



January 22, 2026

11th National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program

Ms. Kelly Hammerle

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (VAM-LD)

U.S. Department of Interior

45600 Woodland Road,

Sterling, VA 20166-9216

RE: 41 Members of Ocean Friendly Restaurants and Hotels Oppose New Lease Sales in the Draft Proposed 5-Year OCS Oil & Gas Leasing Program

Dear Secretary,

We, the undersigned Surfrider Foundation [Ocean Friendly Restaurants \(OFRs\)](#) and [Hotels \(OFHs\)](#) express our strong opposition to new oil and gas lease sales in the next 5-Year OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program.

The expansion of offshore oil and gas development would cause significant and unnecessary negative impacts to the country's marine ecosystems, wildlife, coastal communities, and coastal economies. As Ocean-Friendly Businesses, we have taken concrete steps to make more sustainable choices for the health of our ocean, such as reducing single-use plastic, conserving water, and serving sustainable seafood.



Currently, over 630 restaurants and 40 hotels participate in Surfrider's Ocean-Friendly Program across the country.

Coastal businesses like us depend on clean beaches and waters, abundant wildlife, and scenic viewsheds – all of which would be compromised by the expansion of offshore drilling and an increased risk of spills. Notably, our nation's ocean recreation, tourism, and fisheries industries generate over [\\$520 billion annually](#). These industries depend on a clean coastal environment to support a combined 2.5 million jobs across the United States. Allowing new offshore drilling will damage public resources that these industries depend upon by generating harmful impacts through every phase of the drilling process. Such drilling will subject communities to the ever-present risks of oil spills and onshore impacts, which can be catastrophic to both the environment and economy.

An overwhelming majority of the public is opposed to new offshore oil and gas drilling. To date, over 400 municipalities, 2,500 elected officials, 59,000 businesses, and 500,000 fishing families across the United States have formally opposed new offshore oil and gas development. Further, according to a national poll, an estimated [64% of registered U.S. voters](#) are opposed to new offshore drilling. The widespread opposition to new offshore drilling in U.S. waters is bipartisan and reflected throughout various regions of the country.



In summary, we ask you to protect all U.S. waters from any new oil and gas leasing in the 11th OCS Oil and Gas Program. We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.

Sincerely,

Restaurant and Hotel Representatives of:

Ama - Washington, DC

La Mediterranee - San Francisco, CA

Beerwood - Los Osos, CA

La Mediterranee - San Francisco, CA

Bettina - Santa Barbara, CA

La Mediterranee - San Francisco, CA

Camino Caffeeino - Charleston, SC

La Mediterranee - Berkeley, CA

Cascadia Grill - Olympia, WA

La Playa Hotel - Carmel, CA

Cesarina - San Diego, CA

Hotel Carmel - Carmel, CA

Craignar Inn by the Sea - St. George, ME

Necessary & Sufficient Coffee -
Chicago, IL

Crow's Nest - Santa Cruz, CA

Off The Wall Craft Beer & Wine -
Honolulu, HI

Elvina - San Diego, CA

Flying Fish Company LLC - Portland, OR

Pacific Catch - Corte Madera, CA

Forward Brewing - Annapolis, MD

Pacific Catch - Mountain View, CA

JT's Genuine Sandwich Shop - Chicago,
IL

Pacific Catch - Palo Alto, CA



Pacific Catch - San Mateo, CA

Pacific Catch - Corte Madera, CA

Pacific Catch - Santa Clara, CA

Pacific Catch - Sunnyvale, CA

Pacific Catch - Tustin, CA

Pacific Catch - Campbell, CA

Pacific Catch - Dublin, CA

Pacific Catch - San Francisco, CA

Pacific Catch - Walnut Creek, CA

Pacific Catch - San Francisco, CA

Pacific Catch - Cupertino, CA

Paradise Catering & Bakery - Aguada,
PR

Snowy Owl Coffee Roasters - Sandwich,
MA

Surfdog's Java Hut - Encinitas, CA

Tastee Tiki - Newport, OR

The Freedom Cafe - Durham, NH

The Mental Bar Coffee, Tea, & Wellness -
San Diego, CA

Trevor's At The Tracks - San Juan
Capistrano, CA