

PUBLIC HEARING  
FOR  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE  
PROPOSED ARCTIC MULTI-SALE

Point Hope, Alaska

Taken February 25, 2009  
Commencing at 7:39 p.m.

Volume I - Pages 1 - 73, inclusive

Taken at  
Qalgi Center  
Point Hope, Alaska

Reported by:  
Mary A. Vavrik, RMR

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A-P-P-E-A-R-A-N-C-E-S

Jeffery Loman  
Deputy Regional Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Minerals Management Service

Keith Q. Gordon  
Biologist/NEPA Team Coordinator  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Minerals Management Service

Keely Hite  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Minerals Management Service

Jamie Kuhne  
Presidential Management Fellow  
Leasing Headquarters  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Minerals Management Service

Albert R. Barros  
Community Liaison  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Minerals Management Service

Dorcus Rock  
Inupiaq interpreter

Taken by: Mary A. Vavrik, RMR

BE IT KNOWN that the aforementioned proceedings were taken at the time and place duly noted on the title page, before Mary A. Vavrik, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of Alaska.

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 MS. DORCUS ROCK: They told me to  
3 come over here and bless the meeting. So if  
4 everybody would please stand up.

5 (Blessing offered by Dorcus Rock.)

6 MR. STEVE OOMITTUK: Thank you for  
7 all coming. We have Jeff Loman, Deputy Regional  
8 Director of the Alaska Region for MMS. And he will  
9 introduce his team that's with him. And anybody  
10 need coffee, tea, we are still brewing some. But  
11 Jeff Loman.

12 MR. LOMAN: Thank you very much.

13 MR. STEVE OOMITTUK: All yours.

14 MR. LOMAN: Thank you very much.

15 Thank you very much for coming. Dorcus is  
16 translating for us tonight. And if at any time  
17 there is anything that I'm saying that you need to  
18 have translated, please just raise your hand and we  
19 will stop and take care of the translation. If  
20 there is anything that I'm talking about and you  
21 don't understand what I'm saying and you want to  
22 question, just let me know. We can stop and answer  
23 questions anytime.

24 A couple of things that I just want to  
25 explain. This is a public hearing. We have a

1 reporter who is recording the meeting. She will  
2 need your name, so please give your name before you  
3 ask a question or make a statement pursuant to the  
4 hearing. It's very important that we get your name  
5 for the record so that we can pay attention to your  
6 questions and your comments and answer them because  
7 the law requires that we answer everything that is  
8 presented to us when we are doing an environmental  
9 impact statement.

10 I have worked for the MMS as the Deputy  
11 Regional Director for a little over a year and a  
12 half. I started out in the fall of -- about a year  
13 and a half ago on this project, and we were here and  
14 we held scoping meetings here, in Anchorage, in  
15 Kaktovik, Nuiqsut, Barrow, Wainwright and Point Lay.  
16 We took a lot of comments, and we are going to  
17 discuss those comments and the document we have  
18 prepared.

19 But first I would like to introduce you to  
20 our team, starting with Keith.

21 MR. GORDON: Good evening. My name's  
22 Keith Gordon. I'm the National Environmental Policy  
23 Act coordinator for this particular environmental  
24 impact statement. Thank you.

25 MS. HITE: I'm Keely Hite. I work in

1 Herndon, Virginia for headquarters, and I am an  
2 environmental protection specialist.

3 MR. JAMIE KUHNE: Hi. My name is  
4 Jamie Kuhne. I'm a presidential fellow. I work for  
5 the MMS leasing division headquarters outside of  
6 Washington, D.C.

7 MR. LOMAN: It's Keely and Jamie's  
8 first time to Alaska. They got here and we got them  
9 right straight from Anchorage right up to the Slope.  
10 And the weather has been very warm. Still pretty  
11 warm, but at least they are seeing a little bit of  
12 real Arctic weather so that they can go back to  
13 Washington, D.C. and say they have seen something.

14 MR. BARROS: I'm Albert Barros. I'm  
15 the community liaison for the Alaska Region of MMS.  
16 And I hope we don't get to show them a polar bear  
17 tonight.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They are  
19 around.

20 MR. LOMAN: So we held these scoping  
21 meetings after we announced that the government was  
22 proposing to do a multi-sale in the Arctic, two  
23 sales in the Chukchi Sea, two sales in the Beaufort  
24 Sea. Just to bring you a little bit up to speed, in  
25 case you don't know it, in February of last year, on

1 February the 6th, we held an oil and gas lease sale  
2 in the Chukchi Sea, sale 193. Some folks in our  
3 audience were -- were actually there and they were  
4 teasing me earlier about being a good salesman.

5 I didn't really have much to do with the  
6 fact that the government ended up issuing 465 leases  
7 for a total of 2.7 billion dollars, primarily to  
8 Shell Oil Company, who -- the value of their leases  
9 were 2.1 billion. And Shell Oil Company also was  
10 awarded a lease that they bid 105 million dollars on  
11 a single lease.

12 So what does that tell you? Tells me that  
13 the oil and gas industry believes that there is a  
14 significant resource in the Chukchi Sea. We agree  
15 at MMS, and our resource evaluation folks believe,  
16 that there is a significant oil and gas resource in  
17 the Chukchi Sea and that it is gas prone, or mostly  
18 gas, natural gas.

19 So we are -- we are moving ahead. We have  
20 moved ahead with the Arctic multi-sale, the two  
21 sales proposed between 2007 and 2012, that five-year  
22 plan; two more sales in the Chukchi Sea, two more  
23 sales in the Beaufort Sea. And we are required  
24 under the National Environmental Policy Act for  
25 every major federal action to prepare an

1 environmental impact statement. We have prepared  
2 it. It's 2,000-plus pages long; very complicated,  
3 sizable document where we analyzed the proposed  
4 action which, very simply, the map on the right  
5 proposes two sales in the Chukchi Sea planning area.  
6 That's outlined in the -- by the lines around the  
7 words Chukchi Sea, and two sales in the Beaufort Sea  
8 in the planning area that outlines the words  
9 Beaufort Sea.

10 In addition to the proposed action, the law  
11 requires us to analyze a reasonable range of  
12 alternatives. And that is where your comments came  
13 in during scoping. Through your comments and the  
14 comments in other communities and other information,  
15 MMS developed and analyzed a large number of  
16 alternatives that are analyzed, single stand-alone,  
17 and may be accepted stand-alone, one or more, or all  
18 of those alternatives. In addition to those  
19 alternatives that we developed and have analyzed, we  
20 must analyze the no action alternative. And during  
21 scoping and during the public hearings, a lot of  
22 people told us that they support the no action  
23 alternative. The no action alternative is no sales  
24 in the Chukchi Sea, no sales in the Beaufort Sea.

25 Just briefly on the alternatives, think of

1    them as areas by which they have decided, for  
2    various reasons, primarily because we understand  
3    that whaling and other subsistence activities, but  
4    especially whaling, which we understand is a  
5    self-defining, important cultural activity that's  
6    more important than just the food that it provides,  
7    the nourishment, that it is a self-defining activity  
8    that affects almost every facet of life in the  
9    communities on the North Slope in the North Slope  
10   Borough. And we understand that. You already know  
11   it, so I won't talk about it much more, just to let  
12   you know that we know that it's important.

13            So other alternatives were analyzed. And  
14   Alternative No. 3, for example, is this blue-colored  
15   area, shaded. Under that alternative, that area  
16   would not be offered for lease to the oil companies.  
17   Alternative 4 in the green, that area under that  
18   alternative would not be offered for lease to the  
19   oil companies in these two sales. Alternative  
20   No. 5, which is the area of a shoal, that would not  
21   be offered for lease. And then a deep water  
22   alternative, Alternative No. 6, would not be, if it  
23   was accepted, be offered for lease in the two sales  
24   in the Chukchi Sea.

25            There are a number of alternatives in the

1 Beaufort Sea that were also identified. There is a  
2 Barrow alternative, a Cross Island alternative, an  
3 eastern Beaufort Sea alternative, and a deep water  
4 alternative in the Beaufort Sea. Again, primarily  
5 most of those alternatives were developed and  
6 analyzed in this draft environmental impact  
7 statement for the purposes of avoiding conflicts and  
8 allowing for unfettered subsistence whaling and  
9 other subsistence activities. And both in the  
10 Beaufort and the Chukchi Sea, some of these  
11 alternatives were developed because those areas are  
12 important to threatened and endangered species.

13 So we held scoping. We developed the  
14 alternatives. We conducted a very complex and  
15 careful analysis of the proposed action, the no  
16 action alternative, which is alternative No. 1, and  
17 this other group of alternatives, as well.

18 In addition to that, we also, under a  
19 Memorandum of Agreement with the North Slope  
20 Borough, worked with their consultants, primarily  
21 Dr. Aaron Wernham, to prepare, which is part of the  
22 draft environmental impact statement -- it's found  
23 under Appendix J. Dr. Wernham did a health impact  
24 assessment for the proposed activity and the  
25 alternatives. And we are now working with

1 Dr. Wernham to incorporate that health impact  
2 assessment as a stand-alone public health chapter  
3 that would go in the final environmental impact  
4 statement.

5 Any questions so far about the National  
6 Environmental Policy Act, the proposed action, or  
7 the alternatives?

8 Yes, sir.

9 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: Why do you --

10 MR. LOMAN: I'm sorry, before you  
11 ask --

12 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: For the record,  
13 Rex Tuzroyluk. Alternatives 3 and 4, could you  
14 justify why these were, because the food source that  
15 you have here or why -- why -- why are those  
16 alternatives there? Because of the food source of  
17 the whale?

