. Effects to terrestrial mammals, air quality, and water quality were not further analyzed in the site-specific EA.

The BOEMRE evaluated the Proposed Action, an Open Water Alternative and a No Action alternative. Other alternatives were considered but not analyzed.

No Action.

Under this alternative, BOEMRE would not approve the proposed activities. This alternative would delay or eliminate any potential adverse effects to the physical environment, biological resources, or subsistence activities from the acquisition of seismic survey data in the vicinity of ION Geophysical's proposed Beaufort and Chukchi seas seismic survey during the 2010 season. This alternative could also result in lost opportunities for discovery and production of oil and gas resources.

Proposed Action.

Based on review of the proposed seismic survey activities and the best available scientific information, the analysis in the attached EA concludes that **negligible** to **minor** adverse effects are expected to occur from ION Geophysical's proposed seismic survey in the Beaufort and Chukchi seas during the 2010 season. Mitigation measures incorporated into the proposed action were considered in the analysis. The overall conclusions of the proposed action analysis are summarized below:

Biological Resources: ION Geophysical's proposed seismic survey is expected to have negligible or minor, short-term effects on biological resources. Effects on marine mammals, marine birds, and most marine fish or their habitats would be restricted to disturbance and temporary avoidance or displacement.

Threatened and endangered species expected to occur in the proposed survey area are bowhead whales and polar bears. Effects from ION Geophysical's proposed seismic survey are expected to be minor and limited to disturbance and potentially some avoidance of the area being surveyed by some individual animals. No population level effects are anticipated. Adverse effects to bowhead whales or polar bear are anticipated to be limited to disturbance or displacement by icebreaker traffic or seismic sound associated with ION Geophysical's activities. Effects are expected to be negligible to minor and temporary.

The proposed seismic survey activities are expected to have a negligible effect, on proposed critical habitat for polar bears, or EFH.

Subsistence Activities, Employment, and Community Health: Effects on subsistence activities undertaken by Kaktovik, Nuiqsut and Barrow are expected to be negligible. The effect of employment of local residents in support of proposed activities is expected to be negligible at the community level. The proposed action is not expected to adversely affect community health within these communities. The proposed activities are expected to have no adverse effect on the health of the residents of the North Slope Borough or the communities of Kaktovik, Nuiqsut and Barrow.

Significance Review (40 CFR 1508.27)

Pursuant to 40 CFR 1508.27, significance is evaluated by considering both context and intensity.

The potential significance of an action must be analyzed in several contexts such as society as a whole (human, national), the affected region, the affected interests, and the locality. Significance varies with the setting of the proposed action. For site-specific actions like this one, significance would usually depend upon the effects in the locale rather than in the world as a whole. Both short-term and long-term effects are relevant. For this proposed action, the context is one of an offshore environment. Given the nature and timing of the proposed seismic survey activities, essentially all notable effects are expected to be short-term, occurring only while the activities are taking place. It is with this context in mind that the intensity of potential effects is considered.

Intensity refers to the severity of effect. Pursuant to 40 CFR 1508.27(b), the following ten factors have been considered in evaluating the intensity of ION Geophysical's proposed activities:

1. **Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse.** A beneficial effect of the proposed action will be an increase in knowledge of the geologic structure of the project area. Potential adverse effects of the proposed activities to the physical environment, biological resources, and subsistence activities are expected to be negligible to minor. Therefore, the level of adverse and beneficial effects of the proposed action does not render the potential impacts significant.
2. **The degree to which the proposed action affects public health or safety.** The communities closest to the proposed survey area are Nuiqsut, Kaktovik and Barrow. The proposed activities are not expected to adversely affect community health. Previous seismic survey-related environmental evaluations (2006 Final Seismic PEA and Sale 193 EIS) concluded that effects to water and air quality from open-water seismic survey operations would be negligible. ION Geophysical's proposed activities will incorporate mitigation measures developed cooperatively with the Beaufort Sea communities to avoid interference with subsistence activities. These measures will be an integral part of the activities and will be required and enforced by BOEMRE if the proposed action is approved. Therefore, the

degree to which the proposed action may affect public health or safety does not render the potential impacts significant.

