Oil and Gas Activities in the Arctic

From an Assessment of the Arctic Council

Co-Leaders

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Scope of the Assessment

- Detailed evaluation of activities
- Social and economic effects
- Environmental effects from pollution
- Environmental effects from physical disturbances
- Effects on human health
- Status and Vulnerability of Ecosystems
Activity Indices
• Leasing/Licensing
• Seismic
• Exploration, Discovery and Production Wells
• Production Volumes
• Reserves

Oil/gas production areas in the Arctic.
Arctic Wells drilled pre-1960
Arctic Wells drilled
1960-1975
Arctic Wells
drilled
1976-1989
Arctic Wells drilled
1990-2004
Arctic Oil and Gas Production
Oil and Gas activity is likely to expand into new Arctic areas
Arctic oil and gas transportation systems will expand
Levels of activities in the Arctic are affected by many factors.

Areas Leased or Licensed for Petroleum

Production wells drilled

Arctic Seas Workshop
March 18 – 20, 2008
Conclusions

• Many of the potential future offshore fields have already been found
• New offshore development will be on the shelf close to existing infrastructure
• Newly ice free areas will see basic research and frontier exploration efforts
Recommendation

*Prevent oil spills*

- It’s harder to clean it up than it is to prevent it from happening.

- It’s easier to get money to clean it up than it is to fund prevention measures.
Thank You!

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