18 MR. GORDON: Alternative 3 is a  
19 coastal deferral. Alternative 3 is this area  
20 [indicating] in blue that runs along here. And we  
21 have the 25-mile buffer that would not be available  
22 for leasing because primarily of subsistence  
23 activities and bowhead whale migration. And then  
24 this area [indicating] is Alternative 3 in blue that  
25 is another area that is deferred to reduce impacts

1 to subsistence hunting. The Ledyard Bay  
2 alternative, Alternative 4, is primarily for  
3 critical habitat to protect eiders.

4 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: If I may, is  
5 it -- is it -- do we have enough knowledge as far as  
6 how these -- these particular sources of -- I would  
7 say how these -- these -- I guess how -- for  
8 example, lichen, it feeds the -- feeds the whale.  
9 And obviously these are sources of food that are  
10 part of that resource. Are you aware that these  
11 move?

12 MR. GORDON: Yes.

13 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: Okay. I just  
14 find it interesting that you allow these areas to be  
15 where they are at. You understand? Okay.

16 MS. MAE HANK: The buffer zone.

17 MR. GORDON: We are aware that  
18 over time habitat use changes. We are aware that  
19 areas that you all use for subsistence change. The  
20 areas that they developed over the several years  
21 that they did the analysis based on existing studies  
22 are focused toward those areas that you all  
23 indicated were the most important and that we have  
24 the most data to indicate that are the most heavily  
25 used at the current time.

1                   MR. REX TUZROYLUK: Okay. If I may,  
2 I'd like to make a statement on that behalf.  
3 Because of the warming of our waters and increase of  
4 water volume, those particular areas are constantly  
5 moving north. And I would think -- I would think  
6 you will continuously go there. You will  
7 continuously move -- if I -- and that's a concern  
8 because if you do distinguish [sic] or remove that  
9 source of food, the whale's gone.

10                   MR. GORDON: I understand that.  
11 These --

12                   MS. DORCUS ROCK: I have a question.  
13 Dorcus Rock, for the record.

14                   MR. REX TUZROYLUK: May I have that  
15 answered first?

16                   MR. LOMAN: I'm not sure what the  
17 question is.

18                   MR. REX TUZROYLUK: I guess 3 and 4  
19 are particular areas that are sensitive in what we  
20 do, but my point here is because of increase of  
21 water and global warming, those areas are going to  
22 move, and they are going to move north. And I think  
23 it's critical that we are aware of this. And we are  
24 aware of this. And that's why I'm making these  
25 statements now. I want to talk about the -- these

1 source of food later. All right?

2 MR. LOMAN: What is the question,  
3 though?

4 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: I guess the  
5 question is as far as the alternative, are these  
6 continuously going to -- are these stable? Are they  
7 not --

8 MR. LOMAN: They are stable.

9 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: They are not  
10 going to move?

11 MR. LOMAN: The alternatives are rock  
12 solid right there on the map, not going to move.

13 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: Interesting.

14 MR. LOMAN: That's the answer.

15 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: What happens if  
16 the food sources move north because of global  
17 warming?

18 MR. LOMAN: And we have already held  
19 a lease sale?

20 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: I guess that's my  
21 point, as far as the food source that's out there to  
22 protect the great whale. That's my concern, you  
23 see.

24 MR. LOMAN: I understand. I  
25 understand that.

1                   MR. REX TUZROYLUK: Okay. I just  
2 want to make my point here.

3                   MR. LOMAN: I understand. And our  
4 job is not to talk anybody into anything. We are  
5 not here to sell anybody on offshore development or  
6 this lease sale. Our job is to do the analysis and  
7 inform the decisionmaker. And in the end, there's  
8 probably going to be a brand-new political appointee  
9 that's going to want to know. They're going to ask  
10 the same questions they asked during 193: Are the  
11 people in the communities concerned about oil  
12 spills? Yes.

13                   MR. REX TUZROYLUK: This is the  
14 very -- the reason I react this way, I want to talk  
15 a little bit about the tomcods that for two years --  
16 and for the record, Rex again. We have had this  
17 tomcod thing that is happening already. And prior  
18 to the seismic -- the year they did the seismic, the  
19 walrus didn't show up that last year. And I was  
20 hoping -- I was hoping the service provider would  
21 document these things because that has changed  
22 already.

23                   Now I have another change that I'd like to  
24 report as far as the -- the tomcods. They  
25 normally -- two years now. They normally wash up.

1 Last year they didn't wash up. This year they  
2 didn't wash up fall time. Last year they didn't.  
3 The year -- they did before. But last year we  
4 didn't really have much, and this year we didn't  
5 have much. And I feel that we have to report the  
6 damage is done with the resource that's not even --  
7 we can't even see it here. And I'm talking about  
8 the tomcods. And that's already been affected as we  
9 speak.

10 MR. LOMAN: Dorcus?

11 MS. DORCUS ROCK: Yeah, Dorcus Rock,  
12 for the record. I just have a question. You  
13 mentioned section J. And then you said North Slope  
14 Borough agreement. I'd like to know which  
15 department made that agreement with you.

16 MR. LOMAN: Appendix J. It's  
17 Appendix J. Appendix J, not section. Appendix J.  
18 It is a health impact assessment. The agreement was  
19 for the limited purpose of doing -- working with the  
20 North Slope Borough. It was signed by Mayor Itta,  
21 and it was signed by the Regional Director of MMS.  
22 I wrote the document.

23 And it is for -- only for the purpose of  
24 utilizing the special expertise of the North Slope  
25 Borough and their knowledge and information that has

1 to do with the health of the communities within the  
2 North Slope Borough and the expertise of their  
3 consultant, Dr. Aaron Wernham, who is the only  
4 person that has done a health impact assessment in  
5 the United States of America, ever, for a resource  
6 utilization project. And Dr. Wernham has done at  
7 least four, if not five, that I know of. No one  
8 else has done one for a resource development  
9 project. So he's at the forefront of health impact  
10 assessments in the United States.

11 The North Slope Borough retained him. He  
12 works through a grant from the Alaska Native Tribal  
13 Health Consortium. And we have had a very good  
14 experience in working with him and others with the  
15 North Slope Borough who work with him. And he did  
16 that work, and it's part of our document in Appendix  
17 J.

18 MS. DORCUS ROCK: I just had that  
19 question. Thank you.

20 MR. LOMAN: The North Slope Borough  
21 is not a cooperating agency with MMS. They want to  
22 be clear about that. They don't necessarily support  
23 any offshore oil and gas lease sales in the Beaufort  
24 or the Chukchi Sea. They are only participating in  
25 order to do a human health impact assessment in

1 conjunction with our environmental impact statement.

2 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: Are you aware  
3 that they are our service provider?

4 MR. LOMAN: Yeah, yes, sir.

5 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: And which is  
6 alarming for us, the activity that happened three  
7 years ago as far as the walrus that was down here,  
8 and already had an impact. And apparently I have a  
9 -- you know, the wildlife department, as far as  
10 those credible people that's supposed to go say to  
11 you we already have this impact from the walrus that  
12 was gone this far, but I guess they -- you have -- I  
13 agree with you there. They don't agree with  
14 offshore, but, you know, we all know where their  
15 source of money is coming from, which is from the  
16 oil industry. And it's not their fault that they  
17 are this way.

18 But the point here is being that service  
19 provider and protecting that resource that -- I  
20 guess 70 percent of Point Hope still use that  
21 resource, but in Barrow they don't. I think it's  
22 important -- you know. For me to say these things,  
23 I'm not credible. And if the wildlife department  
24 from the North Slope Borough says this to you that  
25 these tomcods are no longer here, hey, these are

1 credible people. Other than my statement I just  
2 made here, that's -- that's the point I'd like to  
3 make.

4 MR. LOMAN: Well, we have to respond  
5 to your concern. The law requires it. And so as  
6 far as I'm concerned, right now you are just as  
7 credible as anybody. It's up to us to determine  
8 whether or not there is credibility when people tell  
9 us what you are telling us. So you are credible.

10 MR. GEORGE KINGIK: George Kingik,  
11 for the record. On Alternative 5, I'm going to add  
12 onto what he has to say about the walrus.  
13 Alternative 5 is a place where all the walrus do  
14 their feeding, right up there, right in that area.  
15 And ever since we had this seismic activities, we  
16 have not seen walrus in the fall time because right  
17 in that area where they bought all the -- all the  
18 leases, I was -- I was lucky enough to be in  
19 Anchorage during the time of the lease sale. And in  
20 two-and-a-half hours they made 2.7 billion dollars  
21 in leases right there, right in that area, right on  
22 the Bering Arch, right there. We have not seen  
23 walruses since seismic activities.

24 MS. MAE HANK: Mae Hank, for the  
25 record. Our -- our -- how we feel about the impact

1 it already has on our community is that economy is  
2 not as flourishable as Barrow. I mean, they can  
3 rely on jobs, but here in the community we rely on  
4 our food source. The majority of our food comes  
5 from the ocean, and that's why we are so strong and  
6 set that, you know, they have done enough damage  
7 already and they have impacted a portion of our food  
8 source. You know, that -- this is annihilation of  
9 our tribe, period.

10 MR. LOMAN: Who has done the damage,  
11 ma'am?

12 MS. MAE HANK: The seismic testing  
13 by -- no tomcods. That brings in some food. The  
14 walrus brings in sustenance for our people. That  
15 type of seismic testing, that's just seismic  
16 testing. What about the discharges? What about the  
17 activity that's happening? How much of the ocean  
18 floor is being damaged by everything that's  
19 happening there, the industry in there? You know,  
20 that's like you all are putting up nooses for us to  
21 hang ourselves with by killing our food source that  
22 is so vital to our people.

