

## Department of the Interior Departmental Manual

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**Part 118:** Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

**Chapter 4:** Ocean Energy Management

**Originating Office:** Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

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### 118 DM 4

4.1 **Office of Strategic Resources Programs (OSRP).** The OSRP is responsible for providing strategic guidance to the Director and Deputy Director on how to best manage the development of offshore oil, gas, and mineral resources to support the Department's objectives. The OSRP interacts with policymakers and Department of the Interior (Department or DOI) staff on leasing and development goals and provides a framework for evaluating resource development options. The OSRP leads the creation of the National Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing Program (National OCS Program), which sets forth a five-year schedule of lease sales designed to best meet the Nation's energy needs and includes leasing, economic, and resource evaluation analyses to inform decision-making. The OSRP supports marine minerals activities for DOI Region 1 (North Atlantic-Appalachian) and Region 2 (South Atlantic-Gulf) and works collaboratively across the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's (BOEM) regional offices and Headquarters to carry out BOEM's mission.

A. **The Risk Management Policy Group (RMPG).** The RMPG is responsible for development of a comprehensive risk management program that regulates both conventional energy and renewable energy. The RMPG develops risk management policy, provides interagency coordination and Headquarters support for operational risk management and provides senior management with analyses, reports, and recommendations related to the financial and operational risks associated with OCS operations. The RMPG works closely with the Risk Management Operations Group (RMOG), located in the Gulf of Mexico Regional Office, ensuring that the operational implementation of BOEM's risk management program is performed in accordance with approved financial policy.

B. **Economics Division.** The Economics Division is responsible for analyzing economic issues associated with BOEM's offshore oil and gas, renewable energy, and marine minerals programs. The Economics Division prepares economic analyses that support leasing decisions and regulatory functions.

C. **Leasing Policy and Management Division.** The Leasing Policy and Management Division is responsible for oil, gas, and mineral leasing policy and program development issues. The Leasing Policy and Management Division coordinates, oversees, directs, and supervises the National OCS Program and all preleasing activities of the offshore oil and gas leasing program.

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D. Resource Evaluation Division. The Resource Evaluation Division is responsible for providing oversight, policy guidance, and direction for offshore oil and gas geological and geophysical evaluations and the development of models for geologic and engineering assessments of mineral resource potential of the OCS.

E. Marine Minerals Division. The Marine Minerals Division provides leadership, policy development, regional coordination, and resource data management for BOEM's Marine Minerals Program. Further, the Marine Minerals Division authorizes geological and geophysical activities and conducts the leasing process, environmental reviews, and environmental research for Atlantic OCS marine minerals projects. The Marine Minerals Division is also responsible for OCS marine mineral resource evaluations and assessments (both sand and gravel resources and critical minerals).

F. Geospatial Services Division. The Geospatial Services Division administers, develops, populates, maintains, and distributes the official OCS cadastral data, which include lease block grids and various offshore boundaries. The Geospatial Services Division produces and maintains the MarineCadastre.gov website and provides a variety of geospatial services for BOEM.

4.2 **Office of Renewable Energy Programs (OREP)**. The OREP formulates national policy for the offshore renewable energy programs in all OCS areas. The OREP also implements and manages renewable energy leasing, evaluations, environmental programs, formation of task forces, state consultation, and post-lease plans and permits in the Atlantic OCS (DOI Region 1 (North Atlantic-Appalachian) and Region 2 (South Atlantic-Gulf)). The OREP oversees program activities, the renewables budget within BOEM, and national concerns, such as program guidance and studies. The OREP includes three branches: Environment Branch for Renewable Energy; Project and Coordination Branch for Renewable Energy; and Engineering and Technical Review Branch for Renewable Energy.

4.3 **Office of Environmental Programs (OEP)**. The OEP provides strategic guidance to the Director and Deputy Director regarding environmental considerations in the development of OCS resources. The OEP directs studies addressing environmental impacts of offshore exploration and development activities, promotes environmental research throughout government, and builds BOEM's environmental science reputation. The OEP oversees the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process and compliance with other environmental laws, such as the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA).

A. Environmental Assessment Division (EAD). The EAD provides oversight, policy guidance, and direction over all offshore environmental concerns and issues, including environmental analyses. The EAD oversees BOEM compliance with environmental laws and regulations and environmental analyses for activities related to OCS energy and marine minerals, e.g., NEPA, ESA, MMPA, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Coastal Zone Management Act, and Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act. The EAD prepares program-level environmental documents and environmental analyses for national level decision documents. The EAD coordinates with

agencies and organizations at the national level to develop guidance and procedures for implementing national policy for NEPA and other environmental laws.

B. Environmental Sciences Division (ESD). The ESD provides policy, guidance, and oversight to assure the quality and relevance of science conducted through BOEM's Environmental Studies Program (ESP) and supports decision-making processes pertaining to the oil and gas, renewable energy, and marine minerals programs. The ESD coordinates on a national level with BOEM Regional Offices, BOEM Program Offices, the Department, other agencies, and non-Federal research organizations and corresponding committees, to assist in implementation of ESP projects. The ESD provides oil spill risk analyses in support of BOEM and other agencies' activities. Responsibilities also include providing technical information and analyses in support of BOEM's mission and the Department's environmental activities, including the oil and gas, renewable energy, and non-energy minerals programs; the National OCS Program; EISs and other NEPA documents; and international conventions and treaties.

4.4 BOEM Regional Offices. The BOEM has three regional offices, each headed by a Regional Director who works collaboratively across BOEM's regional offices and Headquarters to carry out BOEM's mission. Except as outlined above, the Regional Directors are responsible for implementing and managing the offshore energy and marine minerals programs; resource and environmental evaluations; leasing of offshore energy and mineral resources; and review, approval, and supervision of geological and geophysical permits and exploration, development, and production plans on the OCS. The Regional Directors coordinate with the appropriate DOI Regional Field Special Assistant(s) on all program matters affecting more than one Bureau and provide support for shared services managed by DOI Regional Field Special Assistant(s). The BOEM Regional Offices are:

A. Alaska Regional Office (Anchorage, Alaska). The Alaska Regional Office manages all BOEM programs on the OCS off Alaska and all BOEM programs in DOI Region 11 – Alaska. The Office includes the offices of Leasing and Plans, Environment, and Resource Evaluation.

B. Gulf of Mexico Regional Office (New Orleans, Louisiana). The Gulf of Mexico Regional Office manages all BOEM oil and gas programs on the OCS in the following DOI Regions: Region 1 – North Atlantic Appalachian; Region 2 - South Atlantic Gulf; Region 4 - Mississippi Basin; and Region 6 - Arkansas-Rio Grande-Texas; and the Marine Minerals Program and Renewable Energy Program on the Gulf of Mexico OCS in the following DOI Regions: Region 2 - South Atlantic Gulf; Region 4 - Mississippi Basin; and Region 6 - Arkansas-Rio Grande-Texas. The Office includes the offices of Leasing and Plans, Environment, and Resource Evaluation and the national Risk Management Operations Group.

C. Pacific Regional Office (Camarillo, California). The Pacific Regional Office manages all BOEM programs on the OCS off the west coast and Hawaii in DOI Region 8 - Lower Colorado Basin; Region 9 - Columbia-Pacific Northwest; Region 10 - California-Great Basin; and Region 12 - Pacific Islands. The Office includes the offices of Strategic Resources and Environment.