



Offshore Industry Ready for New Leadership in Washington

America's offshore industry is ready for a new era of leadership at the Department of Interior. The confirmation of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, a champion of pro-growth policies, strengthens offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico to power economic growth and brings us one step closer to energy independence.

In the Gulf, there are currently over 1,000 active wells and almost 100 structures in deep water depths, in addition to roughly 5,000 wells and nearly 2,000 structures in shallow and intermediate depths. Federal offshore oil production in the Gulf accounts for 17 percent of all U.S. crude oil production, while federal offshore natural gas production in the region accounts for five percent of total U.S. dry production. As a result, more than 45 percent of total U.S. petroleum refining capacity is located along the Gulf coast, as well as 51 percent of natural gas processing plant capacity.

The Gulf of Mexico offshore industry is made up of thousands of employees that are thrilled with the news of Secretary Zinke's confirmation. These employees and countless of others are working every day to keep our nation on the path to energy security and independence.



"As one of the thousands of workers with the amazing opportunity to work in the United States' offshore oil and gas industry in the Gulf of Mexico, we are ready to deliver on that promise to do our part to meet our nation's energy needs. Congratulations to Secretary Zinke on your confirmation. We are ready to work with you, the new Trump administration, and the new leaders in Congress to continue our country's path to energy independence and security." — Ryan Johnson, Arena Offshore



"I could not be prouder to work in the offshore industry as we stand at the cusp of enormous growth. I want Washington to know that we are ready for the government to return to the table as a partner." — Margot Girouard, Fieldwood Energy



"Secretary Zinke, congratulations on your confirmation as a Cabinet member. We are ready to get to work, ensuring our nation's energy independence and powering economic growth." — Jerry Fincher, Fieldwood Energy



"Today and every day, we are working hard to deliver critical energy resources from the Gulf of Mexico to all Americans. We are proud to play an important role in meeting the energy needs of this great country, and we are excited to see the new, business minded leadership in Washington with Secretary Zinke and the Trump administration leading the charge. We are ready for the government to be a partner with the offshore energy industry again and the thousands of dedicated offshore oil & gas workers are committed to delivering on our nation's energy opportunity." — John Thibodeaux, Arena Offshore