23 MR. LOMAN: Thank you. Yes, sir.

24 MR. JOHN LONG, JR: John Long, Jr.,  
25 for the record. You know, pertaining to all our

1 animals we hunt out here in the ocean, the walrus,  
2 the tomcods, our fish, the beluga, you know, birds  
3 in the summer -- the walrus and the belugas, they  
4 come back from up north after they do their feeding  
5 up in the waters that got your lease sales. Now,  
6 you know, the walrus, like this guy Rex said, they  
7 didn't come this year. And also to the seismic that  
8 the oil people been doing, you know, they explained  
9 to us that nothing will happen to our animals. Now,  
10 you know, that was a couple years ago.

11 And now we see that something is happening  
12 to our animals. They are not coming back this way.  
13 They -- they might -- might be rerouting through way  
14 out in the ocean going towards Wrangell Island and,  
15 you know, whatnot. But you know, usually they come  
16 this way.

17 Every fall time, we look forward to this  
18 hunting season that comes. You know, every season  
19 we hunt different migratory animals. And our  
20 tomcods -- like one of our Elders just said that  
21 during her lifetime living here in Point Hope, she's  
22 never had no problem, you know, catching the tomcods  
23 every year, you know. Usually the tomcods come this  
24 time of the year and right before the walruses  
25 come -- before the young ice comes in, they wash up

1 to the shore. So we go and gather them from the  
2 beach. This year and last year, we didn't have  
3 anything. Last year we didn't even have no sighting  
4 of walrus. And if we did, might have been some sick  
5 walruses.

6 You know, the seismic testing, they  
7 maintain that it does not hurt our animals. In  
8 reality, any sound that you put in the ocean will  
9 spread out. It won't dissipate. The animals that  
10 we hunt, it hurts their ears and their sense of  
11 direction. Any scientist should know that.

12 But, you know, sometimes scientists come  
13 and they say what was told to them to say to us so  
14 we can believe them, you know, because we don't have  
15 scientists here that will say, yeah, you know, this  
16 is what happens when a certain thing goes on, see.  
17 So we are left kind of in the dark in what -- you  
18 know, what happens here like, for instance, the  
19 seismic testing.

20 I am kind of scared to think how it's going  
21 to affect our whaling this spring, ugruk season, our  
22 seal, our fishing. The whales, they feed on the  
23 krill out here, and they also pass by to mate around  
24 Herschel Island, and they come back this way. But  
25 they go through further out coming back.

1           So, you know, that's just what all I have  
2 to say about the seismic testing and this oil  
3 drilling.

4           MR. LOMAN: The seismic testing that  
5 you are referring to, what -- what years did they  
6 take place, to your recollection?

7           MR. JOHN LONG, JR.: About two years  
8 straight, I think.

9           MS. MAE HANK: 2007, 2008.

10          MR. LOMAN: 2007, 2008 here in the  
11 Chukchi.

12          MR. JOHN LONG, JR: They come here  
13 and have a meeting with us and they explain that  
14 nothing will happen to our animals. The sound only  
15 goes so far and dissipate. That's not true.

16          MR. LOMAN: Thank you very much, sir.  
17 Yes, ma'am.

18          MS. AGGIE FRANKSON-HENRY: Good  
19 evening. For the record, I'm Aggie Frankson-Henry.  
20 I'm a tribal secretary and tribal member of the  
21 Native Village of Point Hope. I am opposing the  
22 Minerals Management Services' decision on the  
23 proposed actions for multiple sale EIS for the  
24 Chukchi Sea, sales 212 and 221 and Beaufort Sea  
25 lease sales 209 and 217. And I support alternative

1 1, Beaufort and Chukchi Sea no lease sale. No.

2 My testimony to the U.S. Department of  
3 Interior, Minerals Management Service, and the  
4 colleagues of MMS:

5 I am an Inupiaq mother, wife, daughter,  
6 aunt, tribal member of the Native Village of Point  
7 Hope and most of all, a whaler and harvester  
8 dependent on the Chukchi Sea and Beaufort Sea for  
9 means of survival. Being Inupiaq is an inherent  
10 freedom to hunt/harvest from the vast frozen seas to  
11 nurture my family and extended families across  
12 Alaska and the Lower 48. The Chukchi and Beaufort  
13 Seas provide nutritional food supply on my table  
14 without any aftertaste of spilled debris from oil  
15 and gas.

16 Tikigaqs (Point Hope, Alaska), ocean is a  
17 land of opportunity to preserve my culture, because  
18 of climate change this generation is faced with for  
19 a healthier ecosystem balance for bowhead whales,  
20 walruses, polar bears, seals, ducks, fishes, birds,  
21 crabs, plankton, oysters, clams, seaweed, worms,  
22 killer whales, narwhales, right whales, beluga  
23 whales, gray whales, and all the mammals of these  
24 two great oceans that we the people of Point Hope  
25 are blessed with.

1           Based on current agriculture in Valdez,  
2 Alaska, it is not my best interest to harm this  
3 great state with offshore oil and gas drilling along  
4 the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas. I am voicing my  
5 right to life, liberty, and equality. All men are  
6 created equal, stated in the Declaration of  
7 Independence, written by Americans in 1776.

8           I believe this great state, the federal  
9 government agencies, and industrial servants can  
10 find other means of resources to benefit the  
11 economy, like wind and water generation to fuel the  
12 economy.

13           I am Inupiaq and I love to eat my  
14 traditional meals that are delicious, healthy and  
15 nutritious and which are provided naturally by the  
16 great seas along the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas. I  
17 am an American who strives to survive in this harsh  
18 climate through traditional knowledge and very  
19 dependent on the resources along the seas.

20           Thank you for your time. I am Aggie  
21 Frankson-Henry, tribal secretary of the Native  
22 Village and tribal member, for the record.

23                   MR. LOMAN: Thank you very much.

24                   MR. LOMAN: Yes, ma'am. Dorcus, we  
25 have an interpretation request.

1 MS. ROCK: She mentioned about --

2 MR. LOMAN: Dorcus, do we have a name,  
3 please?

4 MS. DORCUS ROCK: (interpreting for  
5 Rose Ella Stone.) Yeah. I'm going to translate  
6 what she was saying. She was talking about when  
7 they were growing up that what Rex mentioned about  
8 the tomcods coming in and so forth, that that's what  
9 they grew up with, plus all the other animals that  
10 they have grown up with. And then when it's -- she  
11 was very thankful that people would be saying  
12 something, and she really is emphasizing that, do  
13 say what you have to say about the sales.

14 They are talking about the Chukchi sale  
15 lease and the other leases. And -- and she doesn't  
16 want any -- she doesn't want to put a stop to it  
17 because ever since they have grown up, that's how we  
18 grew up, no crackers or anything, just biscuits, but  
19 mostly the animals of the sea. That's where all the  
20 food came in from, not from, you know, the store or  
21 anything.

22 So she's really emphasizing that these  
23 young people or the people that are here will say  
24 something about it and that you will be able to  
25 listen for what she had to say.

1           That was Rose Ella Stone that was speaking.  
2   And if I missed anything, I'll make sure I get back  
3   to it. But that's mostly what she was talking  
4   about. All the other species of land -- I mean,  
5   species of animals that are from the ocean that  
6   are -- it's coming from in the seismic -- what was  
7   that -- seismic activities that they were having.  
8   And she want to make sure that you people know about  
9   that. Okay.

10                   MS. MAE HANK: Are we on public  
11   hearing now or no?

12                   MR. LOMAN: Yes, we are.

13                   MS. MAE HANK: My name is Mae Hank,  
14   for the record. I'm a resident of Tikigaq (Point  
15   Hope). That's what we call Tikigaq. And a tribal  
16   member of Native Village of Point Hope. I sit here  
17   before you to give you my voice in opposition to the  
18   proposed oil lease sale off our oceans. You who  
19   have decided that hold our lives and future in your  
20   hands with no consent to me -- from me, my children,  
21   my grandchildren, or my fellow community members who  
22   wholly own this land and who have lived here since  
23   before the U.S. had created the Americas.

24                   Thousands of years prior to Columbus  
25   discovering the America we know today as the home of

1 the Lower 48, we the Inupiaq, who have never been  
2 conquered by the Brits, Russia, or the 13 colonies,  
3 have called this land and ocean our home. We hunt  
4 to provide traditional food from our land and sea.  
5 May I remind you again, from our land and sea. The  
6 Tikigaqmut, translated as "residents of Tikigaq,"  
7 have flourished and stand proud for centuries  
8 defending our hunting grounds from foreigners from  
9 another community or another country.

10 The newly elected United States President  
11 Obama stated that a government-to-government  
12 relationship has to be established, and I am hoping  
13 you have obeyed your top level supervisor. Have you  
14 established that with our tribe? Have you disobeyed  
15 your supervisor by not establishing this  
16 government-to-government relationship yet?

17 Every proposed hearing you brought into  
18 this community you obligingly come. Tikigaqmut  
19 provided you with the same answer, and you defy our  
20 statements of opposition by going ahead with your  
21 sales for over 20 years of public hearings.

22 This time I am putting this statement in  
23 your hands to forward to President Obama, and hoping  
24 and praying that President Obama will hear us and  
25 consider the extent of the damages that will occur

1 with this proposed lease sale you have put before  
2 us. I am hoping and praying Mr. President will hear  
3 us this time and remove your -- our hunting grounds  
4 from the list of potential leases to be sold for oil  
5 development.

