



## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT: Marnie Satterfield**

(202) 223-1420

[msatterfield@ieca-us.org](mailto:msatterfield@ieca-us.org)

### **“IECA Applauds Interior Department’s Decision to Allow Shell to Drill off Alaska’s Northwest Coast”**

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) applauds the U.S. Department of the Interior’s decision to allow Shell to start “certain limited preparatory activities” for oil drilling in the waters off Alaska’s northwest coast.

While we support the Interior Department’s action, it is important to point out that Shell has spent seven years and more than \$4 billion buying leases and preparing for exploration off of Alaska’s northwest coast. Seven years is a very long time and \$4 billion is a significant cost to have only taken the process this far. If consumers and job creation are to benefit from our abundant U.S. natural resources we need a better, more timely, Interior Department permitting process.

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*The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$710 billion in annual sales and with more than 930,000 employees worldwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through advocacy and collaboration 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: chemical, plastics, steel, aluminum, paper, food processing, fertilizer, insulation, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, and brewing.*