



*Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission*

*P.O. Box 570 • Barrow, Alaska 99723*

June 23, 2011

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Michael Payne  
Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division  
Office of Protected Resources  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
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Silver Spring, MD 20910-3225  
PR1.0648-XV09@noaa.gov

**RE: Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Shallow Hazards Survey in the Chukchi Sea, Alaska. 76 Fed. Reg. 30110 (May 24, 2011)**

Dear Mr. Payne:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Statoil's application for an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) for oil and gas related activities in the Chukchi Sea. See 76 Fed. Reg. 30,110 (May 24, 2011). As you know, the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC) represents the bowhead whale subsistence hunting villages of Barrow, Kaktovik, Point Hope, Wainwright, Kivalina, Wales, Savoonga, Gambell, Little Diomedea, and Point Lay. Our eleven villages rely on the living resources of the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas for the majority of our food and for the continuation of our subsistence society and culture. We therefore bear a great responsibility to our people to work in partnership with the federal government to ensure the conservation of our subsistence resources for present and future generations.

We understand that Statoil plans to conduct shallow hazard site surveys and geotechnical soil investigations on their leases in the Chukchi Sea during the 2011 open water season. It is asking for authorization to operate from August 1 through November 15. The activities will involve one seismic vessel – the M/V Duke or similar vessel – and one DP soil investigation vessel – the M/V Fugro Synergy or a similar vessel. The site surveys will involve the use of 4x10 cubic inch airguns as well as a sub-bottom profiler, side-scan sonar and a multibeam echosounder. The soil investigation will involve the collection of seafloor sediment samples to a depth of 100 meters.

The AEWC has worked with offshore operators for many years on the annual Conflict Avoidance Agreement (CAA) as a means of collaboration between offshore operators and the local whaling captains to ensure that industrial activities can co-exist with our federally protected subsistence activities. In the past, the CAA has proven to be an extremely effective means of avoiding conflicts between local subsistence communities and offshore operators, and our local communities depend on this process.

As in the past, we have remained in close communication with Statoil in the hopes that Statoil would be able to reach agreement with our whaling captains on a set of mitigation measures to protect our subsistence whaling activities. Unfortunately, Statoil has been unwilling to enter into a CAA with our impacted communities. If this situation changes, we will notify your office. Because Statoil has refused to sign the CAA, AEWG is very concerned about the potential impacts to our subsistence activities, in particular the fall bowhead whale hunt in Chukchi Sea villages. By way of this letter, AEWG is requesting formal consultation on the proposed IHA pursuant to Section 8 of the Cooperative Agreement between NOAA and AEWG.

In order to issue the proposed IHA, NMFS must find that there are no unmitigable adverse impacts on the availability of bowhead whales for subsistence hunting. The whaling captains, through the CAA, have negotiated measures with the oil industry that would mitigate the adverse impacts of Statoil's planned activities. These measures are based on the traditional knowledge of bowhead whale behavior that the whaling communities have gained through conducting hunts over the past thousand plus years. This traditional knowledge has been validated over many years by western science conducted by researchers hired by NMFS, BOEMRE, the North Slope Borough, and the oil industry. As such, the CAA measures represent the minimum safeguards that the government should adopt.

In the absence of the signed CAA, AEWG requests that NMFS adopt, as mandatory requirements set forth in the IHA, the mitigation measures found in Title II (Open Water Season Communications) and V (Avoiding Conflicts During the Open Water Season) of the 2011 CAA, which we have included as an attachment to this comment letter. These reasonable measures have been negotiated with the oil industry, including Statoil, and have been found to be acceptable mitigation measures by several other large oil industry operators who have signed the 2011 CAA.

The AEWG strongly disagrees with NMFS' preliminary conclusion that there will be no unmitigable adverse impact to the availability of bowhead whales for subsistence hunting in the fall by our Chukchi Sea villages. In the absence of the inclusion in the IHA of the measures that the whaling captains have negotiated in the CAA with other industry operators, NMFS has no factual basis for its preliminary conclusion. NMFS cannot rely on the unsupported statements of the applicant to reach its conclusion. As set forth in more detail in the attached comments:

- Statoil failed to submit a completed Plan of Cooperation (POC), which requires that NMFS return the application to the applicant as incomplete. 50 C.F.R. § 216.104(a)(12), (b)(3).
- NMFS does not have a reasonable basis upon which to conclude that Statoil's proposed activities "will not have an unmitigable adverse impact" on the fall subsistence hunt of bowhead whales in Chukchi Sea villages, including Wainwright, Point Lay and Point Hope. 16 U.S.C. § 1371(a)(5)(D)(i)(II).

In addition to the above concerns, the AEWG notes that the Federal Register notice indicates that Statoil might be operating as late as November 15, if ice conditions allow. This is new information that raises additional concerns that are not addressed in either the CAA or the Federal Register notice. First, the bowhead whale migration passes through the Bering Strait in November as the ice forms to the south. Second, the villages of Savoonga and Gambell on St. Lawrence Island hunt for bowhead whales from November to February. This raises the very real possibility that Statoil's vessels could encounter subsistence whaling activities, with risk of

both collisions with whaling crews and disruption of the hunt through deflection of whales due to vessel noise.<sup>1</sup> If an IHA is issued the Secretary must require that Statoil complete its work and transit out of the Bering Sea by November 1.

This proposed IHA raises significant concerns and the Federal Register notice contains numerous, substantive, factual errors with respect to subsistence whaling activities. An IHA should not be issued without including the mitigation measures contained in the CAA and a requirement to complete any transit past St. Lawrence Island by November 1. We reiterate our request for consultation on this issue and to correct the factual errors under the Cooperative Agreement. Thank you for your attention to our concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact the AEWK if you have any questions regarding this information.

Sincerely,



Earl Comstock  
Counsel for the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission

Enclosures:

Comments on Federal Register Notice for Proposed IHA for Statoil  
2011 Conflict Avoidance Agreement (CAA)

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<sup>1</sup> Personal communication between Jessica Lefevre, AEWK Counsel, and George Noongwook, AEWK Commissioner for Savoonga and AEWK Vice Chairman, and Gay Sheffield, Marine Advisory Program, University of Alaska.

## **AEWC COMMENTS ON THE FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE FOR THE PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF AN INCIDENTAL HARASSMENT AUTHORIZATION TO STATOIL**

### **I. NMFS should return the application as incomplete because Statoil has failed to submit a completed Plan of Cooperation as required.**

When a proposed activity is to occur in subsistence hunting areas and/or may impact the availability of marine mammals for subsistence use, the applicant must either submit a plan of cooperation or details of mitigation measures to minimize any adverse impacts on the availability of marine animals for subsistence hunting. 50 CFR § 216.104(a)(12). In addition to setting forth means of communicating with the local subsistence community, the POC must include a description of what measures the applicant has taken and/or will take to ensure that proposed activities will not interfere with subsistence whaling or sealing.” 50 C.F.R. § 216.104(a)(12)(iii). Only after the Secretary deems the application to be complete does the public review process begin by publishing a “proposed incidental harassment authorization” in the Federal Register. 50 C.F.R. § 216.105(b)(1). If the application is incomplete, it “will be returned to the applicant with an explanation of why the application is being returned.” 50 C.F.R. § 216.105(b)(2).

Statoil concedes that a POC is required, stating in its application it “is developing a Plan of Cooperation (POC) for their proposed activities.” Statoil IHA Application at 51. Statoil, however, does not provide the POC or any detail on the measures to be adopted in compliance with 50 C.F.R. § 216.104(a)(12)(iii), stating that “a draft POC document continues to be developed.” Statoil IHA Application at 52.

Moreover, NMFS has previously stated that “[i]t should be understood that the POC is required by NMFS's implementing regulations to be submitted as part of the industry's IHA application.” 74 Fed. Reg. 55368, 55393 (Oct. 27, 2009). Particularly given the fact that Statoil has failed to sign the CAA with the AEWC, NMFS must enforce the requirement that Statoil set forth, in its application, the proposed measures employed to prevent conflicts with our subsistence activities. It is entirely inappropriate and contrary to law for NMFS to deem the application complete and then accept public comment on proposed activities without providing the specific measures incorporated into either the IHA or the POC that demonstrate how Statoil will avoid conflicts with subsistence activities.

Without the required information meant to be included in a POC, NMFS cannot make the determinations required under the MMPA. See 16 U.S.C. § 1371(a)(5)(D)(iii). For this reason, we ask that NMFS return Statoil's application as incomplete, see 50 C.F.R. § 216.104(b)(3) (“Applications that are determined to be incomplete or inappropriate for the type of taking requested will be returned to the applicant”), or else the agency risks making arbitrary and indefensible determinations under the MMPA that jeopardize the subsistence communities on the Chukchi coast.

### **II. NMFS has failed to consider adequately the potential impacts to the fall subsistence hunt of bowhead whales in Chuckchi Sea villages.**

Before issuing an IHA, NMFS must conclude that the proposed activities “will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of such species or stock for taking for subsistence uses . . .” 16 U.S.C. § 1371(a)(5)(D)(II). The Federal Register notice and Statoil's

IHA application are inadequate to meet the heavy burden placed in NMFS in issuing the IHA. See 16 U.S.C. § 1371(b) (stating that the Secretary shall be responsible for demonstrating that such . . . finding is supported by substantial evidence on the basis of the record as a whole”). All that is included in the Federal Register notice are references to a draft Plan of Cooperation that “is being developed”. 76 Fed. Reg. 30129, and unsupported statements by Statoil about what Statoil claims it will do to protect subsistence.

Over the past several years, worsening ice conditions have made it more dangerous and difficult for our whaling captains and their crews to carry out the larger spring bowhead whale hunt. Because of the changing conditions, crews from Wainwright, Point Hope and Point Lay have all been conducting fall hunts in an effort to provide for their communities and meet their allotted quotas. Last year, Wainwright landed a bowhead whale for the first time during the fall, which provided critical food for the community and served as a great source of pride and celebration.

