TABLE 3-4
OPTIONS ELIMINATED FROM FURTHER EVALUATION
FOR DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION IN THE ALASKAN BEAUFORT SEA

Development/Production Components	Options	Reason for Elimination
Oil and Gas Drilling Methods (Section 3.4.2.3)	Vertical Drilling Technology	XOnly accesses portions of a reservoir directly beneath the surface drilling location. XMultiple drilling structures at multiple drilling locations increases overall development/production costs and creates an increase in potential environmental concerns.
Offshore Production Structures (Section 3.4.2.4)	XFloating Structures - Jackup Drilling Platforms	XNot designed to operate in an ice environment or to support long-term development/production activities.
	- Semi-Submersible Drilling Vessels	XNot designed to operate in an ice environment or to support long-term development/production activities.
	- Conventional Drillships	XNot designed to operate in an ice environment or to support long-term development/production activities.
	- Conical Drilling Unit (Kulluk)	XNot designed to operate in an ice environment or to support long-term development/production activities.
	- Ice Islands	XMelt in summer when ambient air temperatures are above freezing.
	XIsland Structures - Caisson Retained Island (CRI) Designs and Tarsiut Island (Concrete CRI)	XRelocation expected to be very difficult because the caissons are ballasted with sand, rather than water. X Redesign and construction of a new caisson structure would create a purpose-built structure and would be expected to be very costly compared to other options.
	XSubsea and Subterranean Structures - Subsea Cavern	XUnproven concept not yet demonstrated as technically or economically feasible. XSafety concerns related to gas build-up, fire/explosions, evacuation, blowouts, etc. XWould create a large volume of excavated material that would require disposal. XPermafrost stability concerns around the cavern and entrance to the cavern.
Oil and Gas Recovery (Section 3.4.2.5)	XEnhanced (Tertiary) Recovery	XNot considered in this Environmental Impact Statement because options are unknown.
Transportation of Product (Section 3.4.2.7)	XPipeline Elevated Pile-supported Structure	XWould be exposed to winds, wave action, and ice forces and would be difficult to design for this exposure. XStructure could impede passage of vessels/barges beneath or through it as a result of pile spacing and elevation above the sea surface.

Notes: ft = Foot or feet m = Meter(s) % = Percent