

BARBARA ROBERTS
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DEC 29 1994
LAND CONSERVATION
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December 28, 1994

Ms. Carol Hartgen, Program Director
Office of Program Development and Coordination
Minerals Management Service (MS-4400)
381 Elden Street, Room 1328
Herndon VA 22070

RE: PROPOSED 5-YEAR OCS OIL & GAS LEASE PROGRAM

Dear Ms. Hartgen:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the proposed 5-year OCS Oil and Gas Lease Program from 1997 to 2002.

As you know, the ocean waters offshore of Oregon were removed from oil and gas leasing in 1990 by Presidential directive. This decision was based on recommendations from the Secretary of the Interior and the Pacific Northwest OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Task Force. In addition, the Department of the Interior agreed to conduct a comprehensive suite of environmental studies before again considering a lease sale for the OR/WA OCS planning area.

Federal budgetary problems have prevented completion of these studies. Consequently, I must remain opposed to any consideration of adding Oregon offshore waters to the proposed 5-year leasing program at this time. I understand that J. Lisle Reed, the Pacific Regional Director for the Minerals Management Service, will be making a similar recommendation to the MMS Headquarters office.

Again, I appreciate this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Barbara Roberts
Governor

cc: Mike Lowry, Governor, State of Washington
J. Lisle Reed, MMS Pacific Region