Given the changing conditions and the need for our communities to adapt, NMFS must give serious consideration to the potential impacts to the fall bowhead whale hunt in Wainwright, Pt. Hope and Pt. Lay. While Statoil’s activities would begin around August 1, well after the spring bowhead hunt on the Chukchi Sea, they would continue throughout the fall and overlap with the fall bowhead hunts along the Chukchi coast. Given the proximity of the Statoil operation to the coastal communities and the sensitivity of bowhead whales to anthropogenic sound (as NMFS concedes in the Federal Register notice when discussing the traditional knowledge that seismic sounds cause bowheads to become “skittish”). 76 Fed. Reg. 30129. NMFS must give the fall hunt more than a cursory consideration in its adverse impacts analysis.

Instead of considering how the fall bowhead hunt will be harmed by Statoil’s activities, NMFS simply discards the hunt as too small to consider in its impacts assessment. 76 Fed. Reg. 30129. In the federal register notice, NMFS fails to state whether the activities are expected to interfere with the fall Chukchi Sea subsistence hunt for bowhead whales. Instead, NMFS acknowledges that “[i]n recent years, bowhead whales have occasionally been taken in the fall by coastal villages along the Chukchi coast,” but the notice then simply dismisses any concerns by stating that “the total number of these animals has been small.” *Id.* NMFS never concludes whether or not the proposed activities may have an unmitigable adverse impact on the fall bowhead whale subsistence hunt in these villages. Our concerns are heightened because Statoil has not agreed to the CAA, has not submitted a POC and has not adopted any other measures to protect against adverse impacts to the fall subsistence hunt.

We therefore urge NMFS to give serious consideration to what extent the proposed activities could deflect bowhead whales from potential subsistence hunting areas, to reach a conclusions on this issue and then to put its conclusions out for public comment so that AEWC and its whaling captains have a genuine opportunity to provide input on this most critical issue. NMFS must consider the combined effects of the underwater noise generated by the activities as well as vessel traffic and all other associated sources of disturbance. It should then compare the timing and location of the proposed activities, along with the potential zone of impact, to the timing and location of the fall hunts from each of the Chukchi Sea villages. We note in this regard that Statoil’s own information documents that received levels  $\geq 120$  dB are expected to extend up to 39 km from the source. Statoil IHA Application at 4. Moreover, based on recent information about the migratory corridor in the Chukchi Sea, we believe it is much more likely that bowhead whales will be deflected northward away from the coast and not south towards the coast in the event that they avoid the proposed activities (Quackenbush et al. 2010).

Subsistence hunters have a limited hunting range and prefer to take whales close to shore so as to avoid hauling a harvested whale a long distance over which the whale could spoil. During the fall, however, subsistence hunters in the Chukchi Sea will pursue bowhead whales as far as 50 miles (80 km) from the coast in small, fiberglass boats. Statoil IHA Application at 43 (citing Braund and Moorehead 1995). Given the acute sensitivity of bowhead whales to deflection occurring over a vast distance, the impacts of Statoil's operations on the fall hunt must be considered more carefully.

Lack of scrutiny and consultation with AEWC concerning the overlap of the Statoil operation with the fall hunts is even more troubling in light of the fact that Statoil has not signed the annual CAA, which embodies the whaling captains' proposed mitigation measures, which, in their opinion, provide sufficient protection for the fall Chukchi Sea hunt. Combined with NMFS's apparent refusal to consider the impacts to the fall hunt, we are very concerned that our communities will be left without any protection in direct violation of the MMPA.

The best solution to protect our communities is for NMFS to adopt the requirements set forth in Titles II and V of the 2011 CAA. These reasonable measures have been negotiated with the oil industry, including Statoil, and have been found to be acceptable mitigation measures by several other large oil industry operators, including Shell, ExxonMobil, and BP, who have signed the 2011 CAA. Title II provides an agreed upon communications scheme for the Chukchi Sea, along with industry support for the radios needed for whaling crews to communicate with the communications center. Title V has mitigation measures to protect bowhead whales and subsistence hunting activities in section 501 and measures specific to the Chukchi Sea in section 502(b).

2011 OPEN WATER SEASON  
PROGRAMMATIC CONFLICT AVOIDANCE AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

ARCTIC CABLE COMPANY, LLC  
BP EXPLORATION (ALASKA), INC.  
ENI US OPERATING COMPANY, INC.  
EXXON MOBIL CORPORATION  
ION / GX TECHNOLOGY  
PIONEER NATURAL RESOURCES ALASKA, INC.  
SHELL OFFSHORE, INC  
STATOIL

AND

THE ALASKA ESKIMO WHALING COMMISSION  
THE BARROW WHALING CAPTAINS' ASSOCIATION  
THE KAKTOVIK WHALING CAPTAINS' ASSOCIATION  
THE NUIQSUT WHALING CAPTAINS' ASSOCIATION  
THE PT. HOPE WHALING CAPTAINS' ASSOCIATION  
THE PT. LAY WHALING CAPTAINS' ASSOCIATION  
THE WAINWRIGHT WHALING CAPTAINS' ASSOCIATION

Final for Signature  
March 31, 2011

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## **TITLE I – GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **SECTION 101. APPLICATION.**

Title I applies to all Participants.

Title II applies to all Participants, except as provided in Titles III or VI.

Title III applies to those Participants who operate barge or transit vessels in the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea.

Titles IV and V apply only to those Participants who engage in oil and gas operations.

Title VI applies to those Participants who engage exclusively in geophysical activities that are conducted at least 40 miles or more from the Alaska coast in the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea and begin on or after October 1, 2011.

Provisions that apply to a specific activity or are designated as specific to either the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea apply only to Participants that engage in that activity or operate in that area, and provisions applicable to activities a Participant does not engage in or areas in which a Participant does not operate do not apply to that Participant.

### **SECTION 102. PURPOSE.**

The purpose of this Agreement is to provide:

- (1) Equipment and procedures for communications between Subsistence Participants and Industry Participants;
- (2) Avoidance guidelines and other mitigation measures to be followed by the Industry Participants working in or transiting the vicinity of active subsistence hunters, in areas where subsistence hunters anticipate hunting, or in areas that are in sufficient proximity to areas expected to be used for subsistence hunting that the planned activities could potentially adversely affect the subsistence bowhead whale hunt through effects on bowhead whales;
- (3) Measures to be taken in the event of an emergency occurring during the term of this Agreement; and
- (4) Dispute resolution procedures.

**SECTION 103. DEFINITIONS.****(a) Defined Terms.**

For the purposes of this Agreement:

- (1) The term “Agreement” means this 2011 Open Water Season Programmatic Conflict Avoidance Agreement and any attachments to such agreement.
- (2) The term “at-sea oil and gas operations” does not include gravel islands or fixed platform developments located near shore (for example Northstar or Ooguruk) or Near Shore Operations Support Vessels.
- (3) The term “barge” means a non-powered vessel that is pushed or towed, and the accompanying pushing or towing vessel, which is used solely to transport materials through the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea. Such term does not include any vessel used to provide supplies or support to at-sea oil and gas operations or Near Shore Operations Support Vessels.
- (4) The term “Com-Center” means a communications systems coordination center established under Section 203.
- (5) The term “geophysical activity” means any activity the purpose of which is to gather data for imaging the marine subsurface environment, including but not limited to use of air guns, sonar, and other geophysical equipment used for seismic exploration or shallow hazard identification.
- (6) The term “geophysical equipment” means equipment, such as air gun arrays over 300 cubic inches or sparker arrays over 20,000 kJ, employed on a vessel or a towed array, that generates sound waves for the purpose of imaging the subsurface marine environment for exploration and development purposes. The term does not include vessel engines, generators, or sources such as fathometers, fish finders, side-scan sonar, or other sources intended for engineering and /or transportation purposes.
- (7) The term “Industry Participants” means all parties to this Agreement who are not Subsistence Participants.
- (8) The term “Marine Mammal Observer / Inupiat Communicator” or “MMO/IC” means an observer hired by an Industry Participant for the purpose of spotting and identifying marine mammals in the area of that Industry Participant’s operations during the Open Water Season. The MMO/IC also serves as the on-board Inupiat communicator who can communicate directly with whaling crews.

(9) The term “Near Shore Operations Support Vessels” means vessels (including aircraft) used to support related activities (such as supply, re-supply, crew movement, and facility maintenance) for near shore oil and gas operations by an Industry Participant.

(10) The terms “NSB” and “NSB DWM” mean the North Slope Borough and the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management, respectively.

(11) The term “oil and gas operations” means all oil and gas exploration, development, or production activities (including, but not limited to, geophysical activity, exploratory drilling, development activities (such as dredging or construction), production drilling, or production, and related activities (such as supply, re-supply, crew movements, and facility maintenance) by or for any Industry Participant, including aircraft and vessels of whatever kind used in support of such activities, occurring in the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea, whether occurring near shore or offshore, but does not include barge traffic, transit vessel traffic, cable laying vessel traffic, or research vessel traffic (i.e. traffic by a vessel which is only conducting research and is not conducting any geophysical activities) by or for any Participant.

(12) The term “Open Water Season” means the period of the year when ice conditions permit navigation or oil and gas operations to occur in the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea, as appropriate.

(13) The term “Participants” means all parties identified in this Agreement by name and whose representative(s) has signed the Agreement, and all contractors of such parties. When used alone the term includes both Industry Participants and Subsistence Participants.

(14) The term “Primary Sound Source Vessel” means a vessel owned or operated by or for an Industry Participant that (A) employs air gun arrays greater than 300 cubic inches or sparkers greater than 20,000 kJ, for imaging the subsurface environment, (B) is used to monitor any safety zone around a vessel described in subsection (A), (C) is engaged in ice-breaking, or (D) is the lead vessel in a group of barge or transit vessels.

