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LISTENING SESSION  
BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT  
and  
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

Anchorage, Alaska

Taken June 7, 2013  
Commencing at 12:15 a.m.

Volume I - Pages 1 - 56, inclusive

Taken at  
Barrow City Assembly Chambers  
Barrow, Alaska

Reported by:  
Mary A. Vavrik, RMR

## A-P-P-E-A-R-A-N-C-E-S

Tommy Beaudreau  
Assistant Secretary of the Interior  
BOEM Director

Pat Pourchot  
Senior DOI Representative for Alaska

Dr. James Kendall  
BOEM Alaska Regional Director

Mark Fesmire  
BSEE Alaska Regional Director

David Johnston  
BOEM Alaska Supervisor for Leasing & Plans

Michael Routhier  
BOEM Alaska Program Analysis Officer

Michael Haller  
Tribal and Community Liaison

Lakeisha Harrison  
BSEE Representative

Taken by: Mary A. Vavrik, RMR

BE IT KNOWN that the aforementioned proceedings were taken  
at the time and place duly noted on the title page, before  
Mary A. Vavrik, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary  
Public within and for the State of Alaska.

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 MR. MICHAEL HALLER: Okay, ladies and  
3 gentlemen, thank you very much for -- thank you very much  
4 for joining us today. And I want to say a special thank  
5 you to KBRW and KOTZ, who are both simulcasting our  
6 meeting this afternoon from 12:00 until 2:00. So for  
7 those of you joining us here in the City of Barrow's  
8 Assembly chambers, we appreciate you being here. We are  
9 very grateful for that.

10 And before we go any further, I will take a  
11 moment to introduce myself. My name is Michael Haller. I  
12 am the tribal and community liaison for the Bureau of  
13 Ocean Energy Management here for the Alaska Region. And I  
14 want to introduce former Mayor Itta, who will offer an  
15 invocation for us.

16 (Invocation offered by Edward Itta.)

17 MR. MICHAEL HALLER: Thank you very much.  
18 In the interest of the fact that we have folks who are  
19 listening in on the radio in both Barrow and Kotzebue and  
20 in the regions around each city, we ask for those that  
21 will speak, if you come up and use the microphone here at  
22 the table before you are called upon.

23 But before we move to that, let me first  
24 introduce several people here at the table. I want to  
25 introduce, first of all, Assistant Secretary of the

1 Interior, Tommy Beaudreau. I also want to introduce our  
2 senior federal officer for the State of Alaska for the  
3 Department of Interior, Pat Pourchot; the Bureau of Safety  
4 and Environmental Enforcement director for the region,  
5 Mark Fesmire; David Johnston, who is one of our BOEM  
6 officers; and my boss, Dr. James Kendall, for the Bureau  
7 of Ocean Energy Management.

8 Secretary Beaudreau.

9 MR. TOMMY BEAUDREAU: Good afternoon.  
10 My name is Tommy Beaudreau. I'm the Acting Assistant  
11 Secretary for Land and Minerals at the Interior  
12 Department. I'm also the director, national director of  
13 the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, which is  
14 responsible for overseeing planning and leasing with  
15 respect to offshore oil and gas activity, including  
16 Shell's offshore operation in the Chukchi and the Beaufort  
17 last summer.

18 We work closely with our sister agency, the  
19 Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, which  
20 oversees and does inspections and oversees the safe  
21 operation of offshore oil and gas operations in federal  
22 waters, including in the Beaufort and the Chukchi Sea.

23 Thank you very much for joining us this  
24 afternoon. As you may know, we have a session here  
25 starting at noon. We are going to have another session

1 this evening. The reason we did that is to try to give as  
2 many people an opportunity to attend and participate in  
3 person as possible. And so some of you may be joining  
4 during a lunch hour, and we really appreciate that you are  
5 taking your valuable time to do that and participate with  
6 us. And I also want to thank folks who may be listening  
7 in on the phone or on in the radio, and thank everyone for  
8 that, as well.

9 Here is what I'd like to do. I will give a bit  
10 of a description and some context to why we're here and  
11 what we would like to talk about. I would like to spend  
12 the bulk of our time, however, doing what I came up to do,  
13 which is to really listen to you and to get your thoughts  
14 and comments and perspectives on the issues in front of  
15 all of us.

16 And first, we have a court reporter here who is  
17 taking notes for us so that we can capture all of the  
18 comments and thoughts that we hear so that we can go back  
19 in the future and look at them. And so I appreciate  
20 everybody sort of enduring that part of the process and  
21 coming up and giving your name and speaking into the  
22 microphone so that we can take down what you say because,  
23 after all, that is the point here, which is to hear what  
24 you have to say, to remember it, and to have it inform our  
25 thinking going forward.

1           But I also hope this could be a pretty informal  
2 process. I know it can be intimidating. You have like a  
3 wall of people from the federal government, some of us  
4 from Washington, D.C. here, and I hope once you get sort  
5 of used to us, that we can just have kind of a  
6 conversation and that it doesn't have to feel so formal.

7           Here is what we came to talk about. As everyone  
8 here experienced last summer, Shell drilled -- or started  
9 two wells, one in the Beaufort Sea and one in the Chukchi  
10 Sea last summer. And as everyone here knows, Shell was  
11 not allowed -- we did not allow Shell to drill into oil.  
12 And the reason we didn't allow that is because Shell was  
13 unable to bring a containment system -- an operable  
14 containment system into the Arctic. We required -- Shell  
15 committed to having that system and we required that  
16 system because we felt it was extremely important for  
17 Shell to be able to respond quickly to contain any sort of  
18 loss of well control if that were to happen, and to  
19 contain the well at the source. Shell wasn't able to  
20 bring that system on line, and so they did not get to  
21 drill into hydrocarbon. They started two wells, just  
22 drilled into rock, but did not -- we did not allow them to  
23 go into oil and create any risk that that containment  
24 system was designed to mitigate.

25           And as everyone knows, Shell experienced other

1 problems during the course of their experience last year,  
2 including losing a tow and the grounding of the Kulluk  
3 drill ship, which was the drill ship that worked in the  
4 Beaufort over the 2012 season.

5 All of that, that experience and the problems  
6 Shell encountered, led us to do a review. I was ordered  
7 by former Secretary Salazar to prepare a review of Shell's  
8 2012 operation and to look into the reason -- some of the  
9 reasons why Shell experienced those problems and what  
10 lessons we could learn from that experience.

11 The findings and recommendations coming out of  
12 that review are summarized in one of the charts on the  
13 wall here. There were five recommendations specifically  
14 for industry, and then two were really directed at  
15 ourselves.

16 Just quickly, the first recommendation or  
17 observation that came out of Shell's experience was that  
18 all phases of an Arctic program, including preparation,  
19 drilling, maritime and engine response operations, have to  
20 be integrated and subject to strong operator management  
21 and government oversight. And second -- and this is a  
22 related point -- Arctic offshore operations must be well  
23 planned and ready, fully ready and have clear objectives  
24 in advance of the drilling season.

25 This was part of the disappointment, our

1 disappointment in Shell's performance last year. They  
2 were supposed to have that containment system on line in  
3 advance of the drilling season. A company with Shell's  
4 reputation, with Shell's resources, one of the biggest  
5 companies in the world, it was shocking and disappointing  
6 to us that they were unable to have that system on line  
7 and everything ready to go and buttoned down and ready to  
8 go at the beginning of the drilling season. And it's for  
9 that reason that we did not allow them to drill into oil  
10 or to make a discovery.

11 But going forward, this was one of the  
12 observations we had. You have to have an operation  
13 buttoned down and ready to go in advance of the drilling  
14 season.

15 Third, operators must maintain strong direct  
16 management and oversight of their contractors. This was  
17 one of the problems, fundamental problems that Shell  
18 encountered. Shell looked to contractors to do things  
19 like build that containment system. They thought they  
20 would go to the contractor, give specifications to the  
21 contractor, say this is what we want, and that they would  
22 get a functioning system back from the contractor. It  
23 turned out not to be that simple for Shell, and they were  
24 disappointed by the performance of their contractors. And  
25 that's ultimately, however, Shell's responsibility, or any



1 company's responsibility is to maintain strong oversight  
2 of their contractors.

