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News Release

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IAGC Urges Action on Existing Atlantic Seismic Survey Permits in the Wake of New Energy Proposal

Houston, TX - Ken Wells, President of the International Association of Geophysical Contractors, today issued the following statement regarding the Interior Department's Five-Year Oil and Gas Leasing Plan for the US OCS:

"Today, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) released its [draft Five-Year-Plan for offshore oil and gas leasing](#). We are very pleased that the Administration has decided to open up parts of the U.S. Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) to oil and gas exploration activities, in addition to including areas of existing exploration and development in Alaska and Gulf of Mexico.

This decision increases the urgency to move forward with seismic and other geological and geophysical (G&G) surveys in the Atlantic OCS. IAGC strongly urges the Administration to act quickly and efficiently to process the survey permits pending since last July when BOEM authorized G&G exploration in the Mid- and South Atlantic OCS.

These G&G surveys will identify areas that may hold recoverable oil and gas reserves and areas that may not, and will enable leaders to make informed decisions on how to best utilize these resources to ensure the nation's future energy security. Our members are encouraged by Secretary Jewell's interest in 'learning more about the resource potential' in the Atlantic OCS, underscoring the need for the expeditious collection of new geophysical data in this area."

IAGC is the international trade association representing the industry that provides geophysical services (geophysical data acquisition, seismic data ownership and licensing, geophysical data processing and interpretation, and associated service and product providers) to the oil and gas industry.

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