(15) The term “sonar” means equipment, employed as hull mounted or towed array, intended for the active location of surface or underwater vessels. The term does not include vessel engines, generators, or sources such as fathometers, fish finders, side-scan sonar, or other sources intended for engineering, cable laying or routing, and/or transportation purposes.

(16) The term “Subsistence Participants” means the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC) and its members, including the whaling captains’ associations identified on the cover of this Agreement, as well as any individual members of those associations.

(17) The term “transit vessel” means a powered vessel that is used solely to transport materials through the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea. Such term does not include a vessel used to provide supplies or other support to at-sea oil and gas operations or Near Shore Operations Support Vessels.

**(b) Geographically Limited Terms.**

For the purposes of this Agreement:

(1) The term “Beaufort Sea” means all waters off the northern coast of Alaska from Point Barrow to the Canadian border.

(2) The term “Chukchi Sea” means all waters off the western and northern coasts of Alaska from Cape Prince of Wales to Point Barrow.

**SECTION 104. TERM, SCOPE, AND LIMITATIONS.**

**(a) Term.**

The term of this Agreement shall commence with the signing of this document by the Participants and shall terminate upon completion of the Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Barrow, Wainwright, Pt Lay, and Pt. Hope Fall Bowhead Hunts or the Beaufort Sea Post Season Meeting required under Section 108(a) and Chukchi Sea Post-Season Meetings in Barrow, Wainwright, Pt. Lay, and Pt. Hope required under Section 108(b), whichever is later.

**(b) Scope.**

The Participants agree that, unless otherwise specified:

(1) The mitigation measures identified in this Agreement, which are intended to mitigate interference by oil and gas operations and barge and transit vessel traffic with the Alaskan Eskimo subsistence bowhead whale hunt, are designed to apply to all activities of each Participant during the 2011 Open Water Season, whether referenced specifically or by category, and to all vessels and locations covered by this Agreement, whether referenced specifically or by category.

(2) This Agreement is intended to apply to all oil and gas operations and barge and transit vessel traffic during the 2011 Open Water Season in the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea.

(3) Vessels and locations covered by this Agreement include those identified in the Agreement, as well as any other vessels or locations that are employed by or for the Industry Participants in the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea during the 2011 Open Water Season.

**(c) Limitations of Obligations.**

The following limitations apply to this Agreement.

(1) No cooperation among the Participants, other than that required by this Agreement, is intended or otherwise implied by their adherence to this Agreement. In no event shall the signatures of any representative of the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC), or of the Barrow, Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Wainwright, Pt. Hope, or Pt. Lay Whaling Captains' Associations, or of any other Whaling Captains' Association be taken as an endorsement of any Arctic operations or Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea OCS operations by any oil and/or gas operator or contractor.

(2) Adherence to the procedures and guidelines set forth in this Agreement does not in any way indicate that any Inupiat or Siberian Yupik whalers or the AEWC agree that industrial activities are not interfering with the bowhead whale migration or the bowhead whale subsistence hunt. Such adherence does not represent an admission on the part of the Industry Participants or their contractors that the activities covered by this Agreement will interfere with the bowhead whale migration or the bowhead whale subsistence hunt.

(3) No member of the oil and gas industry or any contractor has the authority to impose restrictions on the subsistence hunting of bowhead whales or associated activities of the AEWC, residents of the Villages of Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Barrow, Wainwright, Pt. Lay, or Pt. Hope, or residents of any other village represented by the AEWC.

(4) In the event additional parties engage in oil and gas operations in the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea during the summer or fall of 2011 the Participants shall exercise their good-faith efforts to encourage those parties to enter into this Agreement. Should additional parties enter into this Agreement at a date subsequent to the date of the signing of this document and before the termination of the 2011 bowhead whale subsistence hunting season, the AEWC will provide to all Participants a supplement to this document with the added signatures.

(5) No Participant is responsible for enlisting additional parties to adhere to the terms and conditions of the Agreement. Similarly, THE AEWG IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR, OR A PARTY TO, ANY AGREEMENT AMONG THE INDUSTRY PARTICIPANTS concerning the apportionment of expenses necessary for the implementation of this Agreement.

(6) In adhering to this Agreement, none of the Participants waives any rights existing at law. All Participants agree that the provisions of this document do not establish any precedent as between them or with any regulatory or permitting authority.

(7) **PARTICIPANTS' OBLIGATIONS SHALL BE SEPARABLE:** All Participants to this Agreement understand that each Participant represents a separate entity. The failure of any Participant to adhere to this Agreement or to abide by the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall not affect the obligation of other Participants to adhere to this Agreement and to proceed accordingly with all activities covered by this Agreement. Nor shall any Participant's adherence to this Agreement affect that Participant's duties, liabilities, or other obligations with respect to any other Participant beyond those stated in this Agreement. If an Industry Participant does not receive permit approvals from regulatory agencies to conduct its proposed activities, then that company may withdraw from this Agreement.

## **SECTION 105. REGULATORY COMPLIANCE.**

### **(a) United States Coast Guard Requirements.**

The Participants shall comply with all applicable United States Coast Guard requirements for safety, navigation, and notice.

### **(b) Environmental Regulations and Statutes.**

The Participants shall comply with all applicable environmental regulations and statutes.

### **(c) Other Regulatory Requirements.**

The Participants shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local government requirements.



**SECTION 106. DISPUTE RESOLUTION.**

Subject to the terms of Section 104(c)(7) of this Agreement, all disputes arising between any Industry Participants and any Subsistence Participants shall be addressed as follows:

- (1) The dispute shall first be addressed between the affected Participant(s) in consultation with the affected village Whaling Captains' Association and the Industry Participant(s)' Local Representative.
- (2) If the dispute cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of all affected Participants, then the dispute shall be addressed with the affected Participants in consultation with the AEWC.
- (3) If the dispute cannot be satisfactorily resolved in accordance with paragraphs (1) and (2) above, then the dispute shall be addressed with the AEWC and the affected Participants in consultation with representatives of NOAA Fisheries.
- (4) All Participants shall seek to resolve any disputes in a timely manner, and shall work to ensure that requests for information or decisions are responded to promptly.

**SECTION 107. EMERGENCY AND OTHER NECESSARY ASSISTANCE.****(a) Emergency Communications.**

**ALL VESSELS SHOULD NOTIFY THE APPROPRIATE COM-CENTER IMMEDIATELY IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY.** The appropriate Com-Center operator will notify the nearest vessels and appropriate search and rescue authorities of the problem and advise them regarding necessary assistance. (See attached listing of local search and rescue organizations in Attachment I.)

**(b) Emergency Assistance for Subsistence Whale Hunters.**

Section 403 of Public Law 107-372 (16 U.S.C. 916c note) provides that “Notwithstanding any provision of law, the use of a vessel to tow a whale, taken in a traditional subsistence whale hunt permitted by Federal law and conducted in waters off the coast of Alaska is authorized, if such towing is performed upon a request for emergency assistance made by a subsistence whale hunting organization formally recognized by an agency of the United States government, or made by a member of such an organization, to prevent the loss of a whale.” Industry Participants will advise their vessel captains that, under the circumstances described above, assistance to tow a whale is permitted under law when requested by a Subsistence Participant. Under the circumstances described above, Industry Participants will provide such assistance upon a request for emergency assistance from a Subsistence Participant, if conditions permit the Industry Participant’s vessel to safely do so.

**SECTION 108. POST-SEASON REVIEW / PRESEASON INTRODUCTION.****(a) Beaufort Sea Post-Season Joint Meeting.**

Following the end of the fall 2011 bowhead whale subsistence hunt and prior to the 2012 Pre-Season Introduction Meetings, the Industry Participant that establishes the Deadhorse and Kaktovik Com Centers will offer to the AEWG Chairman to host a joint meeting with all whaling captains of the Villages of Nuiqsut, Kaktovik and Barrow, the Marine Mammal Observer / Inupiat Communicators stationed on the Industry Participants’ vessels in the Beaufort Sea, and with the Chairman and Executive Director of the AEWG, at a mutually agreed upon time and place on the North Slope of Alaska, to review the results of the 2011 Beaufort Sea Open Water Season, unless it is agreed by all designated individuals or their representatives that such a meeting is not necessary.

**(b) Chukchi Sea Post-Season Village Meetings.**

Following the completion of the 2011 Chukchi Sea Open Water Season and prior to the 2012 Pre-Season Introduction Meetings, the Industry Participants involved, if requested by the AEWG or the Whaling Captain’s Association of each village, will host a meeting in each of the following villages: Wainwright, Pt. Lay, Pt. Hope, and Barrow (or a joint meeting of the whaling captains from all of these villages if the whaling captains agree to a joint meeting) to review the results of the 2011 operations and to discuss any concerns residents of those villages might have regarding the operations. The meetings will include the Marine Mammal Observer / Inupiat Communicators stationed on the Industry Participants’ vessels in the Chukchi Sea. The Chairman and Executive Director of the AEWG will be invited to attend the meeting(s).

**(c) Pre-season Introduction Meetings.**

(1) Immediately following each of the above meetings, and at the same location, the Industry Participants will provide a brief introduction to their planned operations for the 2012 Open Water Season. Each Industry Participant should provide hand-outs explaining their planned activities that the whaling captains can review.

(2) Subsistence Participants understand that any planned operations discussed at these Pre-Season Introduction Meetings, and the corresponding maps, will represent the Industry Participant's best estimate at that time of its planned operations for the coming year, but that these planned operations are preliminary, and are subject to change prior to the 2012 Open Water Season Meeting.

**(d) Map of Planned Industry Participant Activities.**

As practicable, Industry Participants shall jointly prepare and provide the AEWC with a large-scale map of the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas showing the locations and types of oil and gas and barge and transit activities planned by each Industry Participant. This map will be for use by the AEWC and Industry Participants during the 2012 CAA Meeting.

