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Chairman Hastings: Admin's Delay of Offshore Lease Sale Shows Obama Not Serious About Job Creation or Energy Production

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As House Republicans begin consideration today of the *Domestic Energy and Jobs Act*, a bill to increase onshore energy production, create jobs and cut government red tape, the Obama Administration is desperately trying to prove that it supports American energy by finally holding a President Bush-era Gulf of Mexico lease sale after repeated delays.

"The Obama Administration is setting records for delays and cancellations when it comes to offshore energy production. While the Obama Administration has now canceled and delayed more offshore lease sales than they have held, that is not stopping them from patting themselves on the back for holding a lease sale that was originally scheduled by the previous Administration. Today's combined lease sale includes one that was delayed for a year by the Obama Administration and another that has been scheduled to take place this year since 2007. President Obama is not fooling anyone into thinking he suddenly supports increased offshore American energy production after he spent the last three and a half years driving rigs overseas, putting thousands of people out of work and devastating local economies through his anti-energy policies," **said House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Doc Hastings.**

"President Obama's true intentions for future American offshore energy production are revealed in his draft five-year offshore lease plan, which closes the vast majority of America's most promising areas to energy production and offers no new areas for energy exploration. If President Obama was serious about job creation and economic growth he would develop a plan to offer new areas for offshore energy production, similar to the bipartisan plan that passed the House and would create over one million new jobs. Unfortunately for the American people, the Administration is no more serious about new American energy production than they are about new American job creation."

Table A: Proposed Final Program for 2007-2012—Lease Sale Schedule

<u>Sale No.</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Year</u>
204	Western Gulf of Mexico	2007
205	Central Gulf of Mexico	2007
193	Chukchi Sea	2008
206	Central Gulf of Mexico	2008
224	Eastern Gulf of Mexico	2008

207	Western Gulf of Mexico	2008
~ OBAMA TAKES OFFICE ~		
208	Central Gulf of Mexico	2009
209	Beaufort Sea	2009 – <i>Cancelled by Obama</i>
210	Western Gulf of Mexico	2009
211	Cook Inlet	2009 – <i>Cancelled by Obama</i>
212	Chukchi Sea	2010 – <i>Cancelled by Obama</i>
213	Central Gulf of Mexico	2010
215	Western Gulf of Mexico	2010 – <i>Cancelled by Obama</i>
216	Central Gulf of Mexico	2011 – <i>Delayed by Obama until June 20, 2012</i>
217	Beaufort Sea	2011 – <i>Cancelled by Obama</i>
214	North Aleutian Basin	2011 – <i>Cancelled by Obama</i>
218	Western Gulf of Mexico	2011
219	Cook Inlet	2011 – <i>Cancelled by Obama</i>
220	Mid-Atlantic	2011 – <i>Cancelled by Obama</i>
221	Chukchi Sea	2012 – <i>Cancelled by Obama</i>
222	Central Gulf of Mexico	2012

Source: [Proposed Final Program Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program 2007-2012](#)

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