

ITEM 13C

1/8/18

The Honorable Ryan Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Dear Mr. Secretary,

Cars Are Basic (CAB), a public watchdog group based in Santa Barbara, CA, Is sending this letter to you as part of the public comment process of the OCS 5 year leasing plan.

CAB would first like to thank you, your staff and President Trump for including the OCS located next to the State of California in the 5 year leasing plan. We hope our August 16, 2017 public comment letter sent to the BOEM was helpful to your decision making process.

CAB encourages BOEM to hold a public hearing in Santa Barbara County during the current 60 day public review period of the OCS 5 year leasing plan. We also encourage BOEM to ask questions of Santa Barbara County government staff, the staff of the California Coastal Commission (CCC) and the California State Land Commission (CSLC).

In our August 16 public comment letter, we informed BOEM that Santa Barbara County governments have obstructed public discussion of the benefits of offshore oil and gas development, even to the point of refusing to answer questions in environmental documents that are used to obtain federal funding for various transportation projects. In addition to county governments, the government of the State of California has also refused to answer questions in environmental documents.

During the public comment period, questions of government officials should be a 2 way street. Santa Barbara County government, The CCC, CSLC and other agencies have some 'splainin' to do concerning some of their claims of offshore oil and gas development.

CAB is also encouraging the Trump Administration to invest part of the proposed \$1 trillion infrastructure plan into improving oil and gas infrastructure. We have suggested that \$100 million to \$200 million be invested in the rebuilding project of the Plains All American Line 901 and 903 pipeline, with safety and emission control features far above any required by local, state and federal law.

CAB is looking forward to a robust, fair and intense public debate on the future of offshore oil and gas. Those oil and gas reserves located in the OCS belong to ALL the people of the United States. It is the PEOPLES's OIL, and We the People have every right to know what we own, how much we own and what it will take to get it safely out of the ground for our benefit.

Thank you
Tom Becker
Cars Are Basic
lesdeplorable7@gmail.com