**SECTION 109. INDIVIDUAL NOTIFICATION.**

In the event that any Industry Participant does not become a signatory to this Agreement, the local Whaling Captains' Associations shall be notified by the AEWC, no later than June 30, 2011, so that the local Whaling Captains' Associations can prepare to talk with the non-signatories to avoid conflict during that association's fall subsistence bowhead whaling season.

## TITLE II -- OPEN WATER SEASON COMMUNICATIONS

### SECTION 201. MARINE MAMMAL OBSERVERS / INUPIAT COMMUNICATORS.

#### (a) Marine Mammal Observer / Inupiat Communicator Required.

(1) In General. Each Industry Participant agrees to employ a Marine Mammal Observer / Inupiat Communicator (MMO/IC) on board each Primary Sound Source Vessel owned or operated by such Industry Participant in the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea.

(2) Special Rule for Inside Beaufort Sea Barrier Islands. Industry Participants whose seismic acquisition operations are limited to an area exclusively within the barrier islands need employ an MMO/IC on one Primary Sound Source Vessel only.

(3) Near Shore Operations Support Vessels. Industry Participants are not required to employ an MMO/IC on Near Shore Operations Support Vessels.

(4) Sealift Operations. For Industry Participants conducting sealift operations in which two tugs towing barges are accompanied within ½ mile by a third light tug at all times, a MMO/IC is required to be employed on the light tug only.

#### (b) Duties of Marine Mammal Observer / Inupiat Communicator.

(1) Each MMO/IC is to be employed as an observer and Inupiat communicator for the duration of the 2011 Open Water Season on the vessel on which he or she is stationed.

(2) As a member of the crew, the MMO/IC will be subject to the regular code of employee conduct on board the vessel and will be subject to discipline, termination, suspension, layoff, or firing under the same conditions as other employees of the vessel operator or appropriate contractor.

(3) Once the source vessel on which the MMO/IC is employed is in the vicinity of a whaling area and the whalers have launched their boats, the MMO/IC's primary duty will be to carry out the communications responsibilities set out in this Title.

(4) At all other times, the MMO/IC will be responsible for keeping a lookout for bowhead whales and/or other marine mammals in the vicinity of the vessel to assist the vessel captain in avoiding harm to the whales and other marine mammals.

- (5) It is the MMO/IC's responsibility to call the appropriate Com-Center as set out in Sections 202 and 203.
- (6) The MMO/IC will be responsible for all radio contacts between vessels owned or operated by each of the Industry Participants and whaling boats covered under Section 207 of this Agreement and shall interpret communications as needed to allow the vessel operator to take such action as may be necessary pursuant to this Agreement.
- (7) The MMO/IC shall contact directly subsistence whaling boats that may be in the vicinity to ensure that conflicts are avoided to the greatest possible extent.
- (8) The MMO/IC will maintain a record of his or her communications with each Com-Center and the subsistence whaling boats, as well as any marine mammal sightings by the MMO/IC.

## **SECTION 202. COM-CENTER GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS SCHEME.**

### **(a) Reporting Positions for Vessels Owned or Operated by the Industry Participants.**

(1) All vessels (other than vessels covered under sections 302 and 602) shall report to the appropriate Com-Center at least once every six hours commencing with a call at approximately 06:00 hours. Each call shall report the following information:

- (A) Vessel name, operator of vessel, charter or owner of vessel, and the project the vessel is working on.
- (B) Vessel location, speed, and direction.
- (C) Plans for vessel movement between the time of the call and the time of the next call. The final call of the day shall include a statement of the vessel's general area of expected operations for the following day, if known at that time.

EXAMPLE: This is the Arctic Endeavor, operated by \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ at Chukchi Sea prospect. We are currently at \_\_\_'\_\_\_ north \_\_\_'\_\_\_ west, proceeding SE at \_\_\_ knots. We will proceed on this course for \_\_\_ hours and will report location and direction at that time.

(2) The appropriate Com-Center shall be notified if there is any significant change in plans, such as an unannounced start-up of operations or significant deviations from announced course, and such Com-Center shall notify all whalers of such changes. A call to the appropriate Com-Center shall be made regarding any unsafe or unanticipated ice conditions.

(3) In the event that the Industry Participant's operation includes seismic data acquisition, the operator reserves the right to restrict exact vessel location information and provide more general location information.

**(b) Reporting Positions for Subsistence Whale Hunting Crews.**

(1) All subsistence whaling captains shall report to the appropriate Com-Center at the time they launch their boats from shore and again when they return to shore.

(2) All subsistence whaling captains shall report to such Com-Center the initial GPS coordinates of their whaling camps.

(3) Additional communications shall be made on an as needed basis.

(4) Each call shall report the following information:

(A) The crew's location and general direction of travel.

EXAMPLE: This is \_\_\_\_\_. We are just starting out. We will be traveling north-east from \_\_\_\_\_ to scout for whales. I will call if our plans change.

(B) The presence of any vessels or aircraft owned or operated by any of the Industry Participants, or their contractors, that are not observing the specified guidelines set forth in Title V on Avoiding Conflicts.

(C) The final call of the day shall include a statement of the whaling captain's general area of expected operations for the following day, if known at the time.

(5) Any subsistence whale hunter preparing to tow a caught whale shall report to the appropriate Com-Center before starting to tow.

EXAMPLE: This is Archie Ahkiviana. I am \_\_\_'\_\_\_ north, \_\_\_'\_\_\_ west. I have a whale and am towing it into \_\_\_\_\_.

(6) Each time a subsistence whaling camp is moved, it shall be reported promptly to the appropriate Com-Center, including the new GPS coordinates.

(7) Subsistence whale hunters shall notify the appropriate Com-Center promptly if, due to weather or any other unforeseen event, whaling is not going to take place that day.

(8) Subsistence whaling captains shall contact the appropriate Com-Center promptly and report any unexpected movements of their vessel.

**(c) Responsibilities of Participants.**

(1) Monitoring VHF Channel 16.

All vessels covered by Sections 207, 301, and 401 of this Agreement shall monitor marine VHF Channel 16 at all times.

(2) Avoidance of Whale Hunting Crews and Areas

It is the responsibility of each vessel owned or operated by any of the Industry Participants and covered by Sections 301 or 401 of this Agreement to determine the positions of all of their vessels and to exercise due care in avoiding any areas where subsistence whale hunting is active.

(3) Vessel-to-Vessel Communication

After any vessel owned or operated by any of the Industry Participants and covered by Sections 301 or 401 of this Agreement has been informed of or has determined the location of subsistence whale hunting boats in its vicinity, the Marine Mammal Observer / Inupiat Communicator shall contact those boats in order to coordinate movement and take necessary avoidance precautions.

**SECTION 203. THE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM COORDINATION CENTERS (COM-CENTERS).**

(a) Chukchi Lead System Included in Com-Center Coverage.

In addition to the Beaufort Sea and Chukchi Sea, the communications scheme shall apply in the Chukchi Sea lead system, as identified and excluded from leasing in the current MMS Five-Year Leasing Program, 2007-2012.

**(b) Set Up and Operation.**

(1) Subject to the terms of Section 104(c) of this Agreement, the Industry Participants conducting operations in:

(A) the Beaufort Sea jointly will arrange for the funding of Com-Centers in Deadhorse and Kaktovik; and

(B) the Chukchi Sea jointly will arrange for the funding of Com-Centers in Barrow, Wainwright, Pt. Lay, and Pt. Hope.

(2) All six Com-Centers will be staffed by Inupiat operators. **GROUND TRANSPORTATION MUST BE PROVIDED FOR COM-CENTER OPERATIONS IN KAKTOVIK FOR POLAR BEAR AND BROWN BEAR SAFETY.** The Com-Centers will be operated 24 hours per day during the 2011 subsistence bowhead whale hunt. One Industry Participant in the Beaufort Sea and one Industry Participant in the Chukchi Sea, or their respective contractor, will be designated as the operator of the Com-Centers for that Sea, in consultation with the AEWC.

(3) Each Industry Participant shall contribute to the funding of the Com-Centers covering the areas in which it conducts oil and gas operations. The level of funding for the Com-Centers provided by each of the Industry Participants is intended to be in proportion to the scale of their respective activities, and shall be mutually agreed by the Industry Participants.

(4) The procedures to be followed by the Com-Center operators are set forth in subsection (d) below.

**(c) Staffing.**

(1) Each Com-Center shall have an Inupiat operator ("Com-Center operator") on duty 24 hours per day from August 15, or one week before the start of the fall bowhead whale hunt in each respective village, until the end of the bowhead whale subsistence hunt in:

(A) Kaktovik for the Kaktovik Com-Center;

(B) Nuiqsut for the Deadhorse Com-Center;

(C) Barrow for the Barrow Com-Center;

(D) Wainwright for the Wainwright Com-Center.



- (E) Pt. Lay for the Pt. Lay Com-Center, which will be located in the Pt. Lay Whaling Captains' Association building; and
- (F) Pt. Hope for the Pt. Hope Com-Center, which will be located in the Pt. Hope Whaling Captains' Association building.

(2) All Com-Center staff shall be local hire.

**(d) Duties of the Com-Center Operators.**

(1) The Com-Center operators shall be available to receive radio and telephone calls and to call vessels as described below. A record shall be made of all calls from every vessel covered by Sections 207, 301, and 401 of this Agreement. Information reported regarding whales struck, lost, landed, or the location of whales struck, lost, or landed, or the number of strikes remaining, shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed to anyone other than the AEWG or the local Whaling Captains' Association. The record of all reporting calls should contain the following information:

(A) Industry Participant Vessel:

- (i) Name of caller and vessel.
- (ii) Vessel location, speed, and direction.
- (iii) Time of call.
- (iv) Anticipated movements between this call and the next report.
- (v) Reports of any industry or subsistence activities.

