Appendix A: Request Letter from Alaska Senator Ted Stevens

Ted Stevens Alaska

United States Senate

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December 6, 2007

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Committees: Vice Chairman Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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Guy Caruso Administrator Energy Information Administration James Forrestal Building 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Administrator:

I am writing to request an update of the Energy Information Administration's (EIA) Service Report entitled *Potential Oil Production from the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge* prepared by the Reserves and Product Division in May 2000. Given recent developments, particularly with regard to the price of oil, the report should be revised to reflect today's circumstances.

The May 2000 report was based on 1998 U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) resource estimates of technically recoverable oil and natural gas from the Coastal Plain and the imported refiner acquisition cost in 2020 as projected in EIA's *Annual Energy Outlook 2000* of \$22.04 (1998 dollars). This information is outdated and no longer gives an accurate picture of potential oil recovered from the Coastal Plain or its value. The USGS' most current data on the Coastal Plain was released in 2005. In addition, oil prices have increased exponentially since 2000. On December 6, the price of oil was over \$88 per barrel, compared to oil prices in the \$20 range at the time of the last EIA report.

As was similarly requested for the May 2000 assessment, the updated report should develop plausible scenarios for development of the Coast Plain consistent with the most recent USGS resource assessments and oil price situation.

Thank you for your time and attention. Please direct any questions to my staff, Kate Williams, at 202-224-8158.

With best wishes,

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