

Department of the Interior Departmental Manual

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Part 119: Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

Chapter 4: Safety and Environmental Enforcement

Originating Office: Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

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4.1 Office of Offshore Regulatory Programs (OORP). The Chief of OORP is responsible for regulatory, safety, and conservation compliance related to development of the Nation's offshore resources. The OORP is responsible for development and maintenance of regulations, policies, standards, and guidelines for the best available and safest practices that govern industry's offshore operations nationwide and efforts to improve safety and environmental protections in offshore operations through policy development and program oversight, funding research into new technologies, and managing external partnerships with industry safety organizations. The OORP provides oversight for the Bureau aviation management program, manages information collections in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, and fulfills Federal regulation liaison functions at the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). The OORP is responsible for monitoring implementation and effectiveness of activity areas within the OORP Program area.

4.2 Oil Spill Preparedness Division (OSPD). The Chief of OSPD is responsible for regulations, policies, standards, guidance, and oversight of oil spill preparedness and oil spill research for BSEE. The OSPD reviews and approves oil spill response plans; conducts Government-initiated unannounced table top and/or deployment exercises; performs response equipment verifications; and exercises enforcement authority with respect to oil spill preparedness (30 CFR Part 254). The OSPD is responsible for management of Ohmsett, the National Oil Spill Response Research and Renewable Energy Test Facility. The OSPD also funds new research to advance the understanding and efficiencies of mechanical and alternative oil spill response technology; and is responsible for monitoring execution and effectiveness of the overall oil spill preparedness activity.

4.3 Environmental Compliance Division (ECD). The Chief of ECD establishes national strategic goals of the environmental compliance program to increase the accuracy and consistency of its environmental compliance activities, per the National Environmental Policy Act, the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act, and other statutory requirements. The ECD establishes national data needs for the environmental compliance program, maintains and monitors national performance standards, and sets national policies regarding environmental compliance activities conducted by BSEE personnel. The ECD is also responsible for monitoring execution and effectiveness of the environmental compliance activity.

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4.4 Safety and Incident Investigations Division (SIID). The Chief of SIID is responsible for establishing national policies related to the conduct of investigations regarding incidents on the OCS by BSEE investigators through collaborative policy making processes. The SIID establishes national policies regarding required training for BSEE investigators and establishes procedures for how investigations are conducted and documented and how incident information is managed. The SIID is responsible for monitoring execution and effectiveness of the investigations activity.

4.5 Safety Enforcement Division (SED). The Chief of SED collaboratively develops and maintains national compliance and enforcement policy under the guidelines of the Director's Compliance and Enforcement Continuum; and establishes and maintains complementary procedures and business rules necessary for full implementation of the SED including, but not limited to: staff training requirements, tracking and reporting obligations, setting and revising enforcement priorities, and liaison roles and responsibilities. The SED is responsible for monitoring execution and effectiveness of the enforcement activity.

4.6 Regional Offices. The regional offices are headed by Regional Directors, who manage and direct BSEE programs. Activities include permitting operations, inspection and enforcement to ensure compliance with regulations and conditions of approval, safety management and asset integrity, proper production volume reporting, and conservation of resources. The regional offices work with headquarters to ensure that the full range of offshore regulatory programs are properly managed.

A. **Alaska OCS Region** (headquartered in Anchorage, Alaska) manages BSEE programs on the OCS off Alaska.

B. **Gulf of Mexico OCS Region** (headquartered in New Orleans, Louisiana) manages BSEE programs in the Gulf of Mexico and along the eastern seaboard.

C. **Pacific OCS Region** (headquartered in Camarillo, California) manages BSEE programs along the western seaboard.