(B) Subsistence Whale Hunting Boat:

- (i) Name of caller.
- (ii) Location of boat or camp.
- (iii) Time of call.
- (iv) Plans for travel.

- (v) Any special information such as caught whale, whale to be towed, or industry vessel conflicts with whale or whaler. Any report of the number of whales struck, lost, or landed, or of the number of strikes remaining, shall be kept confidential and shall not be disclosed by the Com-Center or any Com-Center operator to anyone other than the AEWC or the local Whaling Captains' Association. The location of whales struck, lost, or landed shall be kept confidential and shall not be disclosed except to the extent needed to avoid an Industry/Subsistence Whale Hunter conflict.
- (2) Report of Industry/Subsistence Whale Hunter Conflict. In the event an industry/subsistence whale hunter conflict is reported, the appropriate Com-Center operator shall record:
- (A) Name of industry vessel.
  - (B) Name of subsistence whaling captain.
  - (C) Location of vessels.
  - (D) Nature of conflict, data, and time.
- (3) If all vessels and boats covered by Sections 207, 301, and 401 of this Agreement have not reported to the appropriate Com-Center within one hour of the recommended time, that Com-Center operator shall attempt to call all non-reporting vessels to determine the information set out above under the Duties of the Com-Center operator.
- (4) As soon as location information is provided by a vessel covered by Sections 207, 301, or 401 of this Agreement, the appropriate Com-Center operator shall plot the location and area of probable operations on the large map provided at the Com-Center.
- (5) If, in receiving information or plotting it, a Com-Center operator observes that operations by Industry Participants might conflict with subsistence whaling activities, such Com-Center operator shall contact the industry vessel involved and advise the Industry Participant's Local Representative(s) and the vessel operators of the potential conflict.

#### **SECTION 204. STANDARDIZED LOG BOOKS.**

The Industry Participants will provide the Com-Centers and Marine Mammal Observer / Inupiat Communicators with identical log books to assist in the standardization of record keeping associated with communications procedures required pursuant to this Agreement.

**SECTION 205. COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.****(a) Communications Equipment to be Provided to Subsistence Whale Hunting Crews.**

(1) In General. The Industry Participants will provide (or participate in the provision of) the communications equipment described in paragraphs (4) and (6) of this subsection and subsection (b) of this section.

(2) Beaufort Sea. The Industry Participants funding Com-Centers in Deadhorse and Kaktovik will fund the provision of communications equipment for the whaling captains of Kaktovik and Nuiqsut in the same proportion as they fund those Com-Centers.

(3) Chukchi Sea. The Industry participants conducting operations in the Chukchi Sea will coordinate with each other to participate in funding the provision of communications equipment for the whaling captains of Barrow, Wainwright, Pt. Hope, and Pt. Lay.

(4) All-Channel, Water-Resistant VHF Radios.

These VHF radios are specifically designed for marine use and allow monitoring of Channel 16 while using or listening to another channel.

- (A) Kaktovik Subsistence Whaling Boats: 8
- (B) Kaktovik Base and Search and Rescue: 2
- (C) Nuiqsut Subsistence Whaling Boats: 12
- (D) Nuiqsut Base and Search and Rescue: 3
- (E) Barrow Base and Search and Rescue: 2
- (F) Wainwright Base and Search and Rescue: 2
- (G) Wainwright Subsistence Whaling Boats: 4
- (H) Pt. Hope Base and Search and Rescue: 2
- (I) Pt. Hope Subsistence Whaling Boats: 10

- (J) Pt. Lay Base and Search and Rescue: 2
- (K) Pt. Lay Subsistence Whaling Boats: 4

(5) Specific VHF Channels For Each Village.

The whaling boats from each of the villages have been assigned individual VHF channels for vessel-to-vessel and vessel-to-Com-Center communications as follows:

- (A) Nuiqsut whaling crews will use Channel 68.
- (B) Kaktovik whaling crews will use Channel 69.
- (C) Barrow whaling crews will use Channel 72.
- (D) Wainwright Whaling Crews will use Channel 12.
- (E) Pt. Lay Whaling Crews will use Channel 72.
- (F) Pt. Hope Whaling Crews will use Channel 68.

(6) Satellite Telephones.

The satellite telephones are to be used as backup for the VHF radios. The satellite telephones for use on subsistence whaling boats are for emergency use only and should be programmed for direct dial to the nearest Com-Center.

- A. Kaktovik Base Phones: 2
- B. Kaktovik Subsistence Whaling Boats: 8
- C. Nuiqsut Base Phones: 2
- D. Nuiqsut Subsistence Whaling Boats: 12
- E. Barrow Subsistence Whaling Boats: 2
- F. Wainwright Subsistence Whaling Boats: 4
- G. Pt. Lay Subsistence Whaling Boats: 2

(7) Distribution and Return of Equipment.

The distribution of the VHF radios and satellite telephone equipment to whaling captains for use during the 2011 fall bowhead subsistence whale hunting season shall be completed no later than August 15, 2011. All such units and telephone equipment provided under this Agreement, whether in this section or otherwise, will be returned promptly by the Subsistence Participants to the Industry Participant or the person providing such units and equipment at the end of each Village's 2011 fall bowhead whale subsistence hunt.

**(b) Communications Equipment on Vessels Owned or Operated by the Industry Participants and/or their Contractors.**

The Marine Mammal Observer / Inupiat Communicators onboard source vessels owned or operated by the Industry Participants and/or their contractors will also be supplied with all-channel VHF radios. The MMO/ICs have been assigned Channel 7 for their exclusive use in communicating with the Com-Center. Such radios shall be returned upon the completion or termination of the MMO/IC's assignment.

**(c) Radio Installation and User Training.**

The Whaling Captains of Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Wainwright, Pt. Lay, and Pt. Hope, with assistance from the Industry Participants, will be responsible for the installation of the VHF radio equipment. The Industry participants will provide (or participate in the provision of) on-site user training for the VHF and satellite telephone equipment on or before August 15, 2011, if requested and as scheduled by the Whaling Captains' Associations of Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Barrow, Wainwright, Pt. Lay, and Pt. Hope, and the Industry Participant operating the Beaufort Sea Com-Centers or Chukchi Sea Com-Centers, as appropriate.

**SECTION 206. INDIVIDUALS TO CONTACT.**

Listed below are the primary contact names and phone numbers for each of the Participants.

(1) Arctic Cable Company, LLC's Local Representative

TBD

(2) BP Exploration (Alaska), Inc.'s (BP) Local Representative

LOWRY BROTT will be BP's local representative on the North Slope during the Term of this Agreement and will be stationed at Northstar Island and will be available by telephone at (907) 670-3520 and when Mr. Brott is not available, his alternate, Jim Croak, will be stationed at Northstar Island and will be available by telephone at the above number.

(3) ENI's Local Representative

Hans Neidig (907) 865-3314

(4) Exxon Mobil's Local Representative

TBD

(5) ION / GX Technology's Local Representative

TBD

(6) Pioneer Natural Resources' (Pioneer) Local Representative

PAT FOLEY will be Pioneer's local representative during the Term of this Agreement and will be stationed in Anchorage and will be available by telephone at (907) 343-2110.

(7) Shell Offshore Inc.'s (Shell) Local Representatives

JOHN MAKETA and HOWARD HILL will be Shell's local representatives on the North Slope during the Term of this Agreement and will be stationed at Barrow during Chukchi Sea operations and at Deadhorse during Beaufort Sea operations and will be available by telephone at (907) 770-3700.

(8) STATOIL's Local Representative

TBD

(9) The Village of Kaktovik

For purposes of this Agreement, the individuals to contact for the Village of Kaktovik will be: JOSEPH KALEAK at (907) 640-6213 or 640-6515, and CHARLIE M. BROWER at (907) 640-4163 (home), (907) 640-2092 (work), or (907) 640-0052 (cell).

(10) The Village of Nuiqsut

For purposes of this Agreement, the individuals to contact for the Village of Nuiqsut will be: ISAAC NUKAPIGAK at (907) 480-6220 (Work); (907) 480-2400 (Home).

(11) The Village of Barrow

For purposes of this Agreement, the individuals to contact for the Village of Barrow will be: HARRY BROWER, JR. at (907) 852-0350 (Work), and EUGENE BROWER at (907) 852-3601.

(12) The Village of Wainwright

For purposes of this Agreement, the individuals to contact for the Village of Wainwright will be: ROSSMAN PEETOOK at (907) 763-4774, and WALTER NAYAKIK at (907)763-2915 (Work).

(13) The Village of Pt. Hope

For purposes of this Agreement, the individuals to contact for the Village of Pt. Hope will be: CHESTER FRANKSON, SR. at (907) 368-2054 (Home).

(14) The Village of Pt. Lay

For purposes of this Agreement, the individuals to contact for the Village of Pt. Lay will be: JULIUS REXFORD (907) 833-4592 (Home), (907) 833-2214 (Work), (907) 833-2320 (Fax), THOMAS NUKAPIAK (907) 833-6467 (Home), (907) 833-3838

(15) The AEW

For purposes of this Agreement, the individuals to contact for the AEW shall be: HARRY BROWER, JR. at (907) 852-0350 (Work) and JOHNNY AIKEN at (907) 852-2392.

**SECTION 207. SUBSISTENCE WHALE HUNTING BOATS.**

The following is a list of the number of boats each of the Subsistence Participants plan to use:

(1) Boats Owned/Used by Whaling Captains of Nuiqsut (NWCA)

The subsistence whaling crews of the Village of Nuiqsut plan to use (12) twelve boats for subsistence whale hunting during the late summer and fall of 2011.

(2) Boats Owned/Used by Whaling Captains of Kaktovik (KWCA)

The subsistence whaling crews of the Village of Kaktovik plan to use (8) eight boats for subsistence whale hunting during the late summer and fall of 2011.