6           If the sales do occur, the extent of  
7 damages to the culture of my tribe, whose sole  
8 ceremonies occur around the bowhead whale we hunt  
9 and celebrate, will be annihilated. The  
10 contaminants from the drilling and refuse discharged  
11 alone will kill the food of our whales, walruses,  
12 bearded seals, seals, belugas, various species of  
13 fish, crab and other species of animals that inhabit  
14 our ocean. There is a potential of oil spills that  
15 you, the Minerals Management Services, cannot  
16 guarantee that there is a viable oil spill recovery  
17 system in place to ensure the aboriginal people of  
18 this land and ocean will not be annihilated by  
19 destroying our ocean that sustain us with our  
20 traditional food and religious ceremonies that  
21 revolve around the bowhead whale.

22           Another thing in the Constitution of the  
23 United States of America proclaim that we have the  
24 rights of freedom of religion. Where is our freedom  
25 of religion? You sell these leases, you have denied

1 us the right to continuously participate in our  
2 religious aspects of our culture. How you deny us  
3 our rights to practice is by destroying our hunting  
4 grounds with contaminants from oil development and  
5 potential oil spills into our hunting grounds, which  
6 is the ocean.

7 Many hearings I have attended and wondered  
8 who is under the table pulling the strings of these  
9 obligatory hearings you hold to substantiate your  
10 requirements to; Mr. President or the Senate stating  
11 the numbers of participants, or the oil industry?  
12 Now with our new President, I am praying our voices  
13 will be heard to ears that listen this time.

14 For over 20 years I have said no to  
15 offshore oil development, and over 20 years later I  
16 still say no. Now again I reiterate again, no. I  
17 want no oil industry in the Bering and most  
18 importantly our Chukchi Sea.

19 You are not welcome to drill in our  
20 backyard where our food feed to sustain the Inupiat  
21 of this community, and 20 years from now my voice  
22 will still say no to drilling in our backyard. I  
23 say no to these sales and no until you can come back  
24 and say we, the MMS staff representing the U.S. of  
25 A, can guarantee 100 percent cleanup capabilities

1 without harm to our food source and the feeding  
2 grounds of our traditional food.

3           What about the Montana findings of fossil  
4 fuel that was reported in 2005, the trillions of  
5 gallons of fossil fuel discovered under their  
6 mountains and that could be drilled and not have to  
7 sell our ocean? These days we do not have the  
8 ignorance because we lack communications with the  
9 outside world. Today's technology has given us the  
10 opportunity to seek knowledge.

11           The 20-year anniversary is coming up for  
12 the Exxon Valdez oil spill that occurred on March  
13 24, 1999. And as we see the results 20 years later,  
14 their environment is still damaged and will be for  
15 generations to come. Twenty years later and the oil  
16 spill is still on their beaches, and their animal  
17 habitat cannot live there or the people of the area  
18 cannot subsist. Twenty years later.

19           The court award will not provide for their  
20 damages of no more cultural hunting grounds, no more  
21 fishing grounds. I will not tolerate a threat of no  
22 more whaling, seal hunting, walrus hunting, bearded  
23 seal hunting and fishing. For 100 years no amount  
24 of money would replace our traditional food for  
25 myself, my children, my grandchildren, the Elders of

1 the community, family and friends that would go  
2 searching for muktuk, beluga, seal meat, seal oil or  
3 fish from other communities not impacted by the oil  
4 spill in our backyard. That is what nightmare I  
5 envision, which would be annihilation of  
6 Tikigaqmut, the oldest whaling community, the only  
7 Inupiaq whaling community with traditional clans.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. LOMAN: Thank you very much,  
10 ma'am.

11 MR. JOHN LONG, JR.: John Long, Jr.  
12 for the record, again. Just to add on what Rose  
13 Ella Stone mentioned earlier was about our  
14 grandfathers, you know. Before the hard times like  
15 this wintertime, we -- our grandfathers did our  
16 hunting out in the ocean, and what they caught they  
17 put away in our food cache, what we call siglauq.  
18 And to this day we still follow that tradition.  
19 What we hunt and catch during the summer, spring,  
20 fall, we put away in our food cache for times like  
21 this, wintertime when it's, you know, hard to get  
22 anything.

23 So I just wanted to add that to what she  
24 said.

25 MR. LOMAN: Thank you very much.

1                   MR. STEVE OOMITTUK: For the record,  
2 Steve Oomittuk, tribal member, city mayor. You  
3 know, for -- you know, I've always opposed offshore  
4 activities because we feel that they don't have the  
5 technology to go out there yet, especially out in  
6 the Arctic.

7                   You know, for thousands of years, the  
8 Tikigaq people have always lived in the cycle of  
9 life. We know all the animals that come into our  
10 territory, what we eat at different months of the  
11 year. We have lived this cycle for thousands of  
12 years. We know when they are coming. We know when  
13 they are going. We know what's going to be next.  
14 And, you know, since the seismic activity, we seen a  
15 lot of different changes of animals that been  
16 through the cycle. Living in Point Hope, being born  
17 and raised the majority of our lives, a lot of our  
18 Elders -- I mean, they -- for thousands of years.  
19 That's why we have been here right in this spot  
20 where we are considered one of the oldest continuous  
21 habitants on North America because the animals come  
22 to us.

23                   But within the last few years, you hear  
24 about people -- you know, tomcods not coming back,  
25 walruses not coming. We know the cycle of life, the

1 animals that we rely on, especially out in the  
2 Arctic in the ocean. We see the changes. You  
3 know -- you know, because we have lived here. Our  
4 Elders -- you know, we have been taught from  
5 generations to generations to generations. And we  
6 feel that, you know, these offshore leases is, you  
7 know, going to extinct the way of life that's been  
8 here for thousands of years. We still rely on all  
9 these animals; the high cost of fuel, the high cost  
10 of living, transportation. You know, we are  
11 subsistence hunters. We still rely on our ocean.  
12 It's -- it's our garden. It's our identity. It's  
13 our spirituality, the whale, the center of our  
14 lives.

15           So we oppose any activity in the Chukchi,  
16 the Beaufort, you know, because we feel the  
17 technology is not there yet. You know, we want to  
18 ensure that our kids, our grandkids, you know, for  
19 the next thousands of years, hunts the same animals  
20 that we have always hunted. Once all the oil is  
21 gone, who is going to be left behind but the people  
22 that's always been here? So we strongly, you know,  
23 oppose the sale, you know, the lease sales of 209,  
24 212, 217, 221.

25           And you know, there was a petition -- there

1 is a lot of people that couldn't make it to the  
2 meeting -- a petition that was posted. For the  
3 record, "We, the residents of Tikigaq (Point, Hope)  
4 being a unified group who share the desires to  
5 continue our traditional lifestyles and practice our  
6 traditional ceremonial and cultural activities  
7 season by season, and the ocean provides the major  
8 part of our diet of traditional foods. The ocean is  
9 our source of food that we, the residents of  
10 Tikigaq, rely on to feed us for thousands of years.

11 "Please consider this letter/petition as a  
12 formal comment on the draft environmental impact  
13 statement for lease sales 209, 212, 217, and 221 in  
14 the Beaufort Sea and Chukchi Sea planning areas. We  
15 are opposed to leasing in the Arctic Ocean. We  
16 further support that no action alternative for the  
17 Beaufort and Chukchi Sea in which MMS would not hold  
18 the proposed lease sales."

19 Signatures of Mae Hank, Alzred Oomittuk,  
20 Masuk Lane, Patrick Stone, Andrew Oviok, Kenneth  
21 Attungana, Jolene Kowunna, Margaret Frankson, Karen  
22 Weber, Pearl Sage, Darold Frankson, Joe Oktollik,  
23 Willard Hunnicutt, Midas Koenig, Isaac Killigvuk,  
24 Joe Casados, Doreen Koonuk, Florence Oktollik, Eddie  
25 Lisbourne, Chena Nash, Lloyd Vincent, Aggie

1 Frankson, Lily Tuzroyluk, Lily Barger, Gordon Oviok,  
2 Sally Killigvuk, Sabrina Tuzroyluk, Mitchell Cannon,  
3 Dana Hank, Rex Tuzroyluk, Carrie Oktollik, Kristi  
4 Frankson, George Kingik, Lloyd Vincent, Vernita  
5 Vincent and Elizabeth Oviok and Dorcus Rock.

6 (Interpreted.)

7 MR. LOMAN: Thank you, Mr. Mayor and  
8 Dorcus. Could you, Dorcus, please work with Albert  
9 so, for the record, we can read those names, get the  
10 spelling right? I hate it when people spell my name  
11 L-O-W-M-A-N. Thank you very much.

12 I saw a hand up. And for those that came  
13 in as we were under way, we, of course, are talking  
14 about proposed oil and gas lease sale draft  
15 environmental impact statement for the sales that  
16 the mayor mentioned. And we are taking testimony  
17 pursuant to the requirement to hold a public hearing  
18 to take people's comments and questions and concerns  
19 regarding the proposed action in the draft  
20 environmental impact statement.

21 Yes, ma'am.

22 MS. IRIS OKTOLLIK: Iris Oktollik,  
23 for the record. What I want to know is have you  
24 guys studied and evaluated our cultural impacts as  
25 far as seismic testing, drilling, and the associated

1 infrastructure and transportation?

2 MR. LOMAN: Yes. That's all analyzed  
3 in the document with respect to the proposed action,  
4 the no action, and the alternatives. I would just  
5 say that when I say to somebody have you thought  
6 about what your activity is going to do to my  
7 culture, I want to make sure that they know what my  
8 culture is.

