

Agency to hold meetings on Oil, Gas Lease Sale 50

The Department of Natural Resources' Division of Oil and Gas will hold public meetings in Kaktovik and Anchorage this month on proposed Oil and Gas Lease Sale 50 Camden Bay.

Division staff will present information about the proposed sale and will be available to receive public testimony.

The Kaktovik meeting will be held Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Kaktovik Community Center. An Inupiaq/English interpreter will be available. The Anchorage meeting will be held March 25 at 7 p.m. at the Fairview Community Center, 1121 East 10th Ave.

The proposed sale area consists of state tide and submerged lands adjacent to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and is situated in the Beaufort Sea offshore of the Arctic coastal plain between Flaxman Island and the Hulahula River in Camden Bay.

It consists of about 122,745 acres in 36 tracts. The only community in the vicinity of the sale area is Kaktovik, on Barter Island about 12 miles east.

The Division of Oil and Gas recently published a preliminary analysis for proposed Sale 50.

Those who plan to come to the public meetings may wish to review the analysis, which:

- Describes the proposed sale area.
- Analyzes the sale's potential effects.
- Proposes mitigating measures.
- Discusses the sale's proposed consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program.

The preliminary analysis for Sale 50 is available for public review at the Kaktovik City Hall and the Anchorage public libraries. Copies also may be obtained from the Division of Oil and Gas in Anchorage at 3601 C St., Suite 1398, or by calling 762-4277.

Comments received on the preliminary analysis and testimony at these public meetings will be reflected in a final finding and decision of the director, which is scheduled for publication on April 30. If holding the sale is determined to be in the state's best interests, the sale will be held June 30.