3. **Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.**

All of the proposed seismic tracklines for the proposed action occur in designated adult and late juvenile Arctic cod and Pacific salmon EFH: the western-most proposed Chukchi tracklines overlap with a very small section of the eastern-most adult and late juvenile saffron cod EFH. The proposed activities could cause temporary, localized effects on any one trackline overlapping EFH, and dispersed effects over the entire project area and over the three-month survey. Based on this EA's EFH analysis BOEMRE has determined that there would be temporary adverse effects to adult and late juvenile Arctic cod, Pacific salmon, saffron cod and their designated EFH. The BOEMRE analysis for EFH consultation with NMFS concluded that ION Geophysical's activities would have negligible adverse effects on EFH.

Many of the proposed seismic tracklines could occur in Unit 1 of proposed critical habitat for the threatened polar bear (sea ice) in the Beaufort and Chukchi seas (74 FR 56058). The effects of the proposed survey, including icebreaking, were analyzed in the EA. The BOEMRE analysis has determined that the proposed action would not result in any adverse modification of proposed critical habitat.

Emissions and discharges from the survey vessels must comply with regulations that are applicable to all vessels. Emissions from seismic survey activities are expected to be localized and short term, and to have negligible effects on local air quality (2006 Final Seismic PEA). Discharges from ION Geophysical's proposed activities would be regulated under the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Vessel General Permit for Discharges Incidental to the Normal Operation of Vessels (EPA, 2009a), which became effective for Alaska on February 6, 2009. Current USCG regulations related to pollution prevention and discharges for vessels carrying oil, noxious liquid substances, garbage, municipal or commercial waste, and ballast water are found at 33 CFR 151. Allowable discharges and emissions are not expected to affect the coastal area or sea ice.

Therefore, the degree to which the proposed action may affect unique geographic areas does not render the potential impacts significant.

4. **The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.** Whaling is a culturally self-defining practice of the Inupiat people. Stakeholder concerns related to anthropogenic noise in the Arctic marine environment have focused on the potential effects to marine species, particularly the bowhead whale, from impulse sounds associated with high-energy seismic surveys, such as the proposed action. Stakeholder concerns have included the potential effects of noise on other marine mammals, fish, and birds; the biological significance of bowhead whales' responses to anthropogenic marine noise; and potential interference with subsistence activities.

The anticipated effects of the proposed activities are based upon well-defined and established models for sound transmission. The proposed activities include specific and enforceable mitigation measures. The effects analyses in the EA are based on the best available scientific information. No unavailable information relevant to potential significant effects or essential to a reasoned decision on the proposal or alternatives was identified.

There remain no substantial questions regarding whether the proposed action may cause significant effects. Therefore, the degree to which the potential effects of the proposed action may be highly controversial does not render the potential impacts significant.

5. **The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.** Permitted seismic surveys have been conducted in the federal waters of the Beaufort and Chukchi seas since the 1960's with a peak in the 1980's. Prior to the 2006 open-water season, approximately 99,000 line-miles and 80,000 line-miles of 2D seismic surveys had been conducted in the Beaufort Sea Planning Area and Chukchi Sea Planning Area, respectively. Since 2006, three seismic surveys were conducted during the open-water season in the Beaufort Sea and three were conducted in the Chukchi Sea Planning Areas. No significant adverse effects were observed during these operations, which incorporated both marine mammal observers and passive acoustic monitoring.

