BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL APPEALS BOARD UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C.

In re:	
Shell Offshore Inc. Kulluk Drilling Unit) OCS Appeal Nos. 08-01, 08-02, and 08-03
OCS Permit No. R10OCS-AK-07-01 (Revised)))))

SHELL OFFSHORE INC.'S OPPOSITION TO BILL MACCLARENCE'S REQUEST TO RESCHEDULE ORAL ARGUMENT

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On October 16, 2008, the Environmental Appeals Board scheduled oral argument in the above-captioned cases for December 4, 2008. On October 21, 2008, Petitioner Bill MacClarence requested that the Board reschedule oral argument to a date "between November 25 and December 1, 2008" to accommodate his travel schedule. October 21, 2008 Letter Request to Reschedule Oral Argument.

Mr. MacClarence's proposed dates fall just prior to, during, and after the Thanksgiving holiday. Counsel for Petitioners North Slope Borough, et al., and the Environmental Protection Agency have represented to Mr. MacClarence and SOI that they have holiday travel plans that conflict with Mr. MacClarence's proposed dates, and EPA has filed with the Board a letter outlining the Agency's opposition to moving the oral argument date to a date between November 25 and December 1. In addition, Counsel for Shell Offshore Inc. ("SOI") also have travel plans during that holiday that would conflict with Mr. MacClarence's proposed dates. Finally, SOI opposes Mr. MacClarence's request to reschedule oral argument for a date after December 12th. As SOI has previously indicated in its filings, time is of the essence in this matter. Every day that this process is prolonged is a threat to SOI's ability to conduct 2009 operations because long lead times are required to complete necessary contracting for equipment and services, mobilize vessels to the Beaufort Sea from other operation centers around the world, identify and secure appropriate crew, and provision the fleet. Postponing oral argument could create further delay and threaten SOI's 2009 drilling operations. SOI therefore respectfully opposes Mr. MacClarence's requests to reschedule oral argument. Mr. MacClarence's requests to reschedule oral argument should be denied.

DATED this 24th day of October 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing Opposition to Request to Reschedule Oral Argument was electronically filed with the Environmental Appeals Board and sent via Electronic Mail and First Class Mail on the 24th of October, 2008, to the following:

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