9 We think that we, for example, have got --  
10 got it correct that whaling is a self-defining,  
11 culturally important activity that is ingrained into  
12 the government, the spirituality, the language, the  
13 well-being, the food, the nutrition benefits. And  
14 I'm probably missing some other things. And then  
15 other subsistence activities and other activities  
16 that are part of your unique culture.

17 But we're here tonight to listen to anybody  
18 that wants to tell us -- because the document  
19 describes culturally significant things. The  
20 important thing is that we don't miss anything, miss  
21 anything that's important about your culture, that's  
22 unique about your culture that the government didn't  
23 take into account when they did their analysis. But  
24 the answer -- that's a long answer. The short  
25 answer is yes. Yes, ma'am.

1 MS. KRISTI FRANKSON: For the  
2 record, my name is Kristi Frankson. I came to Point  
3 Hope to live January of 1978. My husband, a Native  
4 of Tikigaq, was always a hunter, and I learned  
5 everything I know from him, his family, and all of  
6 the people in Point Hope who I have shared my life  
7 with.

8 Tonight we are being asked to make comments  
9 on the lease sales of the ocean that the people of  
10 Point Hope hunt from. It isn't easy for me to talk  
11 about this issue because I love this life very much  
12 and, having come from another place far away, I have  
13 an understanding of how things work in the world of  
14 development and big business where natural resources  
15 are discovered and then exploited.

16 The way our lives naturally revolve around  
17 the seasons and the many animals that are in this  
18 area for subsistence use is the reason for living  
19 here. The highly sensitive environment we live in  
20 is the home for us and the many animals, fish and  
21 birds that we thrive on. And it is not fit for  
22 development because it's too precious for that.  
23 There is no higher calling than to be the home to  
24 the whale, the ugruk, the polar bear, the walrus,  
25 the seal, the ones who depend on the sea and the ice

1 for a place to live.

2           There is no other place on earth where we  
3 could enjoy this life, and it is special and needs  
4 protection. We want to have clean animals and the  
5 relationship that we enjoy with them unaffected by  
6 noise and pollution, traffic from ships and  
7 helicopters, ice cutters and barges, drilling rigs  
8 that fuel a world that seems out of control with its  
9 hunger for a kind of energy that many people agree  
10 needs to be replaced with technology for the future.

11           We love our wildlife and respect and honor  
12 the entire process of our hunting and sharing the  
13 catch. We use the skins that we get. And even with  
14 disruptive influences from the outside world, we try  
15 to pass these thoughts and practices on to the  
16 younger people. Sometimes they follow. Sometimes  
17 they are distracted with ideas from other places,  
18 but there are always enough of them who listen to  
19 carry on the traditions and keep us strong and  
20 united.

21           The climate change is one threat we cannot  
22 stop no matter how much we object. And we see  
23 impacts already from that on our environment and  
24 effects on the animals, birds and fish. Even small  
25 changes have an impact. So how can we believe that

1 drilling for oil in our ocean or on the lands, for  
2 that matter, will not have an impact on our way of  
3 life? People here have been passing on this  
4 lifestyle to their younger generations for thousands  
5 of years.

6 Yes, the world changes and adaptations  
7 occur as we go through time, but what ties an  
8 Inupiaq to his rightful world is the ability to hunt  
9 on his ancestral land and oceans, provide for his  
10 family, and continue his cultural responsibilities.  
11 Everything else is connected from that. The way  
12 people see themselves or their identity is as a  
13 hunter and provider to their families and the  
14 wellness of what they are consuming and thankfulness  
15 for the way God has provided for us. It might seem  
16 like a simple thing to others, but to people here,  
17 it is everything.

18 We are concerned about the contaminants  
19 that work their way into our food chain even without  
20 being in close range of oil or gas development and  
21 coal mining. These enterprises are in the planning  
22 stages and we have no idea, nor will we have control  
23 over how overpowering they may come in our near  
24 future.

25 There is not only the prospect of

1 exploration and drilling, but then the transit and  
2 delivery of the product that is being sought after  
3 will also have more impacts on our ecosystem.

4           The world of the Inupiaq is a beautiful  
5 place because of the people who came before and what  
6 ingenious methods of hunting and surviving they  
7 developed. They were incredibly strong and let  
8 nothing stand in their way. We have the same  
9 responsibility to carry on for our children and  
10 grandchildren to see to it that they have the same  
11 opportunity to enjoy the life we have, and they will  
12 keep their identity strong.

13           I don't think anyone here will agree that  
14 our way of life must stop, change, or be threatened  
15 for someone else's idea of what is right to do.  
16 Money can only buy things. It cannot take us back  
17 into time or make clean what has become ruined.  
18 Some of us believe that there is no reason to take a  
19 risk like that. No amount of money, no amount of  
20 reassurance by you or the oil companies will make us  
21 believe that this idea of development in the Arctic  
22 waters is a good idea.

23           We already know the answer to that, and the  
24 answer is the ocean is not for sale.

25                   MR. LOMAN: Thank you very much,

1 ma'am. If we -- if we could have a copy -- because  
2 I know they have a copy machine -- of your written  
3 statement so we can get it right in the record, we  
4 would appreciate it. And Albert will take it from  
5 you, if you don't mind. Thank you.

6 MR. AQQUILLUK HANK: Just one  
7 question about this scientist that decides this --  
8 for the record, Aqquilluk Hank. The scientist that  
9 decides the environmental impact statement, what --  
10 what gives this one guy the right to decide?

11 MR. LOMAN: It's not one -- one  
12 person, a scientist. The purpose of the document is  
13 to --

14 MR. AQQUILLUK HANK: A scientist is  
15 one person, just like you and me, one guy. If they  
16 are going to make an environmental impact statement,  
17 there needs to be a Native with him writing this  
18 whole impact statement, you know.

19 MR. LOMAN: The document informs a  
20 decisionmaker. In the end there will be one person  
21 that makes the decision, either the Secretary of the  
22 Interior or he can delegate it to the Assistant  
23 Secretary of Land and Minerals Management. 193 was  
24 delegated to the Assistant Secretary of Land and  
25 Minerals Management under the old Administration.

1 His name is Steve Alred. He signed his name. He  
2 went forward with 193.

3 He asked the question, by the way. You  
4 might be interested: Are the people in the  
5 communities confident that they can clean up a  
6 substantial oil spill?

7 MR. AQQUILLUK HANK: That's an  
8 obvious question and answer.

9 MR. LOMAN: The room was silent when  
10 he asked the question. The room was silent. There  
11 is a phenomenon at work here it's important to  
12 understand. Sometimes it's very hard in government,  
13 in business -- and I'm sure you have experienced it.  
14 People want to hear something. Our job is to tell  
15 them the truth, not what they want to hear. And  
16 that's my promise to you. I will tell them the  
17 truth, not what they want to hear. That's the best  
18 I can do for you.

19 So it's a number of scientists that prepare  
20 this document to inform the decisionmaker. And we  
21 hope that the document, including -- part of the  
22 document is everything -- what you just said, what  
23 I'm saying now, is all part of this document.  
24 Everything that's said tonight is part of it. So  
25 there are Natives that are part of this document

1 through this process. And it becomes part of it.

2 And it's got to be handed to the  
3 decisionmaker in a way that's honest and truthful.  
4 He won't read it all, I promise you that. But when  
5 they ask questions about whether or not industry can  
6 clean up a substantial oil spill in the Arctic on  
7 the worst day, I'll tell them that the answer is no.  
8 And that's the best I can do.

9 MR. AQQUILLUK HANK: This statement  
10 needs to be redone with a Native with that  
11 scientist, one of the tribal members from each  
12 village or something because, you know, a scientist  
13 is a scientist. He's not a tribal member. You  
14 know, he's not out there hunting, you know,  
15 suffering for the food. It just needs to be redone  
16 with a Native, I think, not just some scientist who  
17 learned something from a book. That's what I think.

18 MR. LOMAN: Thank you. Thank you  
19 very much.

20 MR. AQQUILLUK HANK: Thanks.

21 MR. LOMAN: Yes, sir.

22 MR. LLOYD VINCENT: Lloyd Vincent,  
23 for the record. The thing, I guess, he's referring  
24 to is the idea, have this person that does this  
25 environmental impact statement to finalize it, he

1 should be up here along with you and listening to  
2 the statements that are being made here in the  
3 village.

4 MR. AQQUILLUK HANK: I think a Native  
5 needs to be a part of the written report. A Native  
6 needs to be right there with him writing that  
7 environmental impact statement, not just some guy  
8 doing it on his own.

9 MR. LOMAN: When you say "Native,"  
10 you mean Inupiat?

11 MR. AQQUILLUK HANK: Yeah, tribal  
12 member.

13 MR. LLOYD VINCENT: And again, I say,  
14 it would be an ideal thing to have the person that  
15 does the finalization of this environmental impact  
16 statement to be up here with you to get our side of  
17 the story of what -- what we have been through for  
18 over thousands of years. And during the last couple  
19 years, I've noticed some animals that were caught  
20 from the ocean that were sick. And that may be  
21 seismic activity has a big impact on the health of  
22 our animals also. And I think it would be -- one of  
23 these next couple months, coming months, I think it  
24 would be a good idea to have all of you come back,  
25 along with the oil companies, along with the --

1 whoever makes the decision, the final decision of  
2 this impact statement and listen to our side of the  
3 story from the villages.