Potential effects to bowhead whales, other marine mammals, and subsistence, were analyzed previously in the 2006 Final Seismic PEA, the 2007 Chukchi Sea Sale 193 FEIS, and multiple EAs prepared by BOEMRE and NMFS for proposed seismic surveys in 2007 and 2008. Based on its NEPA analyses, BOEMRE found no significant effects to marine mammals and subsistence activities from seismic surveying activities. Based on its NEPA analyses, NMFS found negligible effects to marine mammals and no unmitigable adverse effects to the availability of subsistence resources from seismic survey activities. The NMFS July 17, 2008, Biological Opinion concluded that OCS exploration activities, including seismic surveying, in the U.S. Arctic Ocean are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the fin, humpback, or bowhead whale. The FWS September 3, 2009, Biological Opinion concluded that OCS exploration activities, including seismic surveying, in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the polar bear, the Steller's eider, or the spectacled eider, nor will they destroy or adversely modify critical habitat. These NEPA and ESA consultation findings were neither highly uncertain nor involved unique or unknown risks.

Seismic survey noise and ice-breaking has been analyzed in previous BOEMRE NEPA documents (MMS 2003-038, MMS 2006-038, MMS 2007-026). The effects of the proposed action are not expected to be highly uncertain nor does the proposed action involve unique or unknown risks. Therefore, the degree to which the potential effects of the proposed action may be highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks does not render the potential impacts significant.

6. **The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.** ION Geophysical's G&G permit application was submitted pursuant to OCS operating regulations at 30 CFR 251. The permit application is limited to ION Geophysical's proposed seismic survey in the Beaufort Sea and Chukchi Sea Planning Area during 2010 in open water and ice conditions (previously conducted G&G surveys have been in open water). In compliance with OCS Lands Act and DOI policy in 516 DM 15, BOEMRE conducts technical and environmental review on each G&G permit application. All G&G permits are subject to BOEMRE proposal-specific technical and environmental review and separate decision making process. No precedent for future actions for surveys in other conditions or a decision on principles for future considerations is made through decision on these specific proposed activities. Issuance of a G&G permit does not constrain the decision on any future G&G permit, nor does denying a G&G permit set a precedent for future approval of any future G&G permit. Therefore, the degree to which the proposed

action may establish a precedent for future actions or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration does not render the potential impacts significant.

7. **Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts. Significance exists if it is reasonable to anticipate a cumulatively significant impact on the environment. Significance cannot be avoided by terming an action temporary or by breaking it down into small component parts.**

The EA considered the potential cumulative effects of the proposed seismic activities and other expected activities in 2010. The EA concludes that the proposed activities are not reasonably anticipated to produce significant impacts or to incrementally add to the effects of other activities to the extent of producing significant effects. The proposed action is not directly or causally related to other actions with cumulatively significant impacts.

Therefore, the degree to which the potential effects of the proposed action may be related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts does not render the potential impacts significant.

8. **The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.** The proposed activities do not include seafloor-disturbing activities (e.g., anchoring). Allowable discharges and emissions are not expected to affect the coastal area. The proposed action is not expected to adversely affect historic resources. Therefore, the degree to which the proposed action may adversely affect historic resources does not render the potential impacts significant.

9. **The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.** ION Geophysical's proposed seismic surveying activities are within the scope of the activities covered in the current ESA consultations. The NMFS July 17, 2008, Biological Opinion concluded that OCS exploration activities, including seismic surveying, in the U.S. Arctic Ocean are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the fin, humpback, or bowhead whale. The FWS September 3, 2009, Biological Opinion concluded that OCS exploration activities, including seismic surveying, in the Beaufort and Chukchi seas are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the polar bear, the Steller's eider, or the spectacled eider, nor will they destroy or adversely modify critical habitat. The Biological Opinion provided incidental take authorization for listed eiders, and required that incidental take of polar bears be authorized under the MMPA, at which time an ESA Incidental Take Statement (ITS) will be issued.

The effects of the proposed action on endangered or threatened marine mammals are expected to be minor and temporary, and limited to disturbance and potentially some avoidance of the survey operations by a small number of marine mammals. This level of effects would be consistent with findings that are prerequisite to the issuance of incidental harassment authorizations under the MMPA. To issue incidental harassment authorizations under MMPA, NMFS and FWS must determine that the proposed action would have a negligible impact on marine mammal species and no unmitigable impact on subsistence use. ION Geophysical has applied to NMFS for an Incidental Harassment Authorization under the MMPA (February 2010, revised August 2010). ION Geophysical has applied to FWS for a Letter of Authorization under the MMPA (February 2010). Any approval of ION Geophysical's permit would be a conditional approval. Under the conditional approval, ION Geophysical may not commence survey activities prior to the receipt of all

necessary permits and authorizations, including MMPA authorizations from NMFS and FWS.