3 Fourth -- and everyone in this room understands  
4 and appreciates this point -- operators must understand  
5 and plan for the variability and challenges of Alaskan  
6 conditions. Working offshore in this state, whether it's  
7 in the Arctic or whether it's in the Gulf of Alaska, poses  
8 tremendous challenges. It is a difficult environment, and  
9 it's an unforgiving environment. And that's part of what  
10 Shell experienced during the Kulluk tow from the Aleutians  
11 and part of the difficulty that they encountered. And in  
12 order to work offshore Alaska, you need to work with  
13 people who understand this state, understand the working  
14 environment, and understand the risks and are able to  
15 handle those risks.

16 And then finally, respect for and coordination  
17 with local communities. This is an extremely important  
18 point and something I think all of you felt last year  
19 during Shell's operations. On the one hand, I think Shell  
20 did a number of very good and commendable things with  
21 respect to working with communities here last year. I  
22 think they worked very well with the AEWC. We had  
23 requirements around blackouts for drilling in the Beaufort  
24 during the whale migration. Shell respected those  
25 blackouts. I think they communicated pretty well with the

1 AEWG, and fulfilled and stuck to their commitments around  
2 respecting these subsistence whale hunts in the Beaufort.  
3 And so I commend them for that, and I think that is an  
4 area where they performed quite well in many respects.

5 We have also heard, however, you know, when  
6 there was a lot of activity last summer, some of the  
7 impacts that had on local communities, especially here in  
8 Barrow in terms of housing, in terms of being able to get  
9 access to facilities. And so that's something that if you  
10 had a personal experience with that last summer I'd like  
11 to hear about so that we can learn from that and have it  
12 inform our planning going into any future seasons.

13 The last two broad observations and  
14 recommendations coming out of our review of Shell's  
15 program were really directed at us. First, continued  
16 strong coordination across government agencies is  
17 absolutely essential. One thing that happened in  
18 connection with Shell's anticipated program and review of  
19 Shell's 2012 program is the federal government, all of the  
20 Interior Department agencies -- NOAA, the U.S. Coast  
21 Guard, EPA and others really came together and tried to  
22 work in a coordinated fashion to hold Shell to high  
23 standards, but also not trip over ourselves, and also to  
24 present a unified face to Shell and to local communities.  
25 I know it can be frustrating and difficult sometimes when

1 sort of wave after wave of federal agencies comes into  
2 town, and we are trying to do a better job at that to  
3 really be on the same page as a federal family and work  
4 together. And that needs to be improved on and needs to  
5 be carried forward.

6 Finally -- and this is really why we are here  
7 today. We made the observation that industry and  
8 government must develop an Arctic-specific model for  
9 offshore oil and gas exploration in Alaska. And that  
10 includes codifying and carrying forward specific standards  
11 tailored to working offshore Alaska. We imposed as  
12 conditions of the Shell exploration plans and oil spill  
13 response plans a number of Arctic-specific requirements,  
14 including the need to have that containment system on  
15 hand; the blackout period for the whaling season in the  
16 Beaufort; the shortened drilling season in the Chukchi to  
17 allow for over a month of open water spill response in the  
18 event of a late season spill; requiring pre-laid boom  
19 around vessels anytime there was a transfer of fuel.

20 Fortunately, Shell -- and they should be  
21 commended for this. Shell effected thousands of gallons  
22 of fuel transfers during the last season, and none of it  
23 touched the water. And that was good performance on their  
24 part. At the same time, though, as a precaution, we  
25 required that they pre-lay any booms so that if fuel did

1 touch the water, there was already containment in place  
2 for that. That's not something, for example, we require  
3 in the Gulf of Mexico.

4 So there were a number of standards and  
5 requirements like that that were tailored to work in the  
6 Beaufort and the Chukchi.

7 What we are endeavoring to do now is to codify,  
8 to put those standards into regulations that apply not  
9 only to Shell, but to any other operator who would work up  
10 here, including -- you know, everybody knows  
11 ConocoPhillips is out there, as well. Statoil is out  
12 there, as well. We want to put those standards into  
13 regulation. We want to do that in a prompt way. I would  
14 like to have proposed standards out for review and comment  
15 by the end of the year. In order to do that, we want to  
16 get early input into the types of issues we should be  
17 thinking about as we develop these standards. I've named  
18 a few that we have already thought about and used with  
19 respect to Shell's operation before. There may be others  
20 that you would like us to think about and consider and  
21 work through. And that's part of what we want to do here  
22 in an informal way, get early input that can help shape  
23 our thinking as we prepare those standards and write those  
24 rules.

25 We have met with -- we did a meeting in

1 Anchorage yesterday. We met with the AEW, Harry Brower  
2 and his folks this morning, to talk about Shell's -- their  
3 experience with Shell and particular standards they may  
4 have in mind. We have met with ICAS. We met with the  
5 mayor's office. And we will be continuing our engagement  
6 as we go on this.

7           And so let me just close this by saying how much  
8 I truly appreciate everybody joining us today,  
9 participating in our listening session. It takes a lot of  
10 courage to come here and meet with us and express your  
11 views. And I just want you to know how much I respect and  
12 admire your willingness to do this. So with that, I turn  
13 it over to, again, what I think is the most important  
14 part, which is hearing from you and listening to what you  
15 have to say. So thank you.

16           MR. MICHAEL HALLER: We have three people  
17 that have said that they would like to testify today, so  
18 in no particular order, Charles Hopson, if you could come  
19 forward to the table and offer your comments.

20           MR. JOHN HOPSON: Who?

21           MR. MICHAEL HALLER: Charles Hopson.

22           MR. CHARLES HOPSON: Good afternoon. My  
23 name is Charles Hopson. I'm a -- I'm a whaling captain,  
24 long life -- I've lived here all my life. I'm a hunter.  
25 I fish. I am the vice president for the Barrow Whaling

1 Captains' Association. And I have been an oil spill  
2 responder for over 20 years in the Arctic here. So what  
3 is happening out there I know very well. I'm one of the  
4 best of the best in oil spills. I have over 15, 20 years  
5 of experience in oil spill response in the Arctic. Over  
6 the 15 to 20 years I learned about oil spills and oil.

7 I've never been to the water out there. Nobody  
8 has any equipment to be able to take me two miles out.  
9 Alaska Clean Seas has got the equipment, but they are  
10 capable of just going out there maybe 15, 20 miles. I  
11 never had -- I'm one of the best. I -- I grew up oil  
12 responding, but I never been to the ocean. We never had  
13 equipment that is capable of going into the Chukchi or  
14 Beaufort Sea. We don't have the capability. The  
15 government don't have no capabilities of doing these  
16 things. Yet your organization want to keep putting out  
17 leases out in the ocean when you don't have no money to  
18 maintain and guard the people that are out there in the  
19 ocean. This is not the wild west of the Arctic anymore.  
20 We have to maintain that thing. We have to maintain these  
21 people.

22 During the AEWG quarterly meeting this year,  
23 there was government agencies from Washington, D.C. and  
24 NOAA. We talked about the Arctic Ocean and the Chukchi  
25 and the Beaufort Sea and what the oil industry is doing.

1 Since the government agency and the Coast Guard were up  
2 here, I put out a request for 100 million dollars so I can  
3 equip my people with oil spill response equipment that  
4 will work. The people that are out there in the community  
5 don't have no equipment, so I requested 100 million  
6 dollars to at least buy them booms, boats. But the  
7 government ignored some of that. But the Coast Guard was  
8 very interested. I suppose they are looking for money.

9 I have a lot of comments I'd like to make. One  
10 of the topics that you -- well, let me go back to Shell's  
11 operation that everybody is talking about. You know, we  
12 let Shell operate out in the Chukchi and the Beaufort on  
13 the smaller -- on the drilling rig. Even though they were  
14 not allowed to go to the oil pockets out there, their oil  
15 spill response equipment was not here. It hasn't even  
16 been to the Arctic.

