

# BOEMRE

## Rhode Island/Massachusetts Renewable Energy Task Force



## Welcome & Introductions

Offshore Alternative Energy Programs  
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management,  
Regulation and Enforcement

# Summary of Previous Efforts



- November 17, 2009: First Task Force meeting
- July 26, 2010: MOU signed between Governors of Rhode Island and Massachusetts
- Oct & Nov 2010: BOEMRE received two separate unsolicited requests
- December 10, 2010: Informed Task Force members of unsolicited applications & discussed next steps
- March 2011: BOEMRE determined unsolicited applicants qualified (legal, technical, & financial)
- April 2011: Distributed draft Call for Information and Nominations

# Program Stages

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- Planning & Analysis
- Leasing
- Site Assessment
- Commercial Development

\*Engage & receive comment from Intergovernmental Task Force, stakeholders, and public throughout

# Program Stages

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- Planning & Analysis Stage
  - Engage Intergovernmental Task Force, stakeholders, and public
  - Develop and Publish Planning Notices
    - Request for Interest (RFI) or Call for Information and Nominations (Call)
  - Announce Area Identification
  - Conduct environmental compliance and consultation

# Purpose & Goal

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- Draft Call for Information and Nominations
- Next steps in the leasing process
- Next steps in the environmental review process
- **Overall meeting goal:** solicit feedback from Task Force members on draft Call before publication in the Federal Register

# Call for Information and Nominations (Call)



- Agency, Action, and Summary, Response Date, Submission Procedures, Contact Information
- Supplementary Information
  - Purpose of the Call
  - Background
  - Environmental Review Process
  - BOEMRE's Planning and Leasing Process
  - Description & Development of Area
  - Required Nomination Information
  - Requested Information from Interested or Affected Parties
  - Protection of Privileged or Confidential Information

# Purpose of the Call

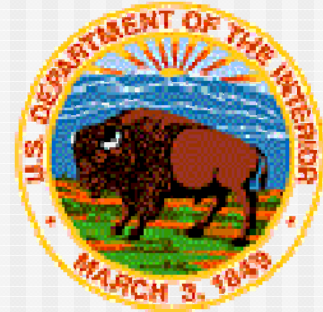
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- Planning notice
- Allows BOEMRE to gauge level of interest in commercial leasing, determine competitive interest in particular areas, and identify multiple-use activities
- Does not identify an area that BOEMRE is offering for lease issuance or approval of development activities

# Background

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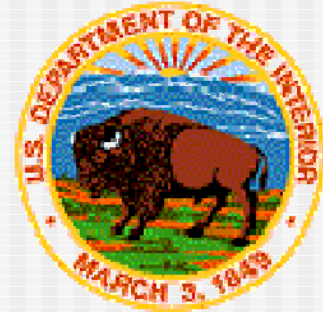


- Energy Policy Act of 2005
- Executive Order 13457: Stewardship of the Oceans, our Coasts, and the Great Lakes
- Department of Interior “Smart from the Start” Atlantic Wind Initiative and BOEMRE/State Renewable Energy Task Forces
- Environmental Review Process



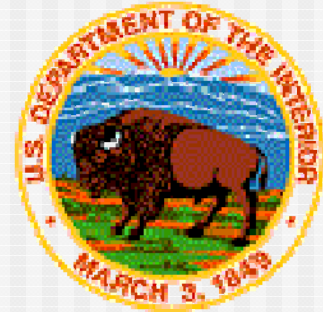
# Background

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- Actions Taken by the State of Rhode Island in Support of Renewable Energy Development
- BOEMRE's Planning & Leasing Process
  - Determination of Competitive Interest
    - Competitive Process
    - Noncompetitive Process

# Leasing Stage



- Engage Intergovernmental Task Force, stakeholders, and public
- Publish Leasing Notices
  - Publish Determination of No Competitive Interest (Noncompetitive)
  - Publish Proposed and Final Sale Notices (Competitive)
- Issue Leases
  - Negotiate Lease (Noncompetitive)
  - Hold Lease Auction (Competitive)

# Future Stages After Leases Are Issued: Site Assessment



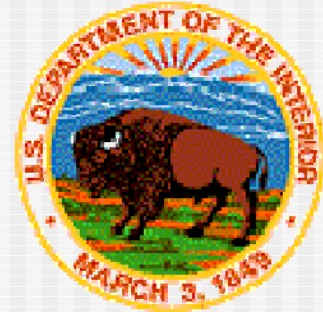
- Lease provides a 5-year period to collect site-specific data:
  - Informs preparation of the lessee's COP
  - May include archaeological, biological, geophysical, geotechnical, and shallow hazard surveys
- BOEMRE conducts environmental and technical reviews of the lessee's site assessment plan (SAP)
  - Submitted for planned bottom-founded data collection facilities (e.g., met towers or met buoys)

