

Call for comments on Beaufort OCS sale

With an official announcement in the Federal Register and legal notices in Alaska newspapers, Friday, March 10, the Bureau of Land Management has issued a call for nominations and comments for a proposed sale of oil and gas leases in the Beaufort Sea. At the same time, the State of Alaska published a legal notice, appearing in Alaska newspapers. This State-Federal request seeks information bearing on which blocks in the Beaufort Sea might be offered for eventual leasing in a sale proposed for December 1979.

Coming a week following the historic signing, by Secretary of the Interior Cecil D. Andrus and Alaska Governor Jay Hammond, of an agreement to operate jointly in the nearshore polar submerged lands of the state and federal outercontinental shelf, the call is two-fold.

The request invites industry to nominate specific blocks it

would like to see offered for lease sale. The request asks for comments from local governments, other federal agencies, State offices, environmental organizations, industry, universities, research institutes and members of the general public.

Nominations will be considered only for blocks found on the "Nomination Map, Federal-State Beaufort Sea Oil and Gas Lease Sale (State of Alaska 30th Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale)" available at \$3.50 each from the State of Alaska, Director, Division of Mineral and Energy Management, 323 East 4th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.

The nominations close April 24, 1978. Comments should be in or postmarked by that date. Addresses are listed in the unofficial copy of the Federal Register where to send both nominations and comments.