4 MR. LOMAN: Thank you. Yes, ma'am.

5 MS. KRISTI FRANKSON: Kristi  
6 Frankson, for the record. It seems like when we  
7 hear about impact statements and if the activity  
8 will damage any of the marine mammals or what's  
9 growing on the ocean floor, the food sources that  
10 they use, I don't know what -- what model they use  
11 for determining an impact. Is it, like -- most of  
12 the time we feel like it's got to be the death of  
13 the animal. If a whole bunch of whales washed up on  
14 shore or something really drastic happened, that we  
15 could say we know what this is from.

16 But things are so vague sometimes for us,  
17 like the animals that don't show up. We put two and  
18 two together because of -- because there has been  
19 seismic activity or whatever is going on out there,  
20 we think it has an effect on it, and that's what  
21 happens. So we are sort of guessing because there  
22 is a lot of other things in the mix. There is  
23 climate changes in the mix. We don't always know --  
24 we don't know what the impacts are. Do we actually  
25 think that we can know that? We won't know it until

1 it's too late to do anything about it is probably  
2 what's going to happen.

3           They are doing a lot of studies and  
4 research now with animals. There is a guy that's  
5 been doing research for about 20 years now with  
6 stress in animals. Who would think of such a thing?  
7 But we all know that the general population,  
8 American population, is under extraordinary stress.  
9 A lot of people are on medications for all types of  
10 physical problems, mental problems. They are under  
11 stress. And stress releases hormones in your body  
12 and it causes health problems. And it does exactly  
13 the same thing in the bodies of animals. They can  
14 be under -- I would think they would be under stress  
15 if there is seismic testing going on or drilling  
16 going on out in their ocean.

17           I know that right now they have tagged  
18 whales. I just saw a map the other day. Whales go  
19 all over. That ocean might seem really big to some  
20 people, but it's not. Animals and birds and  
21 creatures of the earth need a lot of room. And  
22 that's why so many of them are becoming extinct now  
23 because people think, oh, they have enough room.  
24 They don't need more room than that. They need a  
25 lot of space. They need that whole ocean. And they

1 use the whole thing.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. LOMAN: Thank you very much.

4 MS. MAE HANK: Mae, for the record.

5 I know when the oil industry came in to have a  
6 general meeting with the public as an update as to  
7 the seismic activity that's been going on in the  
8 areas that -- somewhere around Point Lay area, I had  
9 asked them a question whether -- before they began  
10 the seismic testing, did they evaluate the ocean  
11 floor and the type of animals living in that area,  
12 what type of food source is there for different  
13 animals, like the walrus, the whales, belugas.

14 And I asked them the question did they  
15 begin the study before they started the seismic  
16 testing or now, a year after, and they said no.  
17 They didn't do a test to study whether the -- what  
18 was under in the ocean floor before they did the  
19 seismic testing, and a year, two years after. They  
20 say they intend to start it, but they have not  
21 started it yet. So there is no -- no way of knowing  
22 what type of impact the ocean floor and the animals  
23 have before the seismic testing began.

24 And now four years after the seismic  
25 testing, they are finally determining, okay, let's

1 do the study now. So you know, they are doing their  
2 studies based on what the actual studies they are  
3 doing to say, oh, there was nothing under there.  
4 There was no damage, and there is minimal activity  
5 happening there. How do they know that? We know  
6 that our animals go through. And as they go  
7 through, they feed. They feed continuously all the  
8 way through the coast, off the coast, all the way  
9 through. So how do they know, you know? Are you  
10 guys using the -- the industry's studies to base  
11 exactly what's out there?

12 MR. LOMAN: We use industry studies.  
13 MMS in Alaska has spent over 300 million dollars on  
14 studies in the Alaska OCS. And, like I said  
15 earlier, I'm not here to talk anybody into anything,  
16 and I don't know who -- which -- which oil company  
17 or which representative you were speaking with, but  
18 we would be happy to come here and explain to you  
19 how we regulate the industry. And I can tell you  
20 that the way we regulate the industry is not  
21 consistent with what you were told.

22 We require them to do a number of things  
23 before they do any seismic activity, before they do  
24 any exploratory drilling, to know exactly what's in  
25 between the surface of the water all the way to the

1 bottom and beyond the bottom of the ocean. And I'm  
2 not the right expert to explain to you everything  
3 that goes into the approval of an exploration plan,  
4 but we can do that if you think it's helpful.

5           The folks in Wainwright had a number of  
6 questions about studies, about our operations group  
7 that is the regulatory arm of our agency, and about  
8 the resource evaluation activities that the people  
9 who estimate what amount and what kind of resources  
10 might be out there. And we are going to go to  
11 Wainwright and we are going to provide detailed  
12 explanation of those things because we work for you.  
13 And we will be happy to do that here. But that's  
14 what -- what we do, what we are required to do under  
15 the -- under law. And what we do is not consistent  
16 with what that industry rep told you.

17           And if it took place in the last year and a  
18 half, I personally guarantee that nobody under a  
19 permit went out and ignored all of those things and  
20 went ahead with the seismic activities because I've  
21 had my eye on that ball for a year and a half and  
22 then some now.

23           MR. REX TUZROYLUK: For the record,  
24 Rex Tuzroyluk. I just about have to ask this  
25 question, only because I -- you know, the philosophy

1 we are going through and how we look at industry and  
2 how the general public looks at MMS and industry  
3 itself. It's really not fair to you guys, but I  
4 have to ask this question. What technology exists  
5 to clean up oil spills under the ice? I have to ask  
6 this question.

7 MR. LOMAN: You mean how do they  
8 physically get under the ice and clean it up?

9 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: Exactly. What  
10 technology exists to clean up oil spills under the  
11 ice? It's a simple question. I have to ask you  
12 because it's a public hearing.

13 MR. LOMAN: Sure. There are the same  
14 suite of things that go on with cleaning up any  
15 other oil spill. There is nothing special about  
16 under ice. Pumps, dispersants, absorbent material,  
17 booming to try to contain it, et cetera.

18 But like I said earlier, in the worst day  
19 in the Arctic, if there is a substantial oil  
20 spill -- and I know that you are, sir, and there are  
21 other seamen in this room -- I was in the Navy, so  
22 seaman is a person who travels efficiently and  
23 effectively in the sea. You know that no one, no  
24 matter how much equipment, no matter how much the  
25 training they have is or how many of them are, in

1 the worst weather day, it's going to be a real  
2 struggle to clean up a substantial oil spill. They  
3 are not going to be very effective. People are  
4 probably going to get killed trying to do it. It's  
5 going to be a big mess because Mother Nature can get  
6 real nasty out there. And that's the honest answer.

7 Will technology ever defeat Mother Nature?  
8 I don't think so. But the money I'm going to put is  
9 on spill prevention because if you don't have it in  
10 the first place, you don't have to get out there and  
11 try to clean it up. And there have been some pretty  
12 significant advances in spill prevention to prevent  
13 a big spill in the first place. And that's about  
14 it. That's about as good as it gets.

15 MS. MAE HANK: Mae Hank, for the  
16 record. So what type of studies have been done in  
17 the Beaufort Sea and the Chukchi Sea as to ocean  
18 currents? How strong are the ocean currents, like  
19 about Prudhoe Bay compared to up north of Point  
20 Hope?

21 MR. LOMAN: Well, just enough to know  
22 that it's -- there is no comparison between the  
23 Beaufort --

24 MS. MAE HANK: Have they ever done a  
25 study as to compare the currents and how -- because

1 in the wintertime, you know, how the ice -- the  
2 ocean ice ivuus.

3 MR. GEORGE KINGIK: There is four  
4 currents up there.

5 MS. MAE HANK: I'm talking about how  
6 the ice ivuus.

7 MR. LOMAN: Conflicting directions?

8 MR. GEORGE KINGIK: To answer your  
9 question, my father -- there is four currents up  
10 there in that area.

11 MS. MAE HANK: How strong is the ice  
12 when it shifts during wind and pile up, the ice  
13 piles up? How strong is the currents over on that  
14 side in comparison to Point Hope? Because I know  
15 how strong our area is here. Is there a difference  
16 between the strength-wise as to how strong our ocean  
17 waters are out there, the currents and how it  
18 crashes? We have all this ice pile up up there  
19 constantly. Has that study been done? I'm  
20 wondering.

21 MR. LOMAN: There has been studies of  
22 currents. There has been studies of ice movements.

23 MS. MAE HANK: The ice pile ups.  
24 Have any of your people visually studied our area  
25 when the ice piles up out there?

1 MR. LOMAN: Any of my people, you  
2 mean people that work for me or MMS?

3 MS. MAE HANK: Yeah, your people,  
4 your scientists, have they physically studied it  
5 annually to see the type of impact our ocean ice  
6 has, you know, when it piles up because of storms  
7 and currents?

8 MR. LOMAN: Yes.

9 MS. MAE HANK: Has that been done?

10 MR. LOMAN: Yes.

11 MS. MAE HANK: Where and when?

12 MR. LOMAN: I'll have to -- I'll have  
13 to get back to you on the details. Like I said, 300  
14 million dollars and 30 years of studies, and we  
15 would be happy to come up here and go over all the  
16 studies that have been done on the Beaufort and done  
17 on the Chukchi.

18 MS. MAE HANK: I mean here north of  
19 Point Hope there. The studies have been done there?

20 MR. LOMAN: Are you talking about  
21 north of Point Hope?

22 MS. MAE HANK: Yeah.

23 MR. LOMAN: Like, for example, here  
24 [indicating]?

25 MS. MAE HANK: Where are you? I

1 can't see.

