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NPC APPROVES SUPPLEMENTAL ASSESSMENT TO 2015 ARCTIC REPORT

WASHINGTON, May 2, 2019—NPC Chair Greg Armstrong announced that the Council's report, *Supplemental Assessment to the 2015 Report, Arctic Potential: Realizing the Promise of U.S. Arctic Oil and Gas Resources*, was submitted today to the Secretary of Energy. In August 2018, Secretary Perry made a request for the supplemental assessment in coordination with the Department of the Interior.

In his request, Secretary Perry asked the NPC to consider recent exploration experience and technological advancements in Arctic offshore oil and gas development that could inform government decision making. The NPC was also asked to provide views on whether the nation's regulatory environment could be enhanced to improve reliability, safety, efficiency, and environmental stewardship.

In the last 4 years, there has been substantial Arctic exploration drilling, with 47 wells drilled, including 2 in the U.S. Arctic. There also has been substantial progress in demonstrating and advancing technology to prevent and respond to an oil spill in Arctic conditions.

The NPC Arctic supplemental assessment contains recommendations addressing enhanced safety and environmental stewardship, regulatory effectiveness and certainty, drilling season length, lease term competitiveness, and enabling infrastructure. Implementation of the recommendations in this report will improve safety, environmental stewardship, and the competitiveness of Arctic resources.

The NPC is a federal advisory committee to the Secretary of Energy. The sole purpose of the Council is to advise, inform, and make recommendations to the Secretary of Energy, at his request, on matters relating to oil and natural gas, and the oil and natural gas industries. The Council membership is comprised of approximately 200 members, representing all segments of the oil and natural gas industries as well as a broad cross section of non-industry members.

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Editor's note: Attached is a copy of the letter transmitting the report to Secretary Perry, and the Supplemental Assessment is available on the NPC website, www.npc.org.

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