17 The liquids in the drilling ships, if there  
18 ever -- if anything happened, it's more toxic than the  
19 crude oil itself. The alcids and all that stuff that the  
20 animals like to eat, we never consider; yet we talk about  
21 crude oil. The equipment where the liquids are in these  
22 drilling ships are more toxic than the crude oil itself.  
23 And we can't gather it with no boom or nothing.

24 One of the suggestions I'm going to make is if  
25 we are going to let Shell Oil or anybody drill in the

1 Arctic on a platform, I suppose the government can drill a  
2 platform out there right alongside those drilling ships  
3 and just use it for a station for living quarters. The  
4 oil spill response equipment can be sitting on this  
5 platform in case something happens to deploy right now.  
6 We don't have a port for these things or a safe harbor,  
7 but if we put it on a platform, at least we will have hope  
8 of cleaning up any spills.

9           We keep talking about the Arctic Ocean changing.  
10 We keep talking about the Arctic weather changing. We  
11 have an Arctic -- we have what you call a global weather  
12 center here, NARL. If the government is going to open up  
13 any more leasing in the Arctic, I recommend that you  
14 finish that building up there, talk to the Congress and  
15 NOAA and everything. We have the lab -- I think it's only  
16 a quarter -- quarter finished. It's going to cost us  
17 another 200 million to finish it. There's going to be  
18 living quarters and internet and stuff. And I recommend  
19 that you guys finish it. We finish that lab. I mean,  
20 it's us. You need to help us get money to finish that lab  
21 over there.

22           If Mr. Obama, the President, and everybody is  
23 interested in doing Arctic research, our recommendation is  
24 it be done here. This is the home of the Arctic. I hate  
25 to read a report that comes from Denver, this is what's



1 happening to the Arctic. And I don't agree with them.  
2 Arctic research is done and funded by the industry itself.  
3 These researchers are paid by the oil industry. And these  
4 people doing Arctic research make their report look good  
5 so the industry can be sold to the government.

6           Anyway, okay. But we -- we have a lot of  
7 educated people in oil spill response and equipment, but  
8 no place to do oil spill response. And the equipment that  
9 are bought by Shell Oil and the government, it don't work.  
10 Yet the government goes on and goes, we are going to do  
11 this and do some more. Next time you sell the spill -- I  
12 mean, the leases up here, we want part of that money to  
13 buy equipment; otherwise, I'm going to have to launch my  
14 skin boat, which is more durable than any boat in the  
15 world, you know.

16           And then we talked about safety on the  
17 environment and everything like that. We have the best  
18 knowledge. And the Eskimo has always been  
19 environmentalist, keeping the Arctic Ocean clean. We have  
20 the best of the best up here. Nothing to work with. One  
21 of the things that I'm really disappointed is during the  
22 1946 and to the '80s, the government drilled oil up here  
23 on the land. Those wells are leaking. I hate to see any  
24 more leakage in the Arctic or in the ocean.

25           If this is going to be the policy of your

1 organization just to leave them running out there and do  
2 these things, none of us [indiscernible] -- we need to  
3 clean up that stuff first before we go out there.  
4 Otherwise, we are going to be living in polluted land. We  
5 are going to be living in a polluted ocean and everything  
6 like that. And we are lucky that some of these areas,  
7 they leak, but they are contained in the land. We need to  
8 stop before we get to the Arctic Ocean. If that thing  
9 ever happened in the Arctic Ocean, we will be hurting.  
10 I'm a whaling captain, and I try to whale out there.  
11 Everybody talks about the global warming. Where is it?  
12 I'm cold up there.

13           Anyway, I have more that I want to say, but I'm  
14 going to let the others speak here. But I had to clean up  
15 explorations. Please don't forget about the hundred  
16 million dollars worth of equipment I want to buy my  
17 people. Make sure you put that on there. We need to  
18 finish that lab. Anyway, don't forget the whaling.

19           We do have -- we do have a problem coming up  
20 where, you know, that the Arctic will be full of boats and  
21 everything. We need more control. The other one I was  
22 looking at, what the pre-landing people had was some years  
23 ago when the fishing industry in the Gulf of Alaska got in  
24 trouble because of the foreign fishermen, we put that  
25 200-mile limit in place down there. And it goes all the

1 way up to here, I suppose. But the United States  
2 government never agreed or signed that thing. And the  
3 other Japanese and other fishermen that abide by the  
4 200-mile limit, we can do the same thing up here. You  
5 know, let there be control over -- you know, we can --  
6 Native Village of Barrow have that policy that can be put.  
7 It's just like everybody else. It's just an honorary sort  
8 of line, you know, with no enforcement, but we need to  
9 have everybody recognize that if you are inside the  
10 200-mile limit, you have to do these things if you want to  
11 drive your boat up here. Same thing. It really works.  
12 The other countries honor it, but you are right, they  
13 never signed that agreement. And the fishing industry is  
14 strong because of that because the other countries honor  
15 that. But -- and we need to do that up here.

16 But I'm going to give other people a chance.  
17 Thank you.

18 MR. MICHAEL HALLER: Thank you, sir. If  
19 we could hear from Mr. Tracey, sir.

20 MR. BILL TRACEY, SR.: Thank you.  
21 That's Bill Tracey, Sr., 40-plus-year resident of the  
22 North Slope. I like to say that I was born in  
23 Connecticut, but reborn in Point Lay. That's where my  
24 wife and family are from. Of course, I'm working up on  
25 the Slope out of Point Lay and now in Barrow. I have

1 family, friends and associates in every community up here  
2 and throughout the state. By no means am I speaking for  
3 anybody other than myself, but my profession allows me to  
4 help with the life, safety and health of all my fellow  
5 citizens here in the North Slope as the fire chief  
6 director for the North Slope Borough. Also work with the  
7 Air Force, RAB committee helping with the restoration of  
8 DEW line sites and those sorts of things.

9 I've listened in on many meetings like this with  
10 the Coast Guard, with the North Slope Borough and other  
11 agencies throughout the state and from Washington. And I  
12 think one of the reasons I appreciate the fact that I  
13 could sit here and speak to you -- and I don't like to  
14 have my back to my constituents here -- but drilling or  
15 not drilling, there is impacts in both directions. And I  
16 appreciate you folks being here speaking to us, listening  
17 to us. And you are going to be in various parts of the  
18 state doing the same thing. We need to be heard and the  
19 results of you folks hearing us becomes law, if you will,  
20 and the guidance to industry. And at times they really  
21 need that guidance.

22 I'm concerned beyond our boundaries, both land  
23 and sea, because other nations are already in the oceans,  
24 if you will, drilling their way, exploring their way. A  
25 lot of them don't have the policies and the rules and the

1 regs that we are developing here and have here already.  
2 And that's a concern. The ocean currents are such that  
3 any mishap that they have will also be included with that.  
4 Climate change, for one; that's not just the United  
5 States' problem; it's the world's problem. And so is the  
6 Arctic Ocean. Any mishaps here will be shared by the  
7 world.

8           So I mentioned I'm from Point Lay, and if you  
9 are familiar with what's happening up here with wildlife,  
10 Point Lay has had the -- lately the walrus haul-outs. And  
11 my wife Marie and I actually got to spend whole days with  
12 the walruses. We put on our tan Carhartts and didn't use  
13 any aftershave that day. We kind of crawled up and made  
14 our way to where they were, and we did it in such a way  
15 that they weren't bothered by us, so we were able to set  
16 up our cameras and took pictures of them. And we are  
17 sharing those pictures with anybody that wants them so  
18 that there is no need for them to come up and disturb the  
19 walruses and cause a stampede, which unfortunately kills a  
20 lot of them, kills a lot of walruses. We are also a  
21 beluga community, and bowhead whaling has resurfaced in  
22 Point Lay.

23           And it's a sharing part of the world up here.  
24 So anything we do in Point Lay we will share with any  
25 community that wants to share with us. The same with --

1 you will find that in any community, especially the  
2 coastal communities that harvest whales and seals. They  
3 will share with folks in Anaktuvik Pass and others, folks  
4 that don't have the ocean in front of them. So it's very  
5 important to us.

