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December 3, 2008

Craig Perham  
Marine Mammals Management  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
1011 E. Tudor Road  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Re: Letter of Authorization Request for the Incidental Take of Polar Bear  
Pioneer 1 and Grandview 1 East Exploratory Drill Sites

Dear Mr. Perham:

ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc. (CPAI) hereby submits this request for a Letter of Authorization for the Incidental Take of Polar Bears for the Pioneer 1 and Grandview 1 East exploratory drill sites. The proposed project is located west of the Colville River Delta on the North Slope of Alaska. CPAI proposes to drill one or more exploration wells at the Pioneer 1 and Grandview 1 East exploration sites. The project includes an ice road, rolligon route, and ice exploratory drill pads. The project, including location maps and a preliminary schedule, is detailed in the attached Exploration Plans.

This request is submitted to fulfill the requirements of 50 CFR Part 18 regarding the incidental, unintentional "take" of protected marine mammals. The project was also evaluated in the Alpine Satellite Development Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Bureau of Land Management in September 2004.

In past years, CPAI prepared a Polar Bear/Personnel Encounter Plan covering each of the proposed projects for the upcoming winter season. CPAI now has in place a polar bear plan titled "Polar Bear Avoidance and Interaction Plan: February 2008" that covers all Alpine satellite oil and gas development areas. This plan has been reviewed and approved by the USFWS. CPAI will comply with the requirements of that plan during activities associated with the Pioneer 1 and Grandview 1 East projects. Due to the distance between the prime coastal and river habitats and the project areas, the potential for human/polar bear interaction is generally considered small.

If you have questions or need further information, please contact me at (907) 265-6417 or [bruce.st.pierre@conocophillips.com](mailto:bruce.st.pierre@conocophillips.com). Thank you.

Sincerely,

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Bruce St. Pierre  
Sr. Environmental Coordinator