

BOEM | FACT SHEET

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT



BOEM manages the responsible exploration and development of offshore energy and marine mineral resources on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The bureau promotes energy independence, environmental protection and economic development through responsible management of these resources based on the best available science.

BOEM's offshore oil and gas leasing program considers environmental, social and economic values of the nation's domestically produced energy supply. OCS production accounts for about 24 percent of domestic crude oil and eight percent of domestic natural gas supply. In Fiscal Year 2012, federal leasing revenues for the OCS exceeded \$8 billion. The sales value of the oil and gas resources

amounted to about \$60 billion, and generated about \$120 billion in total spending in the economy. These expenditures supported about 700,000 domestic jobs.

As an emerging part of the nation's all-of-the-above energy portfolio, BOEM's OCS renewable energy program provides a new source of domestic energy supply with less carbon emissions. It offers the prospect of more domestic jobs and wages, as well as increased revenues from lease bonuses, rentals on acreage leased, and production operating fees. In the future, BOEM anticipates development of offshore renewable energy from three sources: wind energy, ocean wave energy, and ocean current energy.

In addition to its offshore energy responsibilities, BOEM manages appropriate access to OCS marine minerals such as sand and gravel. BOEM has conveyed 73 million cubic yards of OCS sediment resources for 37 coastal restoration projects in five states, restoring more than 198 miles of coastline. These projects protect billions of dollars of infrastructure and ecological habitats.



Key functions of the bureau include:

- The BOEM **Office of Strategic Resources** is responsible for the development of the **Five Year Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Natural Gas Leasing Program**. The office also oversees assessments of oil, gas and other mineral resource potential of the OCS, inventories oil and gas reserves, develops production projections, conducts economic evaluations to ensure fair market value is received by U.S. taxpayers for OCS leases, and prepares official maps and GIS data for the OCS.

- BOEM conducts **Oil and Gas Lease Sales**, and negotiates **Sand and Gravel** agreements. Coastal nourishment projects – or beach nourishment – are one of the primary uses of sand and gravel.
- The BOEM **Office of Renewable Energy Programs** oversees orderly, safe, and environmentally responsible renewable energy development activities on the OCS. The program grants leases, easements, and rights of way for offshore renewable energy. In keeping with the “Smart from the Start” wind energy initiative launched in 2010 by Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, BOEM works directly with federal, state, local and tribal governments through 12 renewable energy task forces. These valuable stakeholder groups help identify wind energy areas and issues related to upcoming offshore renewable energy projects.
- BOEM’s **Office of Environmental Programs** conducts environmental reviews, including *National Environmental Policy Act* (NEPA) analyses for each major stage of offshore energy development planning. These analyses inform the bureau’s decisions on the Five Year Program and energy leasing and development activities. Additionally, BOEM conducts and oversees environmental studies to inform policy decisions relating to the management of energy and marine mineral resources on the OCS.
- BOEM has three regional offices: New Orleans, La., Camarillo, Calif., and Anchorage, Alaska. The regional offices manage oil and gas resource evaluations, environmental studies and assessments, leasing activities, including the review of exploration plans and development plans, fair market value determinations, and geological and geophysical permitting.

BOEM Organizational Structure

