

Template Letter to the Editor

Below is a template letter to the editor that should be personalized with your voice and opinion before submitting to a media outlet for consideration. Letters are usually 200-250 words in length but you should check the submission guidelines of the outlet to verify length requirements.

Stop the Expansion of Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling

On January 4th 2018, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke announced a 5-year federal plan to lease ocean sites for offshore oil drilling beginning in 2019. The plan is the largest expansion of drilling in history, making over 90% of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) open for exploration, a stark contrast to former President Obama's preservation-based policy that forbade drilling on 94% of the OCS. Arguments that offshore oil and gas drilling will make us less dependent on foreign fuels sources neglects the significant risks to tourism, marine ecosystems, and the well-being of constituents along America's coasts. Protesters vocalize fears such as oil spills, marine effects, and earthquakes if the drilling plan comes to fruition, with many states such as Oregon, Washington, and California having already banned offshore drilling for years. It is incredibly unwise to prioritize the potential profits over the desires of American citizens and the protection of American land and seas. Secretary Zinke's proposal to expand offshore drilling is an effort to remain in the past instead of investing in the future. America needs to maintain its commitment to pursuing renewables as an energy source rather than relying on oil and natural gas.

Name

Address (for verification purposes only)

Email