



## Region 10: the Pacific Northwest

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Our Web site will be operating at diminished capacity because of scheduled maintenance from midnight ET on Friday, July 1, 2011 to 8am ET on Monday, July 4, 2011. We apologize for any inconvenience.

## Shell Discoverer Air Permit - Beaufort Sea

### Revised Draft Air Permit Proposed

**Summary:** EPA seeks public comment from July 6 to August 5 on revised draft Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Prevention of Significant Deterioration air permits for Shell Gulf of Mexico Inc./Shell Offshore Inc. The revised draft permits will authorize air emissions from Shell's oil and gas exploration drilling in the Beaufort Sea and the [Chukchi Sea](#). Shell will use the Discoverer drillship and a support fleet for oil and gas exploration drilling beginning in 2012 on the Beaufort Sea OCS, within and beyond 25 miles of Alaska's seaward boundary and on the Chukchi Sea OCS, 25 miles beyond Alaska's seaward boundary, as authorized by the [U.S. Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management and Regulatory Enforcement](#).

### Notice of Comment Period and Public Hearing

**Public Comment Period:** Send your written comments by **August 5, 2011** to:

**Email:** [r10ocsairpermits@epa.gov](mailto:r10ocsairpermits@epa.gov)  
**Mail:** Shell Discoverer Air Permits  
EPA Region 10  
1200 6th Avenue, Suite 900, AWT-107  
Seattle, WA 98101  
**Fax:** 206-553-0110

**Public Hearing:** A public hearing will be held **August 4, 2011** at the Inupiat Heritage Center in Barrow, Alaska. Teleconference is available at North Slope Borough teleconference centers.

**Information Meeting:** 5pm-6:30pm  
**Public Hearing:** 7pm-9pm

EPA will accept comments on the 2011 revised draft air permits for Shell Gulf of Mexico Inc./Shell Offshore Inc. submitted during the public comment period and at the public hearing. Written and oral comments can be given at the public hearing in Barrow, Alaska. Communities outside of Barrow can participate in the public hearing by telephone at North Slope Borough teleconference centers. Written comments can be submitted by mail or email. Oral comments can also be recorded on tape, disk, or digital audio and submitted by mail or email.

EPA issued final air permits to Shell in 2010. The [Environmental Appeals Board](#) remanded the 2010 permits to EPA Region 10 for further consideration. EPA is proposing revised draft air permits to address the remand.

The Supplemental Statement of Basis supplements the Statement of Basis for the 2010 permits, and addresses the remand and changes requested by Shell, but generally does not address other aspects of the 2010 permits that are unchanged in the 2011 revised draft permits. EPA is accepting public comment only on those parts of the 2011 revised draft permits proposed for revision and the information and analyses supporting those revisions. If you believe any provisions of the 2011 revised draft permits proposed for revision or the information or analyses supporting those revisions are inappropriate, you may comment on the permits and raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit all reasonably ascertainable arguments supporting your position by the end of the comment period. Supporting documents must be included in full, not by reference, unless they are already part of the record for these permits, are state or federal statutes or regulations, EPA documents of general applicability, or other generally available referenced materials. Please identify whether your comments relate to the Chukchi permit, the Beaufort permit, or both. The 2011 revised draft permits are based on the Coupled Ocean-Atmosphere Response Experiment meteorological modeling algorithm and the Plume Volume Molar Ratio Method nitrogen dioxide modeling algorithm to predict air pollutant concentrations. These modeling algorithms have not been approved by EPA for general use, but have been approved under EPA guidelines case-by-case alternative modeling provisions and EPA Region 10 also requests public comment on the suitability of these modeling algorithms for these permits. **Comments must be postmarked or emailed to EPA Region 10 by August 5, 2011.**

We will consider all timely comments in making the final permits decisions. EPA will prepare a statement of reasons for changes made in the final permit and a response to comments received, and will provide commenters with notice of the final permit decision.

### Shell 2011 Revised Draft Air Permit Documents

- 2011 Shell Discoverer Chukchi Revised Draft Permit (PDF) (81 pp, 672K)
- 2011 Shell Discoverer Beaufort Revised Draft Permit (PDF) (101 pp, 711K)
- 2011 Supplemental Statement of Basis for Shell Discoverer Chukchi and Beaufort Permits (PDF) (70 pp, 842K)
- 2011 Supplemental Application Documents for Shell Discoverer Chukchi and Beaufort Permits

### Related Documents

- 2010 Final Air Permit
- 2010 Proposed Air Permit
- 2010 Permit Application Materials and EPA Responses
- 2010 Public Comments

### Where to Review Hard Copy Documents

The permit record includes Shell's applications and supplemental application materials, the 2010 permits record, the 2011 revised draft permits and supplemental statement of basis, and all other materials relied on by EPA.

The permit record is available for review at **EPA Region 10, 1200 6th Ave, Seattle, Washington, 9am-5pm Monday-Friday (206-553-1200).**

The 2011 permits, supplemental statement of basis, and supplemental application materials will also be available at these locations in Alaska:

**EPA, Federal Building**, 222 West 7th Ave, Anchorage (907-271-5083); **Barrow City Office**, 2022 Ahkovak Street, Barrow (907-852-4050); **Nuiqsut City Office**, 2230 2nd Avenue, Nuiqsut (907-480-6727); **Kaktovik City Office**, 2051 Barter Avenue, Kaktovik (907-640-5313); **Wainwright City Office**, 1217 Airport Road, Wainwright (907-763-2815); **Kali School Library**, 1029 Ugrak Ave, Point Lay (907-833-2312); **Point Hope City Office**, 530 Natchiq Street, Point Hope (907-368-2537); **Atkasuk City Office**, 5010 Ekosik Street, Atkasuk (907-633-6811); **Anaktuvuk Pass City Office**, 3031 Main St, Anaktuvuk Pass (907-661-3612).

For more information or to request a copy of permit documents, contact [Suzanne Skadowski](#), 206-553-6689.

### Contact Us

Doug Hardesty, Project Manager  
(208) 378-5759  
[hardesty.doug@epa.gov](mailto:hardesty.doug@epa.gov)  
Suzanne Skadowski, Community Involvement Coordinator  
(206) 553-6689  
[skadowski.suzanne@epa.gov](mailto:skadowski.suzanne@epa.gov)  
Join our mailing list to receive updates about Arctic water and air permits.

### Related Information

- Alaska Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Permits
- Shell Discoverer Air Permit (Chukchi Sea)
- Shell Kulluk Air Permit (Beaufort Sea)
- ConocoPhillips Air Permit (Chukchi Sea)
- Arctic Oil & Gas Wastewater General Permits
- New Source Review/Prevention of Significant Deterioration Permits

### What is the Outer Continental Shelf?

The Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) refers to federal submerged lands that lie seaward of the states' jurisdiction (generally three nautical miles from the shoreline).



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