(3) Boats Owned/Used by Whaling Captains of Barrow (BWCA)

The subsistence whaling crews of the Village of Barrow plan to use (40) forty boats for subsistence whale hunting during the late summer and fall of 2011.

(4) Boats Owned/Used by Whaling Captains of Wainwright (WWCA)

The subsistence whaling crews of the Village of Wainwright plan to use (4) four boats for subsistence whale hunting during the fall of 2011.

(5) Boats Owned/Used by Whaling Captains of Pt. Hope (Pt. HWCA)

The subsistence whaling crews of the Village of Pt. Hope plan to use (10) ten boats for subsistence whale hunting during the late fall of 2011.

(6) Boats Owned/Used by Whaling Captains of Pt. Lay (Pt. LWCA)

The subsistence whaling crews of the Village of Pt. Lay plan to use (4) four boats for subsistence whale hunting during the fall of 2011.

If any additional boats are put in use by subsistence whaling crews, the Industry Participants will be notified promptly through the Com-Center.



## **TITLE III – BARGE, TRANSIT, AND CABLE LAYING VESSEL OPERATIONS**

### **SECTION 301. IN GENERAL.**

A Participant may employ barges, transit, or cable laying vessels to transport materials or lay cable through the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea during the term of this Agreement. Any Industry Participant who employs a barge or transit vessel to transport materials through the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea during the term of this Agreement shall require the barge or transit vessel operator to comply with Sections 201, 205(b) and 302 of this Agreement while providing services to that Industry Participant.

### **SECTION 302. BARGE AND TRANSIT VESSEL OPERATIONS.**

**(a) Reporting Positions for Barge, Transit or Cable Laying Vessels Owned or Operated by industry Participants.**

(1) All barge, transit, or cable laying vessels shall report to the appropriate Com-Center at least once every six hours commencing with a call at approximately 06:00 hours. Each call shall report the following information:

(A) Barge, transit, or cable laying vessel name, operator of vessel, charterer or owner of vessel, and the project or entity the vessel is transporting materials for.

(B) Barge, transit, or cable laying vessel location, speed, and direction.

(C) Plans for barge, transit, or cable laying vessel movement between the time of the call and the time of the next call. The final call of the day shall include a statement of the barge or transit vessel's general area of expected operations for the following day, if known at that time.

EXAMPLE: This is the Arctic Endeavor, operated by \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ in the Chukchi Sea. We are currently at \_\_\_\_' \_\_\_\_ north \_\_\_\_' \_\_\_\_ west, proceeding SE at \_\_\_\_ knots. We will proceed on this course for \_\_\_\_ hours and will report location and direction at that time.

(2) The appropriate Com-Center also shall be notified if there is any significant change in plans, such as an unannounced start-up of operations or significant deviations from announced course, and such Com-Center shall notify all whalers of such changes. A call to the appropriate Com-Center shall be made regarding any unsafe or unanticipated ice conditions.

**(b) Operator Duties.**

All barge, transit, or cable laying vessel operators are responsible for the following requirements.

- (1) Monitoring VHF Channel 16. All barge and transit vessel operators shall monitor marine VHF Channel 16 at all times.
- (2) Avoidance of Whale Hunting Crews and Areas. It is the responsibility of each Industry Participant and barge or transit vessel operator to determine the positions of their barge or transit vessels and to exercise due care in avoiding any areas where subsistence whale hunting is active.
- (3) Vessel-to-Vessel Communication. After any barge or transit vessel owned or operated by any Industry Participant has been informed of or has determined the location of subsistence whale hunting boats in its vicinity, the Marine Mammal Observer / Inupiat Communicator shall contact those boats in order to coordinate movement and take necessary avoidance precautions.

**(c) Routing Barge, Transit, and Cable Laying Vessels.**

- (1) All barge, transit, and cable laying vessel routes shall be planned so as to minimize any potential conflict with bowhead whales or subsistence whaling activities. All barges and transit vessels shall avoid areas of active or anticipated whaling activity, as reported pursuant to Section 202.
- (2) Beaufort Sea. Vessels transiting east of Bullen Point to the Canadian border should remain at least five (5) miles offshore during transit along the coast, provided ice and sea conditions allow.
- (3) Chukchi Sea. Vessels should remain as far offshore as weather and ice conditions allow, and at all times at least five (5) miles offshore during transit.

**(d) Vessel Speeds.**

Barge, transit, and cable laying vessels shall be operated at speeds necessary to ensure no physical contact with whales occurs, and to make any other potential conflicts with bowhead whales or whalers unlikely. Vessel speeds shall be less than 10 knots in the proximity of feeding whales or whale aggregations.

**(e) Vessels Operating in Proximity of Bowhead Whales.**

If any barge or transit vessel inadvertently approaches within 1.6 kilometers (1 mile) of observed bowhead whales, except when providing emergency assistance to whalers or in other emergency situations, the vessel operator will take reasonable precautions to avoid potential interaction with the bowhead whales by taking one or more of the following actions, as appropriate:

- (1) reducing vessel speed to less than 5 knots within 900 feet of the whale(s);
- (2) steering around the whale(s) if possible;
- (3) operating the vessel(s) in such a way as to avoid separating members of a group of whales from other members of the group;
- (4) operating the vessel(s) to avoid causing a whale to make multiple changes in direction; and
- (5) checking the waters immediately adjacent to the vessel(s) to ensure that no whales will be injured when the propellers are engaged.

**(f) Marine Mammal Sighting Data.**

Industry Participants whose operations are limited exclusively to barge or vessel traffic will submit to the AEWC and NSB DWM all marine mammal sighting data.

**TITLE IV – VESSELS, TESTING, AND MONITORING****SECTION 401. INDUSTRY PARTICIPANT VESSELS AND EQUIPMENT.****(a) List of Vessels and Equipment Required.**

Each Industry Participant engaged in oil and gas operations shall provide a list identifying all vessels or other equipment (including but not limited to boats, barges, aircraft, or similar craft) that are owned and/or operated by, or that are under contract to the Industry Participants, for use in the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea for oil and gas operations or for implementation of such Industry Participant's monitoring plan. Vessels and equipment used for oil and gas operations shall be listed in Attachment II, and vessels and equipment used for monitoring plans shall be listed in Attachment III.

**(b) Only Listed Vessels and Equipment (or Like Vessels and Like Equipment) May Be Used.**

**(1) NONE OF THE INDUSTRY PARTICIPANTS INTENDS TO OPERATE ANY VESSEL OR EQUIPMENT (EXCEPT FOR LIKE VESSELS OR LIKE EQUIPMENT) NOT IDENTIFIED IN THE LISTS REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (a) DURING THE TERM OF THIS AGREEMENT.**

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph 1, if any Industry Participant decides to use different vessels or equipment or additional vessels or equipment, such vessels and equipment shall be used only for purposes identified in Attachments II or III; and the AEWC and the whaling captains of Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Barrow, Wainwright, Pt. Hope, and Pt. Lay shall be notified promptly through the appropriate Com-Center, as identified in Section 203 of this Agreement, and in writing, of their identity and their intended use, including location of use.

**SECTION 402. SOUND SIGNATURE TESTS.****(a) Sound Source Verification Testing.**

(1) Geophysical Equipment. For purposes of obtaining a sound signature for Industry Participants' geophysical equipment, the Industry Participants shall have initiated a test of all geophysical equipment within 72 hours of initiating or having initiated operations in the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea. Such tests shall be conducted as set forth in section 402(b).

(2) Vessels. For vessels engaged in geophysical activity, Industry Participants will conduct a sound source verification test for all geophysical equipment used for geophysical activity. Each Industry Participant shall establish a sound source verification range or Industry Participants may participate jointly in establishing a range for the Chukchi Sea and Beaufort Sea, or both. A separate range shall be used for the Chukchi Sea and Beaufort Sea, and vessels shall use the appropriate range for each sea in which they operate. For testing each vessel shall proceed through the range and record information on the date, time, vessel speed, vessel route, vessel load, weather conditions, and equipment operating on the vessel (all noise generating equipment on the vessel, other than geophysical equipment subject to separate testing under paragraph (1), shall be in operation while the vessel is proceeding through the range). The range should be established near a location where details on wind speed and direction are regularly monitored and archived.

**(b) Mutual Agreement on Site for Testing; Advance Notice Required.**

(1) In General. Each geophysical equipment sound signature test shall be conducted at a site mutually agreed upon by the Industry Participant conducting such test and the AEWC. Each Industry Participant conducting such sound signature test(s) will make a good faith effort to provide three (3) weeks advance notice to the AEWC and the NSB DWM of its intent to perform each test.

(2) Beaufort Sea Testing. For geophysical equipment sound signature tests conducted in the Beaufort Sea, the Industry Participant conducting such tests shall provide transportation for an appropriate number of representatives from: the AEWC, the whaling captains of the Villages of Barrow, Nuiqsut, and Kaktovik, and the NSB DWM to observe the sound signature tests.

(3) Chukchi Sea Testing. For geophysical equipment sound signature tests conducted on vessels to be used in the Chukchi Sea, the Industry Participant(s) conducting such tests shall provide transportation for an appropriate number of representatives from: the AEWC, the whaling captains of the Villages of Barrow, Wainwright, Pt. Lay, and Pt. Hope, and the NSB DWM to observe the sound signature tests.

**(c) Sound Signature Data to be Made Available.**

(1) Within fourteen (14) days of completing the sound signature field tests for geophysical equipment and within 30 days of the end of the operating season for sound source verification ranges, each Industry Participant and/or its contractor conducting such test(s) will make preliminary and final quality controlled results of the sound signature test(s) available upon request to the AEWG and the NSB DWM. The Industry Participant and/or its contractor will also provide the AEWG and the NSB DWM the preliminary analysis of that data, as well as any other applicable sound signature data that is available and that the AEWG, the NSB DWM, and the Industry Participant agree is relevant to understanding the potential noise impacts of the proposed operations to migrating bowhead whales or other affected marine mammals.

