

The Honorable John Bel Edwards, Governor of Louisiana (Chair)
The Honorable Tate Reeves, Governor of Mississippi (Vice Chair)
The Honorable Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama
The Honorable Mike Dunleavy, Governor of Alaska
The Honorable Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas



April 20, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20006

Dear President Biden:

We write to you today as coastal governors and members of the Outer Continental Shelf Governors Coalition (OCSGC), who are working together to support offshore energy development in our states to benefit our constituents and all Americans.

The OCSGC was created by governors from coastal states in May 2011 to promote a constructive dialogue on OCS energy-resource planning and development between coastal state governors and federal policy makers. The bipartisan group of governors supports policies that encourage a safe, responsible expansion of offshore oil, natural gas, and renewable energy development to the benefit of the nation, our states, and our citizens. As state executives, our principal role in the OCSGC is to consider the opportunities and challenges of offshore energy development and coastal management in order to appropriately balance economic prospects with the health and safety of our citizens as well as the unique coastal resources serving as the foundation of our local communities and the nation's economy.

The OCSGC urges you to resume oil and gas leasing on federal waters. The Administration continues to delay offshore leasing and delay the formulation of the next 5 Year Plan. This is further evidenced in the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2023. The need for robust American energy production is clear as ever, especially in light of global events. Immediate stability and regulatory certainty in the leasing and production process would benefit Americans into the future and reduce the risk from price shocks due to global instability for consumers.

The Russian war against Ukraine has exacerbated the rise in energy prices that has been building over the past year. It has also shown the importance of the ability to sustainably produce energy from domestic sources that would not be used by hostile powers to thwart America's interests. The nation can no longer continue to keep the current status quo. As the Administration is looking at solutions to decrease the price of gasoline, the OCSGC – the states that develop so much of America's energy - stand ready to assist.

By expediting leasing and producing on the OCS, we can ensure that America is working to protect the public against global market instability, while also continuing to achieve our environmental

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden

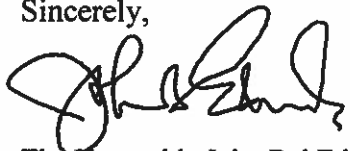
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goals. This simple action would send a powerful signal that America is serious about its energy – and environmental – policies.

As the Administration continues to evaluate options to help lower costs for the American people, the OCSGC and our respective states stand ready to assist in the solution to ensure America's energy security now and in the future. We strongly urge you to immediately resume offshore lease sales, develop the next 5 Year Plan as required by the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, and expeditiously permit projects that will allow for robust production. We look forward to working with you and being a part of this solution that affects communities around the country.

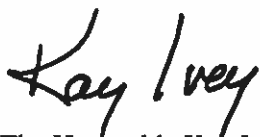
Sincerely,



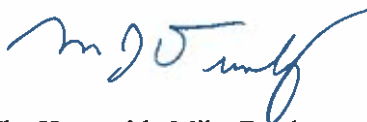
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