

## President Biden's Five-Year Plan Must Prevent New Offshore Oil & Gas Leasing

Preventing new offshore drilling protects the health, safety, and economies of coastal communities, while reducing air pollution and helping combat the climate crisis. President Biden promised to prevent new oil drilling and the administration's Five-Year Plan is his opportunity to uphold his commitment.

### The Five-Year Plan for 2023-2028 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing

In July 2022, the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), an agency responsible for offshore drilling leasing, released its [proposed 2023-2028 National Outer Continental Shelf \(OCS\) Oil and Gas Leasing program](#) (also known as the Five-Year Plan). The proposed program included up to 10 potential lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico and one potential lease sale in the Cook Inlet Planning Area off Alaska's coast. President Biden must now decide whether new oil and gas leasing will be included in the final Five-Year Plan.

During his campaign, President Biden [pledged](#) to end new leasing for offshore drilling and he must keep his promise if we are to protect our coasts from oil spills and slow the devastating impacts of climate change. To keep global warming within relatively safe limits, [nations must stop developing new oil and gas fields](#), according to the International Energy Agency.

### Five-Year Plan Process



The comment period on options for the Five-Year Plan closed on October 6, 2022, and BOEM is now reviewing the more than 760,000 comments it received. BOEM expects to publish in September the President's final decision on future leasing, shown in red in the chart above. Then the plan will be approved by the Secretary of the Interior in December 2023, following a statutory 60-day waiting period after it goes to the President and Congress.

President Biden still has the opportunity to protect our waters from oil spills and fight climate change by finalizing a Five-Year Program with no new leases.

### New offshore drilling is a forever decision.

Tell President Biden to Stop Selling New Leases to Offshore Oil & Gas Corporations at [Oceana.org/ActNow](https://oceana.org/ActNow)