(2) Once completed the final data analysis will be provided to the AEWG and the NSB DWM upon request. The final data report for the sound source verification testing shall be provided to the NSB DWM and the AEWG no later than December 31, 2011.

(3) Any Industry Participant who prepares a model of the sound signature of its vessels and operations, whether before or after the sound signature test, will provide copies of those models and any related analysis to the AEWG and the NSB DWM upon request.

**SECTION 403. MONITORING PLANS.****(a) Monitoring Plan Required.**

(1) Each Industry Participant agrees to prepare and implement a monitoring plan to collect data designed to determine the potential effects of its oil and gas operations on fall migrating bowhead whales.

(2) The Monitoring Plans shall be designed in cooperation with the AEWG, the NSB DWM, NOAA Fisheries, and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE). If additional outside review is requested by any of the above entities, the Industry Participant will evaluate the request on a case by case basis.

**(b) Beaufort Sea Monitoring Plans.**

In the Beaufort Sea, the monitoring plans shall include an investigation of noise effects on fall migrating bowhead whales as they travel past the noise source, with special attention to changes in calling behavior, deflection from the normal migratory path, where deflection occurs, and the duration of the deflection.

**(c) Chukchi Sea Monitoring Plans.**

In the Chukchi Sea, the monitoring plans should focus on the identity, timing, location, and numbers of marine mammals and their behavioral responses to the noise source. The monitoring plans will place emphasis on understanding potential impacts from industrial sounds on bowhead whales.

**(d) Use of Prior Information and Peer Reviewed Data.**

(1) Prior impact study results shall be incorporated into the monitoring plans prepared by each Industry Participant as applicable.

(2) Each monitoring plan for oil and gas operations shall be subject to peer review by stakeholders on a peer review panel identified by NOAA Fisheries at the 2011 Open Water Season Peer Review Meeting, convened by NOAA Fisheries. Draft plans will be submitted to the NSB DWM and AEWC no later than two weeks prior to the 2011 Open Water Peer Review Meeting.

**(e) Raw Data, Communication, and Summary Required.**

(1) Each Industry Participant conducting site-specific monitoring will:

(A) after quality control reviews are completed, make electronic data, available to the NSB DWM at the end of the season.

(B) permit and encourage open communications among their contractors and the AEWC and NSB DWM.

(2) Each Industry Participant will submit a summary of monitoring plan results and progress to the AEWC and NSB DWM every two weeks during the operating season.

**SECTION 404. CUMULATIVE NOISE IMPACTS STUDY.**

Each Industry Participant further agrees to provide its monitoring plan and sound signature data, for use in a cumulative effects analysis of the multiple sound sources and their possible relationship to any observed changes in marine mammal behavior, to be undertaken pursuant to a Cumulative Noise Impacts Study.

The study design for the Cumulative Impacts Study shall be developed through a Cumulative Impacts Workshop to be organized by the North Slope Borough in the winter of 2011/2012. The results of this workshop will be presented at the 2012 Open Water Meeting.

**TITLE V – AVOIDING CONFLICTS DURING THE OPEN WATER SEASON**

Industry Participants are reminded that Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act provide, among other things, that the Secretary can authorize the incidental taking of small numbers of marine mammals of a species or population stock if the Secretary finds, among other things, that the total of such takings during the authorized period **will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of such species or stock for taking for subsistence uses.**

The following Operating Guidelines apply in the Beaufort Sea and Chukchi Sea, except as otherwise specified and in all cases with due regard to environmental conditions and operational safety. These Operating Guidelines are in addition to any permit restrictions or stipulations imposed by the applicable governmental agencies.

**SECTION 501. GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR AVOIDING INTERFERENCE WITH BOWHEAD WHALES OR SUBSISTENCE WHALE HUNTING ACTIVITIES.****(a) Routing Vessels and Aircraft.**

(1) All vessel and aircraft routes shall be planned so as to minimize any potential conflict with bowhead whales or bowhead subsistence whaling activities. All vessels shall avoid areas of active or anticipated whaling activity (as reported pursuant to Section 202).



(2) Beaufort Sea. Vessels transiting east of Bullen Point to the Canadian border should remain at least five (5) miles offshore during transit along the coast, provided ice and sea conditions allow.

(3) Chukchi Sea. Vessels should remain as far offshore as weather and ice conditions allow, and at least five (5) miles offshore during transit.

**(b) Aircraft Altitude Floor and Flight Path.**

(1) AIRCRAFT SHALL NOT OPERATE BELOW 1500 FEET unless the aircraft is engaged in marine mammal monitoring, approaching, landing or taking off, or unless engaged in providing assistance to a whaler or in poor weather (low ceilings) or any other emergency situations. Aircraft engaged in marine mammal monitoring shall not operate below 1500 feet in areas of active whaling; such areas to be identified through communications with the Com-Centers.

(2) Except for airplanes engaged in marine mammal monitoring, aircraft shall use a flight path that keeps the aircraft at least five (5) miles inland until the aircraft is directly south of its offshore destination, then at that point it shall fly directly north to its destination.

**(c) Vessel Speeds.**

Vessels shall be operated at speeds necessary to ensure no physical contact with whales occurs, and to make any other potential conflicts with bowhead whales or whalers unlikely. Vessel speeds shall be less than 10 knots in the proximity of feeding whales or whale aggregations.

**(d) Vessels Operating in Proximity of Bowhead Whales.**

If any vessel inadvertently approaches within 1.6 kilometers (1 mile) of observed bowhead whales, except when providing emergency assistance to whalers or in other emergency situations, the vessel operator will take reasonable precautions to avoid potential interaction with the bowhead whales by taking one or more of the following actions, as appropriate:

- (1) reducing vessel speed to less than 5 knots within 900 feet of the whale(s);
- (2) steering around the whale(s) if possible;
- (3) operating the vessel(s) in such a way as to avoid separating members of a group of whales from other members of the group;

- (4) operating the vessel(s) to avoid causing a whale to make multiple changes in direction; and
- (5) checking the waters immediately adjacent to the vessel(s) to ensure that no whales will be injured when the propellers are engaged.

## **SECTION 502. GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY LIMITATIONS.**

The following operating limitations are to be observed and the operations are to be accompanied by a monitoring plan as set forth in Section 403 and Attachment III of this Agreement. The Industry Participants conducting geophysical activity agree to coordinate the timing and location of such activity so as to reduce, by the greatest extent reasonably possible, the level of noise energy entering the water from such activity at any given time and at any given location.

### **(a) Limitations on Geophysical Activity in the Beaufort Sea.**

All geophysical activity in the Beaufort Sea shall be conducted in accordance with the terms set forth below.

- (1) Kaktovik: No geophysical activity from the Canadian Border to the Canning River (146 deg. 4 min. W) from 25 August to close of the fall bowhead whale hunt in Kaktovik and Nuiqsut.<sup>2</sup> From August 10 to August 25, Industry Participants will communicate and collaborate with AEWG on any planned vessel movement in and around Kaktovik and Cross Island to avoid impacts to whale hunt.

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<sup>2</sup> The bowhead whale subsistence hunt will be considered closed for a particular village when the village Whaling Captains' Association declares the hunt ended or the village quota has been exhausted (as announced by the village Whaling Captains' Association or the AEWG), whichever occurs earlier.

(2) Nuiqsut:

A. Pt. Storkerson (~148 deg. 42 min. W) to Thetis Island (~150 deg. 10.2 min. W).

(i) Inside the Barrier Islands: No geophysical activity prior to August 5. Geophysical activity is allowed from August 5 until completion of operations<sup>3</sup>

(ii). Outside the Barrier Islands: No geophysical activity from August 25 to close of fall bowhead whale hunting in Nuiqsut. Geophysical activity is allowed at all other times.

b. Canning River (~146 deg. 4 min. W) to Pt. Storkerson (~148 deg. 42 min. W): No geophysical activity from August 25 to the close of bowhead whale subsistence hunting in Nuiqsut.

(3) Barrow: No geophysical activity from Pitt Point on the east side of Smith Bay (~152 deg. 15 min. W) to a location about half way between Barrow and Peard Bay (~157 deg. 20 min. W) from September 15 to the close of the fall bowhead whale hunt in Barrow.

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<sup>3</sup> Geophysical activity allowed in this area after August 25 shall include a source array of no more than 12 air guns, a source layout no greater than 8 m x 6 m, and a single source volume no greater than 880 in<sup>3</sup>.

**(b) Limitations on Geophysical Activity in the Chukchi Sea.**

All geophysical activity in the Chukchi Sea shall be conducted in accordance with the terms set forth below.

- (1) Beginning September 15, and ending with the close of the fall bowhead whale hunt,<sup>4</sup> if Wainwright, Pt. Lay, or Pt. Hope intend to whale in the Chukchi Sea, no more than two geophysical activities employing geophysical equipment will occur at any one time in the Chukchi Sea. During the fall bowhead whale hunt, geophysical equipment will not be used by Participants within 30 miles of any point along the Chukchi Sea coast. Industry Participants will contact the Whaling Captains' Associations of each of those villages to determine if a village is prepared to whale and will notify the AEWG of any response.
- (2) Safe harbor will be at sites selected by the Industry Participants and the AEWG. Safe harbor sites will be agreed upon no later than the beginning of operations and shall be listed in Attachment IV. However, a vessel captain will seek safety for his assets (vessel and personnel) as is his duty under the Law of the Sea.
- (3) Any vessel operating within 60 miles of the Chukchi Sea coast will follow the communications procedures set forth in Title II of this Agreement. All vessels will adhere to the conflict avoidance measures set forth in Section 501 of this Agreement.
- (4) If a dispute should arise, the resolution process set forth in Section 106 of this Agreement shall apply.