6           Beyond that, my job as the fire director, I'm  
7 looking at impacts if offshore development does happen,  
8 and I'm -- I think of Wainwright right off the bat. They  
9 will become a very busy community. And I don't want to  
10 have to play catch-up in making sure that they have  
11 adequate resources to handle that impact, bigger clinics,  
12 bigger fire stations, bigger airports. There will be a  
13 lot of air traffic between Barrow, Anchorage, Fairbanks,  
14 Wainwright and other communities. We want to be ready for  
15 that.

16           So I'm glad things are going kind of slow and  
17 easy. We are being safe. We are being responsible. And  
18 I think because we are taking this time, we can achieve  
19 that balance that I think is on everybody's mind. There  
20 is a place for industry and there is a place for what's  
21 been happening up here for thousands of years. If we find  
22 that balance, I think we will be doing our part, anyway.  
23 There is always the accidents. There is always going to  
24 be injuries. But at least we are doing our part  
25 responsibly. And that's why I appreciate an opportunity

1 for you folks to be here and meet with us. And that's  
2 really the point I want to get across. Let's find that  
3 balance. Let's continue at the speed we are at. I think  
4 we will do all right.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. MICHAEL HALLER: Thank you very much,  
7 Chief Tracey. Appreciate it so much. Looking at the  
8 clock very quickly, and I know that the stations need some  
9 acknowledgment, so I just want to mention not only to the  
10 folks here in the room but on the air with us, KOTZ is  
11 live with us, as well as KBRW who is the host. So we have  
12 a simulcast going. I was trained earlier in my life in  
13 radio, so I know you have to give those station breaks  
14 once in a while.

15 I also want to mention for those joining us from  
16 Kotzebue, we had intended and tried to use some ultra  
17 modern technology to be able to have you call in to us.  
18 What I'm going to offer, because it's not quite working,  
19 is a work-around. It's also modern. You can text us. So  
20 I'm going to give you a number. You can text this number  
21 your message, and we will try and be responsive here also  
22 in an equally modern way. Here you go. (907) 301-9340.  
23 And if you happen to be in the room with us, you can use  
24 the microphone. Don't text me. I see you. No fair.  
25 Okay.

1           Anyway, with those few comments, one more time,  
2           (907) 301-9340. You can text and we will try and be  
3           responsive to your remarks, your question or statement,  
4           whatever it may be. You are welcome to do that.

5           We will continue until 2:00 with this session,  
6           and then we will readjourn later this afternoon at 5:00.  
7           And we are scheduled to go from 5 until 7:30. We realize  
8           for some it's date night, so we don't want to interfere  
9           with that. No matter where you are on the planet, Friday  
10          is date night, so there you go.

11          Right now, though, our next speaker here is  
12          Harry Brower with the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission.  
13          There you go.

14                       MR. HARRY BROWER, JR.: Thank you, Tommy  
15          and Mike. For the record, Harry Brower, Jr., Vice Chair  
16          for the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission. I also am a  
17          hunter, born and raised here in Barrow, and currently  
18          registered with the Barrow Whaling Association as a  
19          whaling captain.

20                I have some concerns about how operations have  
21          been going. You know, my observations have me voice  
22          concerns and hear concerns from our constituents and our  
23          whaling associations, as well.

24                But through the Alaska Eskimo Whaling  
25          Commission, we voice concerns in regards to the Beaufort



1 Sea activity in regard to the discharge from the activity  
2 that occurs from oil drilling and the operations itself.  
3 So in regards to the discharge, the AEWC has repeatedly  
4 asked that the oil industry implement zero discharge  
5 technologies in the nearshore Beaufort Sea. In the CAA,  
6 the Conflict Avoidance Agreement and in their notice of  
7 intent to EPA, Shell has agreed to zero discharge  
8 limitations that restrict the discharge of drilling fluids  
9 and cuttings, sanitary and gray water, ballast and bilge  
10 water at all times after the drilling of the 20-inch  
11 casing. They have also agreed to move all their equipment  
12 from Camden Bay during the fall hunt for Nuiqsut and  
13 Kaktovik. This is also in regard to the Conflict  
14 Avoidance Agreement language that we use to communicate  
15 with the industry operators, specifically to Shell.

16 And with that we are very happy to see that they  
17 have obliged us with that during last winter's -- last  
18 fall's activity. Even though we had a little situation  
19 that arose at a later time, we were able to communicate  
20 and continue with our whaling and Shell was able to  
21 continue with its operations. So we would like to  
22 acknowledge that we are communicating effectively and  
23 working on that Conflict Avoidance Agreement and meeting  
24 the community's needs.

25 EPA's general permit is much weaker. EPA's

1 general permit only prohibits the discharge of drilling  
2 fluids and cuttings during the fall hunt for Nuiqsut and  
3 Kaktovik. I kind of look back and, like I said, I have my  
4 own observations I'd like to include here in these  
5 situations. I'm obliged that Shell did meet its -- not  
6 requirements, but that Conflict Avoidance Agreement  
7 conditions that we imposed on them, but we also have  
8 Barrow as a whaling community, and it's downstream of this  
9 activity.

10 And I said my personal observations. I -- we  
11 did harvest whales. We were fortunate to do that. But  
12 there is -- the biggest movement of the whales during the  
13 migration were somewhat further offshore. So in my  
14 personal observations, I think there was somewhat of a  
15 deflection. Even though we did land some of the whales  
16 that we had for Barrow, we had distances we had to travel  
17 further than what where our normal hunting areas are.

18 So that's one observation I could share with you  
19 in terms of the comments we have, I have for the Alaska  
20 Eskimo Whaling Commission.

21 EPA's permits leave very important gaps in  
22 coverage. There are no protections in the permit for the  
23 fall bowhead whale hunt in Barrow or bowhead habitat in  
24 Harrison Bay. There is no requirement that companies move  
25 off site in Camden Bay during the fall hunt for Nuiqsut

1 and Kaktovik. And there is no requirement for companies  
2 to use readily available technology to limit discharge at  
3 other times in the nearshore Beaufort Sea.

4 It is very simple. The zero discharge  
5 technologies agreed to by Shell should be implemented at  
6 all times by all companies in the nearshore Beaufort Sea.  
7 The AEWC requires that BOEM support this position by  
8 including zero discharge provisions in its exploration  
9 permit in the Beaufort Sea drilling.

10 A deferral area must be created for Cross  
11 Island. The AEWC and Nuiqsut have been requesting for a  
12 deferral area for Cross Island since the 1980s. As those  
13 who have visited Nuiqsut and Cross Island can see, the  
14 Cross Island hunt is critical for Nuiqsut's nutritional  
15 and cultural survival. The area surrounding Cross Island  
16 requires protection from permanent development that would  
17 give long-term stability to the bowhead whale migration  
18 through the area, from that area.

19 A collaborative, science- and traditional  
20 knowledge-based advisory group should be created to manage  
21 issues that arise related to exploration activities in  
22 Camden Bay and to advise on development decisions for that  
23 area.

24 So there is, again, concerns that have been  
25 voiced within the Camden Bay area, activity voiced by our

1 hunters from Nuiqsut, and they are wanting to see some  
2 research being done collaboratively using traditional  
3 knowledge in terms of their observations that could be  
4 shared with the research group to document that these are  
5 facts that they are providing to you as the managers or  
6 the industry operators that are willing to have activity  
7 in the Beaufort or in Camden Bay.

8           The AEWC and Nuiqsut and Kaktovik hunters  
9 propose to work with Shell and the North Slope Borough  
10 Department of Wildlife Management on the creation of a  
11 database of traditional knowledge and scientific research  
12 on the use of Camden Bay as a bowhead whale habitat and  
13 impacts to the bowhead whale migration from different  
14 development activities in that area. The proposal also  
15 includes the recommendation for the creation of  
16 hunter/scientist advisory body to work with developers and  
17 regulators on issues that might arise during exploration.  
18 Late season hunting in Kaktovik is one example that I can  
19 reference from what we experienced last fall during  
20 Shell's activities and delayed activities in Kaktovik  
21 during the hunt because of a situation in the community of  
22 an Elder passing. And Shell respected that. And they  
23 delayed their hunt a few days, which created some -- how  
24 can I say it? Created some tension, I guess, for the  
25 operators because of the timing that they were expecting

1 to conduct their activities.

