



## **Industrial Energy Consumers of America**

*The Voice of the Industrial Energy Consumers*

---

1155 15<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 500 • Washington, D.C. 20005  
Telephone 202-223-1661 • Fax 202-530-0659 • [www.ieca-us.org](http://www.ieca-us.org)

September 21, 2009

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Minerals Management Service  
Attn: Leasing Division (LD)  
381 Elden Street, MS-2010  
Herndon, VA 20170-4817

**RE: Minerals Management Service (MMS) Request for Comments on the  
Draft Proposed 5-Year Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing  
Program for 2010-2015 (74 Federal register No. 12; January 21, 2009)**

To Whom It May Concern:

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) strongly believes that the Minerals Management Service (MMS) should allow all 31 Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) lease sales proposed in its January 2009 Draft Proposed OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program to proceed as soon as possible. Increased domestic OCS energy production has the effect of lowering energy prices, increasing reliability, creating jobs, increasing federal revenues, improving the balance of trade and national security. There are few things that the federal government can do that create more benefits than implementing this 5-Year Plan.

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$900 billion in annual sales and with more than 850,000 employees nationwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: plastics, cement, paper, food processing, brick, chemicals, fertilizer, insulation, steel, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, aluminum and brewing.

MMS has recently reported that the OCS contained mean estimates of 420 trillion cubic feet of natural gas and 85 billion barrels of oil. This is a significant quantity of energy. This updated report proves that the more we look for domestic energy resources, the more we find.

In closing, it is important to remind the MMS that all of those resources belong to the American public. These are energy resources that every family, farm and

manufacturer needs and deserves. Recognizing the lead-lag times from leasing to production, we urge you to act now to lease these areas of the OCS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul N. Cicio". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Paul N. Cicio  
President