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US and Canada ban drilling, HFO shipping in Arctic

The leaders of the US and Canada have banned drilling for oil and gas in most of the two countries' offshore Arctic territory and committed to phasing out the use of heavy fuel oil (HFO) by ships in the region.

In what may be his last act as president of the US, Barack Obama placed an indefinite ban on offshore oil and gas drilling across vast areas of the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas. Canada ordered a five-year ban on new licenses in Arctic waters to be followed by a review.

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