2 The proposal also includes a recommendation for  
3 the creation of a hunter/scientist advisory body to work  
4 with developers and regulators on issues that might arise  
5 during this exploration. The TK database and advisory  
6 group also could serve as a -- serve to guide both future  
7 research and future decisions related to development in  
8 the Camden Bay region.

9 These are the comments from the Alaska Eskimo  
10 Whaling Commission. And I wanted to make sure I provided  
11 them to you during this listening session in the hope  
12 of -- being hopeful that there is something down the pike  
13 and see what changes occur. Thank you. Thank you all for  
14 coming here to Barrow to hear and listen to us, your  
15 federal agencies. AEWC really appreciates you coming here  
16 to the communities and hearing our concerns.

17 MR. MICHAEL HALLER: Thank you, Harry,  
18 very much. Former Mayor Itta, would you offer some  
19 remarks, sir?

20 MR. EDWARD ITTA: Kuyanaqqak. (Speaking  
21 in Inupiat.) And I welcome all of you up here. I wish  
22 you would have brought a little warmth. Anyway, I'm a  
23 hunter and a whaler, lifelong resident and growing older  
24 up here now. So in my -- as an Elder, I spoke before you  
25 as a citizen of the North Slope Borough, State of Alaska,

1 USA, tribal member, member of ASRC, and a member of our  
2 tribal communities up here. And I want to again say my  
3 greetings to all of our listening audience and thank  
4 everybody today who showed up and have spoken. And I'm  
5 glad you are going to have a second session this  
6 afternoon. And again, welcome, Tommy. Good to see you  
7 again. Pat, Jim, and everybody.

8 I want to start with your recommendations for  
9 industry, the fifth point there on respect for and  
10 coordination with local communities. And that was  
11 actually one of my last comments in my -- in my bullet  
12 points here. But I thought that was especially relevant,  
13 because we do want a voice. And I really appreciate the  
14 department, Tommy in particular, coming up and taking the  
15 time to come and listen to us as you prepare for more  
16 specific information to any operations that are going to  
17 be happening in the OCS offshore, both in the Chukchi and  
18 the Beaufort.

19 You know, since -- in respect to item 5, these  
20 are federal waters. We all know that. And yet our state,  
21 you know, is saying that they don't get enough say about  
22 these matters that are dealing with the federal authority.  
23 And I find it ironic that from the highest levels of the  
24 State of Alaska's administration that they are on one hand  
25 saying they don't get enough local input on the State

1 level from the Feds, and at the same time, in essence,  
2 they have shut us off, both the State administration and  
3 the legislature, in refusing to pass an Alaska coastal  
4 management plan. And I remind everybody that that was the  
5 only source really where any development for coastal  
6 communities, not only for oil and gas, was a place for  
7 local input.

8           So in that like -- I want to just interject here  
9 that since it's to do with OCS, that all inter-agency  
10 groups consider an advisory panel very similar to the  
11 Prince William Sound Advisory Council because as it is now  
12 we don't have any real opportunity to talk about coastal  
13 related development within the state of Alaska. And I'm  
14 just glad that the federal authorities are taking the time  
15 to come up and listen to our concerns, but I just wanted  
16 to go ahead and start off with that to remind everybody  
17 that we don't have a coastal zone management plan up here  
18 anymore. So I welcome your desire to listen to us.

19           I want to start off with what our commissioner  
20 for Barrow, the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission, Harry  
21 Brower, mentioned, and that is subsistence deferrals is  
22 what I'm going to call it. It's better known as exclusion  
23 areas within the upcoming lease sale from 2012 to '17.  
24 That I think that's an area that needs to be looked at  
25 further; in particular, areas to the west on the Chukchi

1 side where beluga is involved. And those fare from Point  
2 Lay on eastward. And also on the Beaufort Sea side, that  
3 Cross Island is an area also that should be considered for  
4 deferral, as well as serious information being developed  
5 for Camden Bay. And this is all in relation to our  
6 bowhead whale, which, as most of you know by now, is  
7 largely dependent on the bowhead whale, not only cultural  
8 but for sustenance. So I really would like to see more  
9 focus in those areas as you move forward.

10           The second part has to deal specifically with --  
11 with what's already been said, I think, that Arctic oil  
12 spill response planning needs to be just that. Arctic.  
13 And I heard you had a good session in Anchorage yesterday.  
14 And I'm not going to go over all those points, but one of  
15 the things that I have been concerned about, and it's to  
16 do with the currents and that whatever oil spill modeling  
17 is being done up here, that the trajectory modeling be  
18 focused on where is this stuff going or going to go and  
19 how fast and how far.

20           We as Inupiat hunters and whalers up here have  
21 always paid attention to the currents up here. We know on  
22 the Beaufort Sea side, we got the Beaufort gyre that goes  
23 clockwise, and on the Chukchi Sea side it goes  
24 counterclockwise from the Pacific going on up. So while I  
25 share concerns with my fellow Inupiaqs from the northwest



1 and also on down the coast, that we up here on the Slope  
2 stand to be devastated even more if we don't understand  
3 these trajectory models adequately, because I think  
4 everything is going to end up up here somewhere on our  
5 coast up in the north due to the currents. And that's a  
6 big part of why we have not had such a successful whaling  
7 season up near Barrow.

8           The Arctic well blowout source controls, I  
9 totally support the capping and containment systems, but  
10 those should be located in our region somewhere, not  
11 located somewhere and have to be towed up here. And the  
12 testing for those I believe should be done up here in the  
13 Arctic. And the -- the inspections that happen within  
14 BOEM and BSEE on the industry's operations in those areas,  
15 we want to have you share some of that information with us  
16 up here.

17           I think having seen the Noble Discoverer and the  
18 Kulluk and what happened, I think the Kulluk is more  
19 designed for the Arctic, but certainly the Noble  
20 Discoverer wasn't, and that there needs to be standards  
21 established of some sort for Arctic class type relief well  
22 operations and whatnot.

23           So the Arctic oil spill response and equipment  
24 and personnel, that is one issue that I still have a  
25 concern about in that we have capabilities up here within

1 the North Slope for some Arctic class type operators that  
2 have cleaned up oil spills and whatnot. I have not seen  
3 any specific Arctic training programs for that -- that  
4 personnel, much less seen the equipment that I believe is  
5 provided only by industry. So there must be some  
6 standards that can be put in place.

7 And I don't need to state, but I will, that all  
8 of us know there has never been proven yet a mechanism to  
9 clean up an oil spill in the Arctic. And that is why I  
10 continue to speak that there has to be a balance on that  
11 risk that's going to end up with us versus just going  
12 ahead with minimum standards.

13 I recognize and acknowledge that we are  
14 dependent on oil and gas up here. I think that's good.  
15 And I hope the operators have good luck out there, but I  
16 don't believe that they should be given full just a carte  
17 blanche thing and say go do it. There needs to be Arctic  
18 class standards to protect our way of life up here, and  
19 that is in both water quality and air quality. And that  
20 is where I'm coming from in this.

21 So the second part has to do with what you  
22 mentioned, Tommy, and that was seasonal drilling limits  
23 when oil spill response is not possible. I think it's  
24 prudent to have a one-month window, as you have said, in  
25 the Arctic in case of a late blowout, say in late

1 September, because very often the ice will form in  
2 October. And the blowout preventers, I think that's good,  
3 that two -- two of them, kind of redundancy and whatnot.

