Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
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January 20, 2026

Kelly Hammerle
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
45600 Woodland Rd.
Sterling, VA 20166-9216

RE: Comment Docket ID: BOEM-2025-0483

Submitted via *www.regulations.gov under Docket ID: BOEM-2025-0483*

Greetings Ms. Hammerle,

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians respectfully submits the following comments of concern regarding the proposed actions in the 11th National Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing Program, particularly the twenty-seven potential lease sales that will impact the OCS off of California and Alaska. We are a federally-recognized Tribe based on the central Oregon coast, and much of our cultural heritage and current lifeways are tied to the Pacific Ocean and the marine life within it. While none of the potential lease areas are directly off our ancestral lands, there is still a strong possibility for damage to critically important species that our communities and economy rely on.

Salmon, a First Food of our Tribes for millennia, as well as other important species such as lamprey, sea lions, and whales, migrate significant distances along the Pacific coast, including waters in and around the propose lease areas. The increased marine traffic, contamination from drilling processes, and potential oil spills resulting from new oil and gas drilling off California and Alaska could have a direct impact on our fisheries and traditional marine resources due to species migratory patterns and ocean currents that can carry contaminants beyond man-made boundaries.

A key mission of ours is to care for, protect, enhance, and provide for the wise use of our natural resources in a way that ensures all future generations will benefit. We expend significant time and resources protecting and restoring the lands and waters that support our communities and cultural traditions. These investments could be undermined by the actions outlined in the 11th National OCS Program. We oppose expanded off shore oil and gas leasing, and ask that the federal government commit to honoring trust responsibilities and Tribal relationships when considering any actions along the Pacific OCS.

Sincerely,

Delores Pigsley
Tribal Chairman

CC: Sen. Ron Wyden, Sen. Jeff Merkley, Rep. Suzanne Bonamici, Rep. Cliff Bentz, Rep. Maxine Dexter, Rep. Val Hoyle, Rep. Janelle Bynum, and Rep. Andrea Salinas