



June 27, 2017

**NATIONAL  
OCEAN  
INDUSTRIES  
ASSOCIATION**

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United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
Alaska OCS Region  
3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-5823

Re: Comments Supporting Eni US Initial Exploration Plan – Harrison Bay Block 6423 Unit

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter provides the comments of the National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA) in support of the Initial Exploration Plan submitted by Eni US for exploration of Harrison Bay Block 6423 Unit.

The National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA) represents a myriad of companies engaged in all aspects of American offshore energy production, including exploration -- both majors and independents -- production, equipment manufacture, service and supply, transportation and other related offshore support sectors. Either directly or indirectly, our member companies are all working to explore for and produce energy resources from the nation's Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) in a safe and environmentally sensitive manner.

As energy explorers and producers, we urge you to expeditiously approve the initial exploration plan put forward by Eni US. The Exploration Plan is a clear guide path identifying the exploration activities planned by ENI for specific regions, depths and resources. The comprehensive plans clearly define the surface location of each planned well, details on the drilling process, timing and equipment, and actions planned to preserve safety and the environment. Such information provides you, as a regulator, and the general public vital information for the safe and orderly exploration of the Arctic OCS.

Development of Alaska's Arctic region is critically important to America's energy future. Every project will contribute to our domestic energy security and scientific knowledge of arctic resources. In addition, domestic energy exploration means jobs and opportunities for millions of Americans. New exploration projects, like this one, are extremely critical to the local economies of northern Alaska through the combination of investment in infrastructure and energy production.

In summary, NOIA strongly encourages BOEM to move quickly to approve this scientifically based exploration plan, creating American jobs, and exploring American energy resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Charters". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tim" and last name "Charters" clearly legible.

Tim Charters  
Senior Director, Government and Political Affairs