4           The last part of that is in the Arctic pollution  
5 prevention operating standards. Now, I know that there  
6 has been some changes in the air quality issue, but the  
7 water quality continues to be of concern up here in this  
8 light. I know we are just dealing with one main operator,  
9 but I'm thinking of cumulative effects here, that one  
10 permit per operation is given. If there was three, four,  
11 five, six, ten, each one will be given a permit, but yet  
12 there is no real comprehensive cumulative impact study or  
13 effects that I know of. And I think that needs to be  
14 taken into consideration.

15           The standards for operation -- operators to show  
16 us that they have some kind of Arctic expertise or  
17 understanding, especially the boat operators and whatnot,  
18 the ship operators, and some understanding of weather and  
19 what we are dealing with up here. I think Shell has  
20 learned a hard lesson. I don't think that's a secret. I  
21 think they failed miserably in some areas. And if they  
22 are to establish a level of trust with us, they need to  
23 prove openly -- industry, that is -- that, hey, they want  
24 to be good partners and go ahead and keep moving forward.  
25 Air pollution and waste discharge standards, as I've said,

1 need to be taken into consideration very seriously and  
2 standards put in place.

3           The last part of my comments have to deal with,  
4 again, the lease exclusion areas. Barrow was able to get  
5 a deferral for our bowhead whale, but it's very small. I  
6 remember way back when when we had asked for deferral  
7 areas, and that was during the days of MMS. I'm glad  
8 those days are gone. I'm serious. I'm glad they are  
9 gone. We listened -- we talked for 40 years, damn near,  
10 and never got anywhere. I'm glad to see the changes that  
11 have happened. I'm glad to see a sense of responsiveness  
12 here to our concerns. So I'm encouraged. Again, I thank  
13 you.

14           And I think, you know, I have been waiting, I  
15 guess, for Shell to acknowledge somewhere, someplace a  
16 little bit of -- accept a little bit of responsibility and  
17 say they messed up here and there. But so far I haven't  
18 heard it. And I know that's outside your realm, but these  
19 are operators that you permit. And in a sense, I think it  
20 lands on you, too. So I know business is a hard deal.  
21 It's hard-nosed and whatnot, but still, in all  
22 seriousness, we are the ones up here at risk as this goes  
23 to unfold.

24           I think most of you have known my position, in  
25 closing, that I continue to push for standards that will

1 protect our way of life. And I want you to understand  
2 that when I say that, there are nuances in here that say I  
3 don't oppose outright any more offshore oil and gas  
4 operations, but I demand that these safeguards and a  
5 balance be put in that protect our way of life. So with  
6 that, I thank you and wish you well. Kuyanaqqak.

7 MR. MICHAEL HALLER: Thank you very much.  
8 We have had several people join us, and I'm not sure if  
9 there are some who have joined us who would like to make  
10 some remarks. Doreen, do you have any? Please come  
11 forward.

12 MS. DOREEN LAMPE: Good afternoon,  
13 Borough of Ocean Energy Management. I'd like to welcome  
14 you all to Barrow. I hope you notice how much ice is out  
15 there. I'd like to thank you for attending our Inupiat  
16 Community of the Arctic Slope monthly meeting. For the  
17 record, my name is Doreen Lampe. I'm the Executive  
18 Director of ICAS. I'd like to thank the United States  
19 Coast Guard for coming and presenting their United States  
20 Arctic strategy with our community. Sudie Hargis, thank  
21 you for coming to our meeting, also.

22 I do know the United States Coast Guard is  
23 preparing for a SONS demonstration on June 18 in  
24 Anchorage. And this is a scenario where there will be a  
25 significant spill of national significance, a SONS

1 exercise drill. And it's a scenario based on a spill in  
2 Wainwright. And we have one ICAS board member from  
3 Wainwright.

4 And we just had that meeting very recently, so I  
5 know there is a lot of complaints about information  
6 traveling to the villages from our ICAS meetings, and I  
7 hope that something of this importance to the community of  
8 Wainwright would be notified regarding this exercise  
9 drill. It's just an exercise drill. It will be in the  
10 federal building on June 18 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in  
11 Anchorage, Alaska. And we had asked some questions  
12 regarding the United States Coast Guard on some of your  
13 offshore lease sale activities or proposed lease plans,  
14 and they weren't very informed about your program. They  
15 couldn't answer a majority of our questions. But they  
16 took notes and they will get back to us. They are very  
17 good about that, getting back to us. And I'd like to  
18 thank the Coast Guard for that. So this drill of spill of  
19 national significance is a scenario where they will have  
20 an offshore oil spill in Wainwright and how prepared is  
21 the local on-scene commander, the federal on-scene  
22 commander, the State on-scene commander. When we attended  
23 these meetings telephonically, they used all these  
24 acronyms: FOS, LOS, NOS, whatever, whatever, whatever.  
25 So I hope we get away from using acronyms and, you know,

1 say what we mean to say. I'd like to make that clear.

2 It was very encouraging to see the changes you  
3 guys have implemented and updated our regional tribal  
4 government on a lot of the concerns we voiced over the  
5 last 30 years. I know we had to sue MMS because there was  
6 just a lot of bad activity going down in Louisiana, and we  
7 heard it on national news. And I'm very glad to see that  
8 the federal government, you know, can make positive  
9 changes when there needs to be change. And I commend  
10 President Obama's administration for that.

11 Regarding the deferral areas, when they first  
12 proposed a deferral area, it was kind of a joke deferral  
13 area. When we -- when we asked them how long that  
14 deferral area was going to stay in place, they said it's  
15 only a one-year proposed deferral area for our plan. So  
16 I'd like to know if that's a permanent deferral area or is  
17 it just a 2012 to 2017 proposed deferral area.

18 There is a recent study that came out between  
19 the oil industry, Statoil, Shell Oil and ConocoPhillips  
20 oil industry where they all chipped in to do some baseline  
21 studies in the Chukchi Sea area in their offshore oil  
22 lease plans, and they had contracted with Fairview Weather  
23 [sic] to conduct these studies. And they used a Coast  
24 Guard ship last summer to conduct those scientific  
25 studies. And they found out that right smack in the

1 middle of all those Chukchi oil lease sales is a very  
2 important area that the walrus go out and haul out way out  
3 there and feed and then haul -- haul back to shore.  
4 That's right smack in the middle of all those Chukchi Sea  
5 oil lease sales.

6 I was really disappointed in the OCS program for  
7 the last 40 years. We have stated constantly over and  
8 over the need for baseline studies, the need to identify  
9 important areas for the existence of our natural resources  
10 that contribute to our food chain. That would be one area  
11 that I would like to see more closely protected.

12 We passed a resolution at ICAS regarding the use  
13 of chemical dispersants. Any type of chemicals that you  
14 put into the ocean will settle onto the mud floor, the  
15 bottom of the sea bed, and that's where a majority of the  
16 small food chain animals that -- that bigger animals --  
17 they hibernate in the mud sediments over the long winters  
18 and they come back alive when it's warm enough. And we  
19 would just really hate to see all those chemical  
20 dispersants be mixed into the habitat where all the clams  
21 go, all the bottom-feeding creatures. So we passed a  
22 resolution against the use of chemical dispersants in the  
23 Arctic Ocean. I know Lakeisha is going to be setting up  
24 some standards for the United States Outer Continental  
25 Shelf offshore exploration plans. So I hope that you



1 would seriously take that into consideration.

2           We have been trying to identify what those  
3 dispersants' chemical makeups are, consist of. We have  
4 tried through the Freedom of Information Act to obtain  
5 those listings. We have no idea how -- how dangerous they  
6 are to our marine ecosystem in the Arctic.

7           And also the Inuvialuit/Inupiat agreement  
8 corresponds to meetings that President George Olemaun and  
9 I attended, experienced some negative -- negative -- I  
10 don't know. They just were not satisfied with the use of  
11 jack-up rigs in Canada. They were very unstable and they  
12 were recommending that we should consider, you know, maybe  
13 not using jack-up rigs in the Arctic. But for me  
14 personally I haven't seen it, and I know Admiral Ostebo  
15 was interested in finding out ConocoPhillips' jack-up rig  
16 plans for 2014, and those got canceled, so we really don't  
17 know for sure how bad they are in the Arctic. But if you  
18 could check with your Canadian Coast Guard counterpart  
19 friends of the Canadian government, I'm sure we could  
20 share information and find out just what bad experiences  
21 they had with those jack-up rigs.

