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October 4, 2022

Submitted via www.regulations.gov

Ms. Kelly Hammerle, Chief
National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program Development & Coordination Branch Leasing Division
Office of Strategic Resources, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (WAM-LD)
45600 Woodland Road
Sterling, VA 20166-9216

RE: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Proposed Program for the
2023-2028 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program
BOEM-2022-0031-0001

American Agri-Women (AAW), the nation's largest coalition of women in farming, ranching and agribusiness, appreciates the opportunity to comment on the need to finalize the Bureau's Outer Continental Shelf 5-Year leasing program with the maximum number of leases.

The current administration's approach to authorizing leases is not keeping pace with our nation's energy needs. Compared to the average of 11.63 Million acres leased in the first 19 months of the last 11 presidential terms, President Biden's Administration has approved .13 (point one three) Million acres.

Approving a program now will provide certainty to off-shore oil drilling companies and alleviate pressure on U.S. consumers. Certainty means that 350,000 people in the U.S. will stay employed in their jobs that are due to off-shore oil and gas development. It also means the energy producers in the Gulf of Mexico can continue to supply close to 15% of U.S. oil production and more than 2% of our natural gas production.

In this time of unprecedented input costs for fertilizer and fuel needed to grow, process and distribute food, we need our country to step up and enable an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy for food and national security. We respectfully request the BOEM expeditiously approve the 11 proposed sales.

Sincerely,


Heather Hampton-Knodle, President
American-Agri-Women