

BOEM Seeks Public Involvement in Preparing an Environmental Assessment for the BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. Ancillary Activities in the Beaufort Sea Notice for the 2014 Open Water Season

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. (BPXA) Ancillary Activities would take place in federal waters in the Beaufort Sea during the 2014 open water season. These activities include:

- A Site Survey with an emphasis on obtaining two-dimensional high-resolution (2DHR) shallow geohazard data would be obtained using an airgun array and a towed streamer.
- A Sonar Survey, using multibeam echosounder, sidescan sonar, subbottom profiler, and magnetometer would be conducted over the Site Survey location and subsea pipeline corridor area.

BOEM is inviting the public to comment on issues that should be considered in preparing the EA.

BOEM received BPXA's Ancillary Activities Notice for operations in federal waters on February 14, 2014. This notice is available at:

http://www.boem.gov/uploadedFiles/BOEM/About_BOEM/BOEM_Regions/Alaska_Region/Leasing_and_Plans/Plans/2014-02-14_BPXA_AAnotice_Liberty.pdf.

BOEM is only accepting and considering public comments submitted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal (<http://www.regulations.gov>, docket number BOEM-2014-0025). The deadline to receive these comments is March 19 (12:00 midnight, EST). BOEM cautions that before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask BOEM (prominently at the beginning of your submission) to withhold your personal identifying information from public view, BOEM cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so. BOEM will not consider anonymous comments.