22           For the offshore lease sale revenue sharing, you  
23 guys are the federal government. We are a federally  
24 recognized regional tribal government. We don't get no  
25 State revenues. We don't get no legislation where the

1 southwest of Alaska shares their fish revenues with us.  
2 We don't get no revenue where the southeast share their  
3 timber revenue with us. We are the only ones  
4 discriminated against on revenue sharing. We are the  
5 poorest entity on the Arctic Slope. We have to work very  
6 hard to try and obtain donations, donation funding to keep  
7 our regional tribal government in operations. And we  
8 would appreciate if the federal government would work  
9 federal government to federally recognized tribal  
10 government and cut us in on the revenue sharing  
11 government-to-government.

12 Our president recently went to Washington, D.C.  
13 to meet with Secretary of Interior Sally Jewell, and our  
14 three organizations for the first time signed a joint  
15 letter, the North Slope Borough Mayor, the president of  
16 ASRC and the president of ICAS regarding BLM's proposed  
17 use of the offshore oil lease sale revenues to take the  
18 NPR-A funds and use those to clean up the Legacy wells  
19 within BLM. Although I am a strong advocate in support of  
20 remediation of those Legacy wells which are in very bad  
21 condition and are eroding into our oceans, rivers and  
22 lakes, that's not the place to take the money from. Our  
23 past president, George Edwardson, stated the U.S. Navy was  
24 the one that, you know, made all that contamination, and  
25 improperly abandoned those sites, so the U.S. Navy should

1 take responsibility and clean up those sites with their  
2 Navy funds.

3           Also for -- for the Beaufort Sea side, we would  
4 like to work more closely with the Inuvialuit region. We  
5 have an Inuvialuit/Inupiat agreement where they manage the  
6 beluga whale and [indiscernible], and it's sharing data,  
7 sharing information, sharing harvest records and also some  
8 of our own ideas here in Alaska. They are very impressed  
9 with the Alaska Clean Seas program run by Charles Hopson,  
10 and they would like to see that -- that type of training  
11 for their community members in the Canadian side because  
12 they have a lot of wells in the Canadian side that have  
13 been developed and explored but are just sitting there  
14 with no means to export those -- export their resource  
15 out.

16           I know we have been trying to create an Arctic  
17 Slope hunter/gatherer commission, and this is in a large  
18 response to our Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope  
19 membership and their difficulties in their hunting for  
20 other -- other animals besides the bowhead whale. I'm  
21 glad that AEWC is able to try and negotiate and establish  
22 some Conflict Avoidance Agreement with the industry.  
23 Without that, I think their quota harvest will be not as  
24 successful as it is with that Conflict Avoidance Agreement  
25 that's in place.

1           But we are experiencing a lot of hunter failures  
2 or lack of harvesting by hunters because of helicopter  
3 traffic scaring the caribou away, just a lot more marine  
4 traffic, a lot more air traffic. So it's becoming very  
5 difficult to be more successful in harvesting these other  
6 mammals. And we would appreciate some sort of support  
7 similar to the Inuvialuit gaming councils they have  
8 established there. The Canadian government has invested  
9 quite a bit in having the Inuvialuit have the ability to  
10 continue to harvest their resources in Canada.

11           And between Fish & Wildlife Service, Alaska  
12 State Fish & Game, all these other -- Nanook Commission,  
13 all these other game warden management people -- we are  
14 not criminals. We should not be sending our memberships  
15 to jail for beheading a walrus. There should be other --  
16 other types of punishment, not federal prison. I mean,  
17 that is not -- not the way to go. We need better  
18 co-management agreements with the United States federal  
19 government and the State of Alaska.

20           The whole Arctic Slope is divided by so many  
21 borders: The National Petroleum Reserve, ANWR, Alaska  
22 Maritime National Refuge, Gates of the Arctic. So there  
23 is just so many designations and so many different  
24 management mechanisms. The State is fighting the Bethel  
25 fishermen and not even allowing them to traditionally

1 harvest salmon anymore. We would not like to see  
2 commercial fishing open in the Arctic. The poorest state  
3 management fishing program is a prime example why we don't  
4 want to see commercial fishing in the Arctic. We oppose  
5 any plans for opening to commercial fishing. We have no  
6 idea where the real critical areas are to sustain these  
7 natural resources, the polar bear, the seal, the walrus.  
8 We have no idea where their specific locations are to keep  
9 those populations up.

10           Also for your proposed OCS plans, I would hope  
11 that you would change your method of accepting comments.  
12 Every time I attend one of those meetings, you can only  
13 comment on a certain phase. You can only comment on a  
14 seismic phase. You can only comment on the leasing phase.  
15 You can only comment on the preexploration phase. And  
16 then by the time the actual exploration and development  
17 come, your comment period is done. So it's very  
18 frustrating.

19           We have been working very hard for the last 40  
20 years. We are the stewards of the Arctic Ocean. We make  
21 the comments. We don't want to see no regional citizen's  
22 advisory council that lives God knows where. Not in the  
23 Arctic. We don't want to see no state commission program  
24 that doesn't even have a coastal zone management program.  
25 We are the stewards of the Arctic. You work with us. And

1 thank you for coming.

2 MR. MICHAEL HALLER: Thank you, Doreen.  
3 Again, I ask those who joined us just a few moments ago if  
4 you would like to step forward. Thank you very much,  
5 ma'am.

6 MS. MARIE CARROLL: Thank you very much  
7 for giving us an opportunity to come here and make some  
8 comments on your activities. My name is Marie Carroll. I  
9 am a Barrow resident, born and raised here. And my job  
10 right now is with the Arctic Slope Native Association.  
11 I'm president and CEO. We provide health care services,  
12 operate the hospital, and provide social services programs  
13 in our region. And also I'm from a whaling family. I was  
14 raised with it. It's a -- something that is ingrained in  
15 all of us here. It's near and dear to us. It's our  
16 culture. The ocean is such an integral part of us that I  
17 think you don't really know the depths of our concerns  
18 because we are so tied so it. Like fishermen. You can't  
19 live without it.

20 So I just want to make a few comments on the key  
21 principles that you have up here and prerequisites for  
22 safe and responsible offshore drilling in the Alaskan  
23 Arctic that you have posted here.

24 We are -- as an organization, are part of a  
25 disaster response team. We operate the only hospital --

1 we have had cases where people were flown into our  
2 hospital from a couple of hundred miles out. And so we  
3 are the only hospital in this region. And if there is any  
4 disasters, I would hope that in developing your emergency  
5 response to any development up here that you work  
6 closely -- I know there is some coordination that I  
7 believe you can improve on coordinating and improve your  
8 plans working with a disaster response team. Our hospital  
9 staff are part of that. And having -- if there is cases  
10 where we need to deal with that, we need to be involved in  
11 the planning on how we respond to that. And the North  
12 Slope Borough is a big part of it, and we are all part of  
13 the team. We all have to work together when disaster  
14 happens. So I think you can improve that and work on  
15 that.

16           The other thing I'd like to comment on is having  
17 operators where you have -- I like the No. 2, having clear  
18 objectives for the drilling season. And there is  
19 speculations about what happened with the drill that was  
20 moved, whether it was because it was going to be taxed up  
21 here. Those types of things, I guess you should be aware  
22 of those as a government agency with the oversight having  
23 clear direction from the federal government averting  
24 disasters like that, planning ahead. You know, there is  
25 such conditions that are expected over the ocean. With

1 weather systems nowadays, we know a week in advance of  
2 what's going to happen. There is weather and marine  
3 conditions reported every day up here. We know that.

4 And there should be some restrictions in the  
5 activity that could potentially become a disaster. I  
6 think you need to be specific and very clear on movement  
7 of the drills and the boats in those cases. You know,  
8 look at what we -- what we do is we look at the risk and  
9 you plan from there. And I don't know if the Feds have  
10 done that because of what happened last year. I'm not  
11 confident because of what happened last year that you have  
12 done that. So I think it's really important to do that.

