

The U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Interior hosted a symposium on October 5, 2010 in Atlantic City, N.J. that brought together a broad spectrum of federal agencies, state governments, nongovernmental organizations, academia and other stakeholders to address the work being done across the Federal Government to lead the development of comprehensive and cohesive approaches to offshore renewable energy issues. During the event, the agencies released fact sheets focused on four major initiatives underway as part of the DOE-DOI partnership, including siting and permitting, standards and technical collaboration, resource assessment and design conditions, and developing environmental monitoring and mitigation controls.

These interagency efforts include:

- **Siting and Permitting of Renewable Energy Projects on the Outer Continental Shelf** – The agencies are working together to improve investor confidence in siting and permitting processes to facilitate and expedite the deployment of commercial-scale offshore renewable energy technologies. This includes identifying and implementing measures to coordinate and synchronize the authorization processes of federal and state agencies. For more information on this initiative click [HERE](#).
- **Standards and Technical Collaboration** – The agencies are collaborating to develop a comprehensive framework of engineering standards and other technical requirements and identify best management practices for designing, building, and permitting offshore renewable energy technologies. For more information on this initiative click [HERE](#).
- **Resource Assessment and Design Conditions** – This initiative will improve the accuracy of meteorological and oceanographic data for evaluating energy potential, economic viability, and engineering requirements for offshore renewable energy projects. This information is critical to the renewable energy industry, government researchers, regulators and policy makers. For more information on this initiative click [HERE](#).
- **Develop Environmental Monitoring & Mitigation Protocols** – The agencies are working together to establish an Environmental and Social Sciences Working Group to develop environmental monitoring and mitigation protocols, identify and address environmental data gaps, coordinate survey efforts on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf, and develop consensus on common methodologies to facilitate comparisons of results across surveys. For more information on this initiative click [HERE](#).

The full text of the interagency Memorandum of Understanding is available [HERE](#).