2 MR. LOMAN: Point Hope is here  
3 [indicating].

4 MR. AQQUILLUK HANK: The whole North  
5 Slope, not just Point Hope.

6 MS. MAE HANK: Do you have a study  
7 here? Do you have a study there? I'm talking about  
8 the ice piles up, how -- how sure -- how -- the  
9 ocean current is very, very strong in our area. Has  
10 there been studies done with our area here, down off  
11 the beach 25 miles out, to see exactly how -- how  
12 strong our currents are here versus the currents  
13 over there? You know, the ice piles up every  
14 winter, and you are going to have oil rigs out  
15 there. If you happen to have oil rigs out there,  
16 how do you know that they won't just swallow it all  
17 up? How do you know that our currents are stronger  
18 than over there like that, you know? How do you  
19 know? It's so -- how many human lives will you  
20 lose? You don't know how strong our currents are  
21 out there.

22 MR. LOMAN: I'm just going to take  
23 that as a statement. I'm not going to respond to  
24 that.

25 MS. MAE HANK: Well, I want to know,

1 have you done studies down on the --

2 MR. LOMAN: The answer is yes, in the  
3 Chukchi Sea. Yes, ma'am.

4 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: So the answer is  
5 yes?

6 MR. LOMAN: In the Chukchi Sea.

7 MR. GEORGE KINGIK: I'll answer part  
8 of her questions. I know Johnson heard the story,  
9 too. There is one guy that's been on the Cutter  
10 Bear, and you guys were looking for some tapes. We  
11 got that in the tape. But Herbert Kinnimak [ph] was  
12 in the Cutter Bear, and he used to talk about the  
13 currents. That's why I said there were four  
14 currents. And Johnson, you heard that story, too.  
15 And it was on the stuff I heard from my Elders. My  
16 name is George Kingik. Some of the stuff I heard  
17 from my Elders.

18 MR. LOMAN: George, did you say four  
19 currents?

20 MR. GEORGE KINGIK: There were four  
21 currents off this area. Three right here. And you  
22 can't even paddle when you go there. When the  
23 current goes side by side, you can't even paddle.  
24 The man I'm talking about that tell me that story  
25 and my nephew was Herbert Kinnimak from Point Hope,

1 the Cutter Bear.

2 MR. LOMAN: Thank you.

3 MR. GEORGE KINGIK: Because he used  
4 to tell us stories.

5 MR. STEVE OOMITTUK: For the record,  
6 Steve Oomittuk. He's talking about -- you know  
7 where Wrangell Island is on the other side? The  
8 Point Hope people used to go to that island, you  
9 know. That was until the Russians stopped them.  
10 They know the currents. They know what currents to  
11 take to certain islands and then what currents come  
12 back with. And you know, our ancestors have learned  
13 the ocean and the animals like the back of their  
14 hand, you know, the migration of all that.

15 Like we have been stating, we have hunted  
16 these animals for thousands of years. We know when  
17 they are coming. We know when they are going. And  
18 like we have been hearing, some of these animals in  
19 the last few years haven't come back. Tomcods, we  
20 are still looking for them. We eat a certain food  
21 at certain time of the year. Walruses in the fall  
22 time, they didn't come back. Whales, you know, fall  
23 time whales, there was some that didn't make it back  
24 through there that went straight across when they  
25 had the tracking devices on them.

1           So, you know, there is a lot of knowledge  
2 in this community of migration of animals, you know.  
3 We have been -- like I said, we have been here for  
4 thousands of years and hunted the same animals. We  
5 know when they are coming. We -- and like I said,  
6 we haven't had any tomcods here. They might have  
7 caught a few, but we get hundreds of them,  
8 thousands.

9           MR. LOMAN: Right. People have  
10 mentioned walrus, and that -- in the fall, they're  
11 talking about fall of 2008, correct?

12           MR. STEVE OOMITTUK: Yeah.

13           MR. LOMAN: Last fall, fall of 2008.

14           MS. DORCUS ROCK: Dorcus Rock, for  
15 the record. I just want to know in that Chukchi  
16 sale lease No. 212 and that Chukchi sale lease sale  
17 221, where are they located?

18           MR. LOMAN: The proposed --

19           MS. DORCUS ROCK: I know it's the  
20 proposed, but I still want to know where it is on  
21 the map.

22           MR. LOMAN: Proposed sale area is  
23 this entire area [indicating], minus the leases that  
24 are already -- that have already been issued, like  
25 the leases from 193 which, of course, aren't shown

1 in here. In general they are in here. But that --  
2 the proposed action is all of this [indicating].  
3 Now, these alternatives would remove -- Alternative  
4 6 would remove all of that area; Alternative 5 would  
5 remove all of that area; Alternative 3, all of that  
6 area [indicating] and Alternative 4, making --  
7 limiting the sale area to the area in white, minus  
8 the leases that are already in place. Much, much  
9 smaller lease area.

10 MS. DORCUS ROCK: The reason why I'm  
11 mentioning this on that is where it's going to be --  
12 where the proposed sales are. You know that MMS is  
13 the one that sells the ocean -- I have nothing  
14 against that, but back in 1970s, early 1970s,  
15 they -- that was the year that they tried to stop us  
16 from whaling. Now, that's how we live, by  
17 subsistence whaling. You know, everything that we  
18 do, that's how we eat.

19 And then the federal government came in  
20 that time. We had about 7,000 people back in --  
21 in -- I forgot where we were. Away from Alaska.  
22 Anyway, we were at that meeting and they mentioned  
23 it. The federal government came in, and they are  
24 going to do this and that. We can't quit. We can't  
25 let them quit that. And the reason on that is that

1 we hunt. That's how we eat. Everybody -- ever  
2 since I could remember, that's how I've always  
3 eaten. Well, actually when I lived in Fairbanks  
4 it's different.

5           But I'd like to ask one question. If you  
6 guys do sell the ocean -- because I know that MMS,  
7 the federal government, have that authority to do  
8 that, and sometimes we can't stop them -- will you  
9 be able to provide us with all the food that we are  
10 used to? Who will be buying it for us? Will you be  
11 able to give us all that food that we can't get from  
12 down there, our nutrition? That's how we live. You  
13 have only been here for just a few hours. You see  
14 how the weather is?

15           But that's what I'm asking about is if you  
16 sell that land out -- the water -- the ocean out  
17 there, how are we going to be able to live? They  
18 mentioned it before. Rex mentioned it. Practically  
19 everybody mentioned it. On the migration of the  
20 whales, the belugas, the walruses, everything, we  
21 know they go through the ice and so forth. We know  
22 about that. But you sell that land, you think about  
23 that people. You think about the people that are  
24 starving, the Native people that are starving.

25           We can't go out to the stores like you do

1 and buy anything. We can't be -- we are not working  
2 all the time, all of us aren't. Some of us are just  
3 working part time. I'm just saying that because I'm  
4 a whaling captain's wife. There is a lot of whalers  
5 out here. Now, how are you going to be able to  
6 provide for us on our nutritional needs when you  
7 sell that ocean? That's all I have to say. Make  
8 sure you got my name: Dorcus Rock of Point Hope.

9 Thank you.

10 MS. LILLIAN LANE JOHNSON: Lillian  
11 Lane Johnson. I'm a resident of Point Hope, born  
12 and raised here. Ate subsistence foods since I was  
13 probably weaned, and today still eat it and still  
14 love it. Your proposed lease sales that you are  
15 proposing will affect deeply not only the people,  
16 the land, but your people, also. We have to take  
17 into consideration what the ocean has to offer each  
18 one of us. The riches that are out there, they are  
19 meant to be out there. The riches that God has  
20 given us that he had placed in the ocean are for  
21 each one of us. Many times, like it has been  
22 repeated tonight, things are supposed to be as they  
23 are. They shouldn't be disturbed.

24 For many years our ancestors have fished,  
25 whaled, has hunted out in the ocean, whether it was

1 solid or water, and have always brought our food to  
2 the table. Today our young hunters, our hunters  
3 still do that. We had earthquakes last year. And  
4 we are at the end of the continental shelf. And I'm  
5 sure you are aware of that.

6 I -- I'm afraid for your company to go out  
7 there. I truly am afraid for you to go out there  
8 for your safety and your welfare. I truly hope that  
9 you take everything that's been given today to  
10 consideration. We know money talks, and it -- and  
11 it usually walks a long way.

12 You kind of wonder what our testimonies  
13 here at Point Hope will do to make -- to effect the  
14 changes that -- to effect the -- anything that might  
15 happen for this lease sale. I pray to God that the  
16 voices, the testimonies that were shared tonight  
17 will affect -- take effect to the people that are  
18 considering to do this lease sale because everybody  
19 deep down in here in their hearts truly mean it.  
20 It's not no sale. Our oceans never been for sale.  
21 And I pray to God you guys won't do it.

22 Times have changed and it will change, no  
23 matter what we say. Authority will do what they are  
24 going to do for their sake. No matter what, our  
25 people will continue whaling, continue hunting,

1 continue doing what they have to do. The polar  
2 bears will keep on coming by.

3 But our ocean has changed after the seismic  
4 activity. I've seen that. A lot of changes. The  
5 changes are not good for us because it disrupts our  
6 lifestyle, our garden that's out there in the ocean.  
7 It has truly disrupted it. We see different fish  
8 coming up out of the ocean, fish I've never seen  
9 before, different shells. I believe, I truly  
10 believe the seismic activity has affected our ocean  
11 today. And if you do so, if you go in there, it  
12 will even alter even more so.

13 I oppose the lease sales like the rest of  
14 my family do because of the love of the whale, the  
15 whale, which provides us not only food, but joy,  
16 happiness, sharing, all the values that are  
17 instilled in our culture, cooperation. You name it.  
18 It all surrounds whaling. That's what Tikigaq is.  
19 It's a whaling community.