13 And one thing we have always said -- and I have  
14 been involved with commenting with all the other people  
15 who have been in here. I started commenting in my  
16 mid-20s, most of my life.

17 MR. TOMMY BEAUDREAU: And now that you are  
18 in your late 20s, you are still --

19 MS. MARIE CARROLL: Most of my life I have  
20 been before people like you. And I'm glad to hear there  
21 is some improvement, and I support the improvements, but I  
22 think you could really do better. So having -- I think  
23 it's important to have a local presence who can be a  
24 liaison with the concerns that come up. As it is, it's  
25 either the North Slope Borough mayor's office or ICAS or



1 other organizations.

2           It's kind of not coordinated up here. There is  
3 no coordination of concern. You know, where do you go?  
4 You go to the borough, they -- they have nothing to do  
5 with your leases. You should have a presence here. And I  
6 think it's really important to do that. And someone who  
7 is knowledgeable of the area and who knows the people  
8 and -- because it's about time. Like I said, most of my  
9 life I have been here. I won't tell you my age, but it's  
10 been over 30 years.

11           So I think it's out of -- No. 5 respect for and  
12 coordination with local communities. That is to me a  
13 concrete -- you need to have something more concrete than  
14 a goal. If you don't do anything about it, then it's kind  
15 of meaningless. We will be back here when this thing --  
16 people like you come in and expressing our concern. So I  
17 think it's -- it's time to do something locally.

18           And I'd like to strongly support the comments  
19 that were made by Doreen Lampe, who is part of the  
20 regional tribal organization as Executive Director. She  
21 does bring up the issue about impact funds. So there is  
22 no -- as far as I know -- maybe I need to be updated, but  
23 no impact funds from OCS development, but we do have one  
24 impact fund from NPR-A activities. And that goes to the  
25 communities that are impacted by your activities. And

1 it's the only thing that's concrete to this community that  
2 aids us in dealing with the impacts. I know I've heard  
3 the small communities and villages up here on the North  
4 Slope with concerns about they don't want to become like  
5 Barrow because of the impacts we deal with here. And so I  
6 think you really need to look at having some kind of  
7 impact aid that goes to tribal governments or local  
8 agencies who provide services to deal with the impacts  
9 that come from activity.

10 And unfortunately, our statistics are not -- we  
11 are not proud of them, with some of our statistics with  
12 suicide rates and other -- you know, drug and alcohol  
13 abuse and other activities that we had very little when we  
14 were growing up before any activity, before Prudhoe Bay  
15 was open. We didn't have a whole lot of those statistics  
16 on our -- in our communities. I mean, we were happy. We  
17 didn't have much, but we were really happy. We were  
18 raised with healthy families. And now with the impacts of  
19 development, we are -- these statistics are not -- you  
20 know, very disheartening, and all of us have been touched  
21 by these impacts.

22 And so I think OCS, with your programs, you need  
23 to come up with something to help those small villages.  
24 You know, I've heard parents from the village say, I don't  
25 want my kids to come here to Barrow because of what's

1 going on with the impacts that we have had to face and  
2 deal with in our community. But they are -- I'm not  
3 saying -- you know, overall, I think most of us have  
4 healthy and happy lives, but we do see those impacts in  
5 our communities.

6 So thank you very much for coming here. And I  
7 hope you do make, you know, an effort to be more concrete  
8 here, not just a group that comes in and gather  
9 information, but come and join, send someone. Get someone  
10 here locally that we can go to who has direct contact with  
11 you. So -- or hire someone under ICAS. You know, we  
12 really need to have more contact with you on a daily  
13 basis, not -- not from a distance when your activities are  
14 impacting us. You got to be here.

15 So that's my main comments. Thank you for being  
16 here.

17 MR. MICHAEL HALLER: Thanks very much. Do  
18 we have anybody else to come forward?

19 MR. CHARLES HOPSON: I spoke earlier, but  
20 I forgot to mention one item. Thank you, again. Charlie  
21 Hopson. I made a statement earlier, but one thing I  
22 wanted to really express that I forgot -- I had written it  
23 down here -- is during the past five or six years, the  
24 United States government and Fish & Wildlife -- what you  
25 call that, Fish & Game tried to put polar bears, seals,

1 walrus and the bowhead whale is on the endangered species  
2 list.

3           And if you are going to continue selling  
4 offshore stuff, you know, we do need to have satellite  
5 capability of looking at the ice if there is ever a spill.  
6 We need a satellite to do -- just like everybody else.  
7 They do this in Denver. I recommend we finish -- get a  
8 satellite station here and a lab up here where they are  
9 capable of watching the Arctic Ocean from up here. And if  
10 there is a spill or any kind of thing that happens, we can  
11 zoom in on where it's happening and see if there is  
12 wildlife that you are violating your own government rules  
13 of the endangered species on the bowhead, the walrus, the  
14 seals and all the polar bears. They are all threatened or  
15 endangered. You know, you are violating it.

16           I recommend we put a satellite station that we  
17 can monitor what's happening out there. I had written  
18 that down. I forgot to mention it. And I'll be happy to  
19 set it up. Thank you.

20           MR. MICHAEL HALLER: Thank you, Charlie.  
21 Coming here to the close of the scheduled time for this  
22 first session, and a reminder that we do have another  
23 session yet later this afternoon or evening from 5:00  
24 until 7:30 that we have scheduled. But in the interests  
25 of time and the fact that you are here before us, are

1 there any others who would like to offer testimony at this  
2 time?

3 Mr. Secretary, final comments?

4 MR. TOMMY BEAUDREAU: Thank you very  
5 much for all of these comments and suggestions. It's  
6 gratifying for me to have and to receive a level of trust  
7 from you that you are willing to participate with us, be  
8 candid and honest with us, tell us where you think we are  
9 doing better and what direction we ought to be able to  
10 continue in. It means a lot to me that I feel you respect  
11 us enough that you are willing to share honest viewpoints  
12 with us. And that, in my mind, really came through today.  
13 And I just want you to know how much I appreciate that and  
14 how much I respect your willingness to talk with us.

15 As I said at the outset, it takes courage to  
16 come in a room like this with people -- some of you --  
17 some of you I've met before, but not everybody. And to  
18 come in and kind of give heartfelt views the way you did  
19 is really admirable. And so I really appreciate it.

20 Please encourage folks you know who, you know,  
21 you know have something to say, you know have views that  
22 they ought to be telling us, please encourage them to come  
23 tonight and share those with us. It means a lot. This is  
24 why, you know, you saw I took notes. I have half a note  
25 pad of notes. We are taking everything down in a

1 transcript, as well. We use this information. We go back  
2 and we look through and we say, okay, you know, Doreen  
3 told us this. What is our answer on this? Is this  
4 something we can work with? And we do that exercise. So  
5 please stick with us. Please encourage friends and family  
6 who you know have additional things to say to come  
7 tonight.

8           And thank you again.

9           MR. MICHAEL HALLER: Thank you, everyone.  
10 We would like to also publicly thank KBRW and KOTZ radio  
11 stations and the owners and operators. Thanks so much.

12           (Text from Kotzebue) (907) 995-2373.

13 Drilling the Chukchi poses stakes for at least some  
14 citizens in the Northwest Arctic Borough that are not any  
15 less important than those that some North Slope citizens  
16 face. I hope the government does not discount concerns  
17 and expressions of sentiment from the residents of  
18 Northwest Arctic Borough towns.

19           (Proceedings adjourned at 1:57 p.m.)  
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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, MARY A. VAVRIK, RMR, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska do hereby certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me at the time and place herein set forth; that the proceedings were reported stenographically by me and later transcribed under my direction by computer transcription; that the foregoing is a true record of the proceedings taken at that time; and that I am not a party to nor have I any interest in the outcome of the action herein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my hand and affixed my seal this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MARY A. VAVRIK,  
Registered Merit Reporter  
Notary Public for Alaska

My Commission Expires: November 5, 2016

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