

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 20, 2010

The Honorable Bob Abbey  
Director  
US Bureau of Land Management  
1849 C Street Northwest  
Washington, District of Columbia 20240-0001

Dear Director Abbey:

We are writing to you today regarding the Bureau of Land Management's decision to delay the April 13<sup>th</sup> scheduled sale of 129 oil and gas leases in Montana and the Dakotas.

The issuance of these leases is an important part of Montana's burgeoning oil and gas industry. We appreciate your decision to complete the required environmental reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in light of the recent court decisions, but we ask that you move forward expeditiously to complete your work and move forward with the lease sale as quickly as possible once those reviews are complete. Please keep us updated on your progress, and we look forward to working with you as this process moves forward.

Sincerely,



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Senator Max Baucus



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Senator Jon Tester