

# Russian Energy Minister Hopes Arctic Oil Exploration Continues Despite Exxon's Withdrawal

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak said Wednesday he hoped the suspension of work by U.S. oil major Exxon Mobil in the Kara Sea because of Western sanctions would not affect wider offshore exploration in the Russian Arctic.

"I hope that Exxon's departure won't delay shelf projects," Novak told reporters at an energy conference in Moscow.

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