An official website of the United States Government.

Back to Document Comments (/document/BOEM-2025-0483-0001/comment)

Share

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Comment from the CORE Project

Posted by the **Bureau of Ocean Energy Management** on Dec 14, 2025

Docket (/docket/BOEM-2025-0483) / Document (BOEM-2025-0483-0001) (/document/BOEM-2025-0483-0001) / Comment

Comment

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPOSING NEW OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS LEASING

I strongly urge the Administration to protect all U.S. waters from any new oil and gas leasing in the upcoming 5-Year Offshore Oil & Gas Leasing Program. Opening new areas to drilling would irreversibly harm the ocean and coastal environment, undermine community safety and resilience, and directly threaten the millions of people who depend on clean, healthy coastlines for recreation, livelihoods, and cultural connection.

New offshore drilling introduces unavoidable risks—from catastrophic spills to chronic pollution—that devastate marine life, degrade public beaches, and disrupt the use of coastal waters for recreation. Coastal recreation is a defining part of California's economy and identity, and even a single spill can close beaches, contaminate surf zones, harm wildlife, and create long-term hazards for swimmers, surfers, paddlers, anglers, and coastal visitors. For organizations like The CORE Project, whose mission is to safeguard ecosystems, ensure public safety, and support equitable access to coastal recreation, the impacts of new drilling would be severe and unacceptable.

Offshore oil and gas drilling is also extremely unpopular nationwide. A recent poll shows that 64% of registered U.S. voters oppose new offshore drilling. Nearly 400 municipalities, 2,500 elected officials, 55,000 businesses, and 500,000 fishing families have formally opposed new offshore oil and gas development. The next 5-year plan must reflect this overwhelming public opposition by declining to include any additional lease sales.

New leasing is not needed to meet U.S. energy demands. The United States has been a net oil exporter since 2020 and reached record-high domestic production in 2024. Meanwhile, oil and gas companies already hold 1,806 unused offshore leases covering nearly 10 million acres of U.S. waters. Granting even more leases would lock the nation into decades of unnecessary fossil-fuel dependence at the very moment we must accelerate the transition to clean, renewable energy sources.

Give Feedback

Approving new offshore oil and gas leases is inconsistent with climate commitments, coastal-community safety, economic resilience, and responsible ocean stewardship. The risks fall disproportionately on coastal communities—while the profits go elsewhere.

For the protection of our oceans, our climate, and the millions of people who depend on healthy coastlines, I urge you to prohibit all new offshore oil and gas leasing in the next 5-Year OCS Oil and Gas Program.

Sincerely,
Yehuda Ben-Hamo

Comment ID

BOEM-2025-0483-0685

Tracking Number

miq-n7r6-qi10

Comment Details | **Submitter Info**

Received Date

Dec 3, 2025

Page Count

1

Your Voice in Federal Decision Making

Give Feedback

About (/about) Bulk Data Download (/bulkdownload) Agencies (/agencies) Learn (/learn) Reports (/dotreports) FAQ (/faq) Commenting Guidance (/commenting-guidance)

Privacy & Security Notice (/privacy-notice) | User Notice (/user-notice) | Accessibility Statement (/accessibility) | API Requests (https://open.gsa.gov/api/regulationsgov/) | FOIA (https://www.gsa.gov/reference/freedom-of-information-act-foia)

Give Feedback