The best available information indicates that few threatened eiders would be present in the proposed survey area during the time of the proposed operations. Eiders could be disturbed or displaced by vessel traffic associated with the proposed activities, but the effects would be minor and temporary.

The proposed action takes place after most of the bowhead whale population has moved west of the survey area. The timing of the proposed action was specifically chosen to reduce possible conflicts with subsistence hunting and the fall bowhead whale migration through the Beaufort Sea. The proposed action likely would result in a negligible level of impact to bowhead whales. Few bowheads are likely to be encountered in the eastern offshore area of the Beaufort Sea in early October. The survey is designed to move westward after the bowhead whale population has migrated out of the area, greatly reducing the number of bowheads that might be encountered.

Polar bears may be impacted by noise and disturbance from seismic and icebreaker activities or from changes to their sea ice habitat from icebreaking. Most impacts to polar bears from proposed activities are likely to be limited to disturbance. The survey is scheduled to occur early in the denning season, therefore impacts to the polar bear are anticipated to be minor.

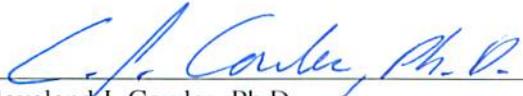
Proposed polar bear critical habitat is made up of three units, terrestrial denning habitat, barrier islands and sea ice. The proposed seismic sound survey will be ≥ 16 km (10 mi) from the barrier islands and shorelines, therefore no effects to terrestrial denning habitats or barrier islands are anticipated. The proposed seismic sound survey overlaps only with sea ice. The proposed action would affect relatively small areas of proposed critical habitat at any given time, as the ice will re-freeze behind the icebreaker and survey ship within a few hours to a few days. No long-term or widespread effects on the areal extent and distribution of proposed critical habitats are anticipated because the ice is likely to be constantly shifting and moving during transit. Any adverse effects from ice breaking are expected to be short term and localized. No adverse modification of critical habitat is anticipated.

Therefore, the degree to which the proposed action may adversely affect endangered or threatened species or designated critical habitat does not render the potential impacts significant.

10. **Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.** In determining whether the proposed action may violate Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment, BOEMRE considered documentation in ION Geophysical's G&G permit application and support documentation. The BOEMRE determined that the proposed activities comply with OCS regulations at 30 CFR 251. The BOEMRE requires compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and requirements. Any approval of ION Geophysical's permit would be a conditional approval. Under the conditional approval, ION Geophysical may not commence survey activities prior to the receipt of all necessary permits and authorizations, including MMPA and ESA authorizations from NMFS and FWS. Therefore, the proposed action does not threaten a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.

Finding of No Significant Impact

I have considered the evaluation of the potential effects of the proposed activities in the attached EA, the mitigation measures incorporated in the proposed activities to assure that potential adverse effects are mitigated to the extent possible and major disputes over the effects of the proposal are avoided, and the review of 40 CFR 1508.27 significance factors. It is my determination that no substantial questions remain regarding potentially significant impacts and that no potentially significant impacts are expected to occur as a result of the proposed activities. It is my determination that implementing the proposed action does not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.


Cleveland J. Cowles, Ph.D.
Regional Supervisor, Office of Leasing and Environment
Alaska OCS Region


Date

Attachment: Environmental Assessment, ION Geophysical, Inc. Geological and Geophysical Seismic Surveys Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, Alaska OCS EIS/EA BOEMRE 2010-027.

Copies of the EA on ION Geophysical, Inc. Geological and Geophysical Seismic Surveys Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, can be obtained by request to Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement, Alaska OCS Region, 3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500, Anchorage, AK 99503-5823 or 1-800-764-2627. The EA can be viewed at BOEMRE website <http://www.boemre.gov/alaska>.