20 And I just wanted to say that I oppose the  
21 lease sale once again, and I'm sure you will hear  
22 everybody echo it. We oppose it. And you truly  
23 consider what's going to happen. You have no  
24 answers for some of the questions that were posted  
25 tonight, for some reason, because there are probably

1 no answers for them.

2 And as for Dorcus, I -- I would like to  
3 echo what she said about you need to have provisions  
4 if you are going to do what you have to do out there  
5 for the people. You need to provide. You need to  
6 fill up their cupboards.

7 If there is any recommendations that need  
8 to be made, it should be -- it should be recommended  
9 here, this community, not from somebody that lives  
10 thousands and thousands and thousands of miles away  
11 from here because they do not live here. They don't  
12 know how we live. You have come here and seen  
13 firsthand what -- what we -- what we -- what we are  
14 all about. And I'm sure you have heard it through  
15 the whole North Slope, and you are going to continue  
16 hearing it.

17 But once again, I thank you for this time  
18 and hope to see you again with some answers, some  
19 firm answers with some of the questions that were  
20 posted tonight.

21 Taaku.

22 MR. LOMAN: Thank you very much,  
23 ma'am.

24 MR. AQUILLUK HANK: Back to the  
25 environmental impact statement, is there a way we

1 can stop the lease for the time being and rewrite  
2 the environmental impact statement? Is that a  
3 possibility?

4 MR. LOMAN: Your concerns about the  
5 draft environmental impact statement can be  
6 expressed to the agency at this hearing, in writing  
7 via mail or e-mail, and you can address every facet  
8 of the draft environmental impact statement or limit  
9 it to the things that you consider important. And  
10 the agency has a nondiscretionary obligation to  
11 respond to what you have presented before it  
12 formally in -- at this stage of the process.

13 Pursuant to a request from Mayor Itta, we  
14 extended the time period by which comments can be  
15 submitted. They now -- the deadline is now March  
16 30th. So that is what you can do to address the  
17 draft document. And the process, the law, allows  
18 for that.

19 There is, as you probably already know,  
20 another way to address it. And that has -- is the  
21 case with sale 193 in the Chukchi. Native Village  
22 of Point Hope and others have sued the United States  
23 and asked the court essentially to undo the sale.  
24 That's my layman's description of what they asked.  
25 You can read their -- their claim. But so there is

1 a court system, and through litigation, activities  
2 can and have been stopped. So the answer, I guess,  
3 is yes, there are things that can be done and have  
4 been done.

5 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: Can I ask a  
6 follow-up question as to -- as to -- is the borough  
7 part of that litigation with the Native village?

8 MR. LOMAN: You say the North Slope  
9 Borough?

10 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: Yeah.

11 MR. LOMAN: Sale 193, no, they are  
12 not, sir. They are not a plaintiff.

13 MR. REX TUZROYLUK: Thank you. Go  
14 ahead.

15 MR. LOMAN: Yes, ma'am.

16 MS. KRISTI FRANKSON: Kristi  
17 Frankson. I'm wondering what is that health impact  
18 assessment? What kind of information is in that?

19 MR. LOMAN: Can we send that to her  
20 stand-alone?

21 MR. GORDON: Yes, we can.

22 MR. LOMAN: We will send it to you.  
23 It's Appendix J, and we can mail that to you.

24 MS. KRISTI FRANKSON: Is that a  
25 study -- does that mean they are going to be doing

1 studies on the health of impacted communities or  
2 they have already done it or --

3 MR. LOMAN: Human health impact  
4 assessments are pretty common in the international  
5 forum for many different kinds of proposed  
6 activities, all the way from things like, oh, a city  
7 decides to build a clinic to treat drug addicts and  
8 they are going to put it in a certain neighborhood,  
9 so they do a health impact assessment associated  
10 with that proposal.

11 MS. MAE HANK: What is the  
12 assessment; is it like a survey?

13 MR. LOMAN: No, it's not like a  
14 survey.

15 MS. MAE HANK: Based on the surveys?

16 MR. LOMAN: They take a look at the  
17 scope of issues. They -- in the case of a resource  
18 development project like this, the analysis involves  
19 the proposed action, the alternatives, including the  
20 no action alternative. There is a literature review  
21 of -- am I answering your question? I'm not sure.

22 MS. KRISTI FRANKSON: Well, I've  
23 heard that, like, say, for instance, some people in  
24 Nuiqsut, I've heard that they have had an increase  
25 in respiratory disease and asthma and things like

1 that since they have been involved, you know, close  
2 to oil development.

3 MR. LOMAN: That's noted in the HIA  
4 in Appendix J, yes.

5 MS. KRISTI FRANKSON: That type of  
6 thing would be included in there?

7 MR. LOMAN: Yes.

8 MS. KRISTI FRANKSON: It's really  
9 hard to find impact information that you can get  
10 your hands on. I guess I must not know where to  
11 look. But just looking around and seeing in other  
12 places in the world where there is oil  
13 development -- and it seems like a lot of the  
14 companies that we are familiar with, they are there,  
15 too, but they just have a different name, you know.  
16 And a lot of the people that are in smaller  
17 communities that aren't very rich and don't have a  
18 loud voice have a lot of health impacts from oil  
19 development, you know, close to their villages or  
20 towns.

21 And when the oil companies are cited with  
22 violations of any kind, they just pay it off. It's  
23 like getting a fine. They have the money to pay it  
24 off, and everything just continues on just like  
25 nothing happened. That's scary. All of this stuff,

1 why we don't want them there, we might sound like we  
2 are hysterical, but that's how you feel when you  
3 are -- when you are faced with this type of power  
4 out there that they can do what they want.

5 MR. LOMAN: Thank you.

6 MS. MAE HANK: Mae, for the record.

7 It makes us feel like we don't matter. I mean, once  
8 the damage is done, the damage is done, so  
9 drop-dead. That's the way we feel, you know. It's  
10 our lifestyle, our culture, our -- we are based with  
11 the whale. The whale is our life. That's our life,  
12 our -- our seasons, our culture revolves around the  
13 whale. We celebrate it season by season. We do.  
14 We actually do. Everything we do, every season is  
15 based on the whale.

16 That's why when I make my statement, when I  
17 said you are annihilating us if you go out there,  
18 you are killing us, the people that -- that -- the  
19 culture is based on the whale. You kill the whale,  
20 you kill us. That's the way it is.

21 MR. LOMAN: Thank you. Yes, sir.

22 MR. ENOCH TOOYAK: Enoch Tooyak.

23 I'm a whaling captain here in Point Hope. And I was  
24 taught by my father, as he was taught by his father  
25 and his grandparents and Elders on the conditions of

1 our oceans out there, the ice, the currents, the  
2 weather. And as we all know, they can all change  
3 within a matter of minutes; the weather conditions,  
4 ice conditions, whatever, you know, while you are  
5 out there hunting.

6 And we have been taught by -- I have been  
7 taught by my grandparents, his ancestors and so  
8 forth. And I want to go on teaching it to my son so  
9 he can teach it to my grandchildren, whenever he has  
10 them, so we can keep up our way of life, our  
11 culture, which is hunting whales.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. LOMAN: Thank you very much.  
14 Well, I would like to thank each and every one of  
15 you for your thoughtful and well-presented comments.  
16 We -- we think that this is probably the last public  
17 hearing. We have had a request to do more. I don't  
18 know whether or not we will, but whether or not you  
19 have had the last say or not, it doesn't make any  
20 difference. You took the time to come here and let  
21 us know what's important, let us know how you feel,  
22 let us know about things we wouldn't otherwise know  
23 about, and we appreciate that. You can all say that  
24 you didn't sit by and do nothing because you came  
25 here tonight and you took the time to tell us these

1 important things, and I appreciate that very much.

2 Thank you very much.

3 And if there is no other comment, we will  
4 conclude the hearing. Thank you.

5 (Off the record.)

6 MS. DORCUS ROCK: This is Rose Ella  
7 Stone that made this statement to me in Inupiaq, and  
8 she wanted to make sure that -- that I translate it  
9 to you guys. Her first question was:

10 MS. ROSE ELLA STONE: (testifying  
11 through an interpreter.) How did you grow up? Did  
12 you grow up hunting, or did you grow up poor? Us,  
13 we grew up poor, and then we had to end up hunting  
14 the animals from the ocean and on the land. And  
15 then here you guys have -- you could buy chicken and  
16 eggs and all those other meat from the stores, but  
17 we can't a lot of times because we are used to the  
18 subsistence hunting, and the price are high.

19 So I'm wondering if you have any kind of --  
20 if you have any kind of sympathy for us Native  
21 people. You will consider selling -- about selling  
22 the ocean because that's our livelihood.

23 MS. DORCUS ROCK: And that was all  
24 she said. She just wanted to make sure. And it was  
25 stated by Rose Ella Stone.

(Proceedings adjourned at 9:28 p.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, MARY A. VAVRIK, RMR, Notary Public in  
and for the State of Alaska do hereby certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken  
before me at the time and place herein set forth;  
that the proceedings were reported stenographically  
by me and later transcribed under my direction by  
computer transcription; that the foregoing is a true  
record of the proceedings taken at that time; and  
that I am not a party to nor have I any interest in  
the outcome of the action herein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto  
subscribed my hand and affixed my seal this \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MARY A. VAVRIK,  
Registered Merit Reporter  
Notary Public for Alaska

My Commission Expires: November 5, 2012

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