

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 8, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
The President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your January 27, 2021 issuance of Executive Order 14008. Pausing new leasing for offshore oil and gas drilling on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) is an important first step toward preventing billions of dollars in damage from climate change and oil spill disasters, one that can lead us on a path to a clean energy economy. Implementing federal moratoria on offshore oil and gas leasing and pre-leasing activities has received support from both sides of the aisle—including Republican and Democratic administrations.

As you know, our coastal communities depend upon healthy ocean ecosystems. Accordingly, protection of the roughly 3.3 million American jobs and \$250 billion in GDP through activities such as fishing, recreation, and tourism is vital. Dirty and dangerous offshore drilling, and its increased emissions, are fueling the climate crisis and threaten already vulnerable frontline communities and wildlife.

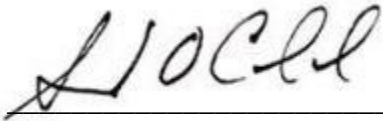
We welcome your Administration's willingness to listen and take action. Offshore drilling protections are supported by more than 390 coastal municipalities; alliances representing over 56,000 businesses and 500,000 fishing families; the Pacific, New England, South Atlantic and Mid-Atlantic fishery management councils, as well as several commercial and recreational fishing interests; and 2,300 officials of both parties at all levels of government, including every East and West Coast governor.

Our climate is in crisis, with sea levels rising and extreme weather accelerating. Protecting all unleased areas of the OCS is critical to avoiding even worse impacts from climate change. Permanently protecting these regions would prevent over 19 billion tons of greenhouse gas emissions and more than \$720 billion in damage to people, property, and the environment. Simply put, we cannot afford more drilling and unchecked climate pollution.

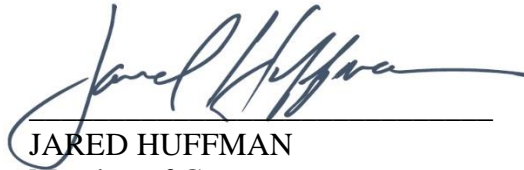
By taking this step and investing in clean energy, we can advance ambitious and durable climate action that protects coastal economies, creates jobs, and benefits all Americans. Again, we thank you for this action, and we look forward to working with you to secure this future.

Sincerely,

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515



SALUD CARBAJAL  
Member of Congress



JARED HUFFMAN  
Member of Congress



FRANK PALLONE, JR.  
Member of Congress



ALAN S. LOWENTHAL  
Member of Congress



DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ  
Member of Congress



A. DONALD MCEACHIN  
Member of Congress

/s/

GRACE F. NAPOLITANO  
Member of Congress

/s/

FREDERICA S. WILSON  
Member of Congress

/s/

JERRY MCNERNEY  
Member of Congress

/s/

MARK DESAULNIER  
Member of Congress

/s/

MIKE LEVIN  
Member of Congress

/s/

ALCEE L. HASTINGS  
Member of Congress

/s/

JULIA BROWNLEY  
Member of Congress

/s/

EARL BLUMENAUER  
Member of Congress

**Congress of the United States**  
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/s/  
SUZANNE BONAMICI  
Member of Congress

/s/  
MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress

/s/  
NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN  
Member of Congress

/s/  
NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ  
Member of Congress

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DORIS MATSUI  
Member of Congress

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BETTY MCCOLLUM  
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Member of Congress

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ALMA S. ADAMS, PH.D.  
Member of Congress

**Congress of the United States**  
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/s/  
PAUL D. TONKO  
Member of Congress

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DARREN SOTO  
Member of Congress

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STEVE COHEN  
Member of Congress

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BARBARA LEE  
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ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT  
Member of Congress

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DEBBIE DINGELL  
Member of Congress

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/s/  
RAÚL M. GRIJALVA  
Member of Congress

/s/  
WILLIAM KEATING  
Member of Congress

/s/  
DONALD S. BEYER JR.  
Member of Congress