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<sup>4</sup> The bowhead whale subsistence hunt will be considered closed when village Whaling Captains' Associations of Wainwright, Pt. Lay, and Pt. Hope have each declared that (A) they do not intend to hunt, (B) their village hunt has ended, or (C) the village quota has been exhausted (as announced by the village Whaling Captains' Association or the AEWG), whichever occurs<sup>3</sup> earlier.

**SECTION 503. DRILLING AND PRODUCTION.**

For exploratory drilling and production between 144 deg. W and the Canning River (~146 deg. 4 min. W), zero discharge of:

- (1) drilling fluids;
- (2) cuttings after 20" casing;
- (3) treated sanitary and gray water; and
- (4) ballast and bilge water.

**(b) Drilling Operations in the Beaufort Sea East of Cross Island.**

No drilling equipment or related vessels used for at-sea oil and gas operations shall be onsite at any offshore drilling location east of Cross Island from 25 August until the close of the bowhead whale hunt in Nuiqsut and Kaktovik. However, such equipment may remain within the Beaufort Sea in the vicinity of 71 degrees 25 minutes N and 146 degrees 4 minutes W., or at the edge of the Arctic ice pack, whichever is closer to shore.

**(c) Drilling Operations in the Beaufort Sea West of Cross Island.**

In 2011, no drilling equipment or related vessels used for at-sea oil and gas operations shall be moved onsite at any location outside the barrier islands west of Cross Island until the close of the bowhead whale hunt in Barrow.

**SECTION 504. SHORE-BASED SERVICE AND SUPPLY AREAS.**

Shore-based service and supply areas used by Industry Participants shall be located and operated so as to ensure compliance with the terms of this Agreement.

## TITLE VI – LATE SEASON SEISMIC OPERATIONS

### SECTION 601. IN GENERAL.

Any Industry Participant who engages exclusively in geophysical activities that are conducted at least 5 miles or more from the Alaska coast in the Beaufort Sea or Chukchi Sea and begin on or after October 1, 2011 shall comply with Sections 201, 205(b), 502(a), and 602 of this Agreement.

### SECTION 602. VESSEL OPERATIONS.

#### (a) Reporting Positions When Vessels Come Within 40 Miles of the Coast.

(1) A vessel subject to this section operating within 40 miles of the Alaska coast shall report to the appropriate Com-Center at least once every six hours commencing with a call at approximately 06:00 hours. Each call shall report the following information:

(A) Vessel name, operator of vessel, charter or owner of vessel, and the project or entity the vessel is conducting operations for.

(B) Vessel location, speed, and direction.

(C) Plans for vessel movement between the time of the call and the time of the next call. The final call of the day shall include a statement of the vessel's general area of expected operations for the following day, if known at that time.

EXAMPLE: This is the Arctic Endeavor, operated by \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ in the Chukchi Sea. We are currently at \_\_\_\_' \_\_\_\_ north \_\_\_\_' \_\_\_\_ west, proceeding SE at \_\_\_\_ knots. We will proceed on this course for \_\_\_\_ hours and will report location and direction at that time.

(2) The appropriate Com-Center also shall be notified if there is any significant change in plans, such as an unannounced start-up of operations or significant deviations from announced course, and such Com-Center shall notify all whalers of such changes. A call to the appropriate Com-Center shall be made regarding any unsafe or unanticipated ice conditions.

**(b) Operator Duties.**

All vessel operators subject to this title are responsible for the following requirements.

- (1) Monitoring VHF Channel 16. All vessel operators shall monitor marine VHF Channel 16 at all times.
- (2) Avoidance of Whale Hunting Crews and Areas. It is the responsibility of each Industry Participant and vessel operator to determine the positions of their vessels and to exercise due care in avoiding any areas where subsistence whale hunting is active.
- (3) Vessel-to-Vessel Communication. After any vessel owned or operated by any Industry Participant has been informed of or has determined the location of subsistence whale hunting boats in its vicinity, the Marine Mammal Observer / Inupiat Communicator shall contact those boats in order to coordinate movement and take necessary avoidance precautions.

**(c) Routing Vessels.**

- (1) All vessel routes within 40 miles of the Alaska coast shall be planned so as to minimize any potential conflict with bowhead whales or subsistence whaling activities. All vessels shall avoid areas of active or anticipated whaling activity, as reported pursuant to Section 202.
- (2) Beaufort Sea. Vessels transiting east of Bullen Point to the Canadian border should remain at least five (5) miles offshore during transit along the coast, provided ice and sea conditions allow.
- (3) Chukchi Sea. Vessels should remain as far offshore as weather and ice conditions allow, and at all times at least five (5) miles offshore during transit.

**(d) Vessel Speeds.**

Vessels shall be operated at speeds necessary to ensure no physical contact with whales occurs, and to make any other potential conflicts with bowhead whales or whalers unlikely. Vessel speeds shall be less than 10 knots in the proximity of feeding whales or whale aggregations.

**(e) Vessels Operating in Proximity of Bowhead Whales.**

If any barge or transit vessel inadvertently approaches within 1.6 kilometers (1 mile) of observed bowhead whales, except when providing emergency assistance to whalers or in other emergency situations, the vessel operator will take reasonable precautions to avoid potential interaction with the bowhead whales by taking one or more of the following actions, as appropriate:

- (1) reducing vessel speed to less than 5 knots within 900 feet of the whale(s);
- (2) steering around the whale(s) if possible;
- (3) operating the vessel(s) in such a way as to avoid separating members of a group of whales from other members of the group;
- (4) operating the vessel(s) to avoid causing a whale to make multiple changes in direction; and
- (5) checking the waters immediately adjacent to the vessel(s) to ensure that no whales will be injured when the propellers are engaged.

**(f) Marine Mammal Sighting Data.**

Industry Participants whose operations are subject to this title will submit to the AEWG and NSB DWM all marine mammal sighting data.



**TITLE VII – PARTICIPANTS**

This Agreement shall be binding and effective when signed by the duly authorized representatives of the Participants. Signatures may be by facsimile on separate pages.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Harry Brower  
Chairman, AEW  
AEWC Commissioner for Barrow  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rex Rock  
AEWC Commissioner for Pt. Hope  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Julius Rexford  
AEWC Commissioner for Pt. Lay  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Kaleak  
AEWC Commissioner for Kaktovik  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Isaac Nukapigak  
AEWC Commissioner for Nuiqsut  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rossman Peetook  
AEWC Commissioner for Wainwright  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:  
Arctic Cable Company, LLC  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:  
BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name:  
ENI US Operating Company  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name:  
Exxon Mobil Corporation  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name:  
ION / GX Technology  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name:  
Pioneer Natural Resources Alaska  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name:  
Shell Offshore, Inc.  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name:  
Statoil  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

## ATTACHMENT I

LOCAL SEARCH AND RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS - CONTACT PERSONS  
(IN EMERGENCIES, ALWAYS DIAL 911)

## North Slope Borough

## Search and Rescue (Pilots)

Director Hugh Patkotak

852-2822 WK 852-4844  
Home

## Barrow Volunteer

## Search and Rescue Station

852-2808 OFS

President	Oliver Leavitt	852-7032 WK	852-7032 Home
Vice-Pres.	Price Brower	852-8633 WK	852-7848 Home
Secretary	Lucille Adams	852-0250 Wk	852-7200 Home
Treasurer	Eli Solomon	852-2808 Wk	852-6261 Home
Coordinator	Arnold Brower, Jr.	852-0290 WK	852-5060 Home
Director	Jimmy Nayakik	852-0200 WK	852-JENS Home
Director	Johnny Adams	852-0250 WK	852-7724 Home

## Nuiqsut Volunteer

## Search and Rescue Station

480-6613 (Fire Hall)

## Kaktovik Volunteer

## Search and Rescue Station

640-6212 (Fire Hall)

President	Lee Kayotuk	640-5893	Wk 640-6213 Home
Vice-Pres.	Tom Gordon	640-	
Secretary	Nathan Gordon	640-6925	
Treasurer	Don Kayotuk	640-2947	
Fire Chief	George T. Tagarook	640-6212 WK	640-6728 Home

Wainwright Volunteer Search and Rescue

President	Joe Ahmaogak Jr.	763-2826 Home
Vice President	John Hopson, Jr.	763-3464 Home
Secretary	Raymond Negovanna	763-2102 Home
Treasurer	Ben Ahmaogak, Jr.	763-3030 Home
Director	Artic Kittick	763-2534 Home
Director	John Akpik	Unlisted

Pt. Hope Volunteer Search and Rescue

Coordinator	Willard Hunnicutt, Jr.	368-2774 Work
Fire Chief	Willard Hunnicutt, Jr.	368-2774 Work (Note: Only contact for Pt. Hope)

North Slope Borough Disaster Relief Coordinator

Frederick Brower	852-0284 OFS
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ATTACHMENT II

VESSELS TO BE USED FOR AND IN SUPPORT OF  
INDUSTRY PARTICIPANTS' OPERATIONS  
AS IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 401(b)(1)(B)

[ ALL VESSELS TO BE IDENTIFIED BY COMPANY ]

NOTE:

COPY OF PRESENTATION OF THE INDUSTRY PARTICIPANT ATTACHED  
IDENTIFYING VESSELS TO BE USED FOR AND IN SUPPORT OF THE  
INDUSTRY PARTICIPANTS' OPERATIONS.

ATTACHMENT III

VESSELS TO BE USED FOR AND IN SUPPORT  
OF THE INDUSTRY PARTICIPANTS MONITORING PLANS  
AS IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 401(b)(1)(B)

[ ALL VESSELS TO BE IDENTIFIED BY COMPANY ]

NOTE:

COPY OF PRESENTATION OF THE INDUSTRY PARTICIPANT ATTACHED  
IDENTIFYING VESSELS TO BE USED FOR AND IN SUPPORT OF THE  
INDUSTRY PARTICIPANTS' MONITORING PLAN.

ATTACHMENT IV

SAFE HARBOR