

Sample Template for Comments

2019-2024 Draft Proposed Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program



Let your voice be heard in opposition to offshore drilling!

The most powerful comments are individually written and personal, as well as providing factually detailed rationales.

Voice your clear opposition to the drilling proposals and why. Whenever possible, include facts. Economic data is particularly helpful, as well as any information about marine life. You are seeking to compel BOEM to remove the Atlantic Ocean and beyond from further consideration for offshore drilling. For example:

- Numbers of members in a beach association, beach fees collected
- Data on the number of horseshoe crabs, fish caught, fishing trips made
- If you own a shore business, share your economic data if possible
- How much you spend to rent a home at the shore or to join a beach club
- How often you eat local seafood each year
- How long your family spends at the beach and how important it is to your families
- Include links to data or research

Below is a sample template that can be used as a reference when submitting comments to BOEM.

**In short, 4 Points:
Offshore Oil and Gas
Development will:**

- Harm or kill marine life
- Pollute our clean ocean economy
- Increase climate change through burning fossil fuel
- Run dry, leaving an oily, dirty mess for our future

What is the value of the ocean to you? Submit comments by March 9th!

Mr. Ryan Zinke, Secretary
Department of Interior

Dear Mr. Zinke,

I [redacted] citizen of [redacted] am writing to strongly oppose the 2019-2024 Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program. A clean ocean and coast are important to me/my family because

[redacted] own/rent a home ---work/own a business ---relax, vacation ---

I/We enjoy [redacted] Surfing- beach combing-Boating-fishing-diving- swimming- building sand castles- bird or whale watching

The economic harm will cause a decrease in [redacted] Property values, loss of business and beach fee revenues, my recreational spending in coastal areas, etc. Please qualify dollar amounts.

Exploring, developing, or producing oil or gas will [redacted] Harm marine life, pollute beaches and waters. Please qualify.

This ocean industrialization is [redacted] Unacceptable for a clean ocean economy, against my future. Please qualify.

Fossil Fuel development [redacted] will increase climate change, coastal flooding, storm surges, ocean acidification and is not sustainable, it will run out leaving a polluted mess behind and economic ruin

Green energy (conservation, efficiency, renewables) creates more jobs and is sustainable.

Please note, apply these comments to the Programmatic Environmental Impact Study for scoping.*

In summary, I strongly oppose drilling in the Atlantic Ocean and beyond because _____

I expect a written personal reply to my comments.

Sincerely,
Your Name

*In addition to requesting comments on the offshore drilling plan (BOEM) is also requesting comment to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Study.