

## **IMPACTS OF ENERGY RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT ON COASTAL COMMUNITIES**

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The development of energy resources in the near-coastal and OCS areas of the U.S. and the siting of energy-related facilities and infrastructure in coastal areas have been, are, and will continue to be challenging issues and policy decisions for coastal states and communities, state agencies and the myriad of Federal agencies and offices with regulatory, policy or management responsibilities. This activity is a key component of the National Energy Policy; has been a frequent focus of Congressional hearings, legislative initiatives and enacted laws; and is a focal point of federal interagency workgroups and federal programs. As energy demand continues to grow and projections of populations in coastal areas show steady increases, the debates over the siting of oil and gas facilities, alternative energy projects, and their attendant offshore and onshore infrastructure requirements, as well as the onshore siting of energy-related facilities such as LNG regasification facilities and transmission lines, will be more numerous. This presentation will assess current and future U.S., especially coastal U.S., energy and population trends; the Congressional and Federal agency legislative and regulatory initiatives related to energy development programs in the near-coastal and coastal areas; and the potential impacts on coastal communities from national efforts to realize additional energy resources from the coastal and OCS areas.