# Future Stages After Leases Are Issued: Commercial Development



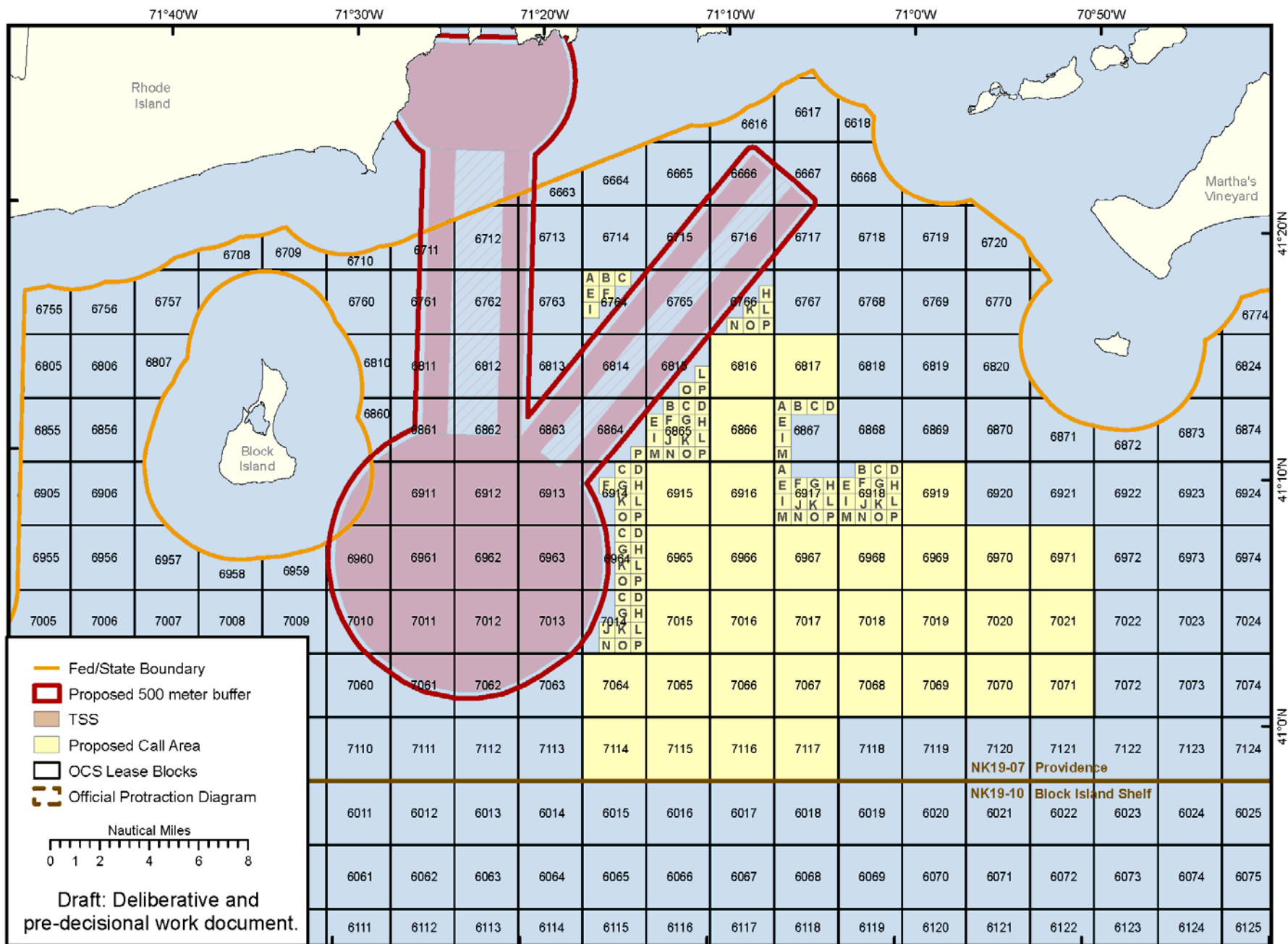
- Lease provides a 25-year period to construct and generate electricity
- Lessee submits COP that describes
  - Overall site investigation results
  - Offshore and onshore support
  - Any proposed mitigation and monitoring and lease stipulation compliance
  - Design, fabrication, installation, and operations concepts
  - Decommissioning and site clearance concepts
- BOEMRE prepares and environmental impact statement and conducts environmental & consultation and technical reviews

# Description of the Area

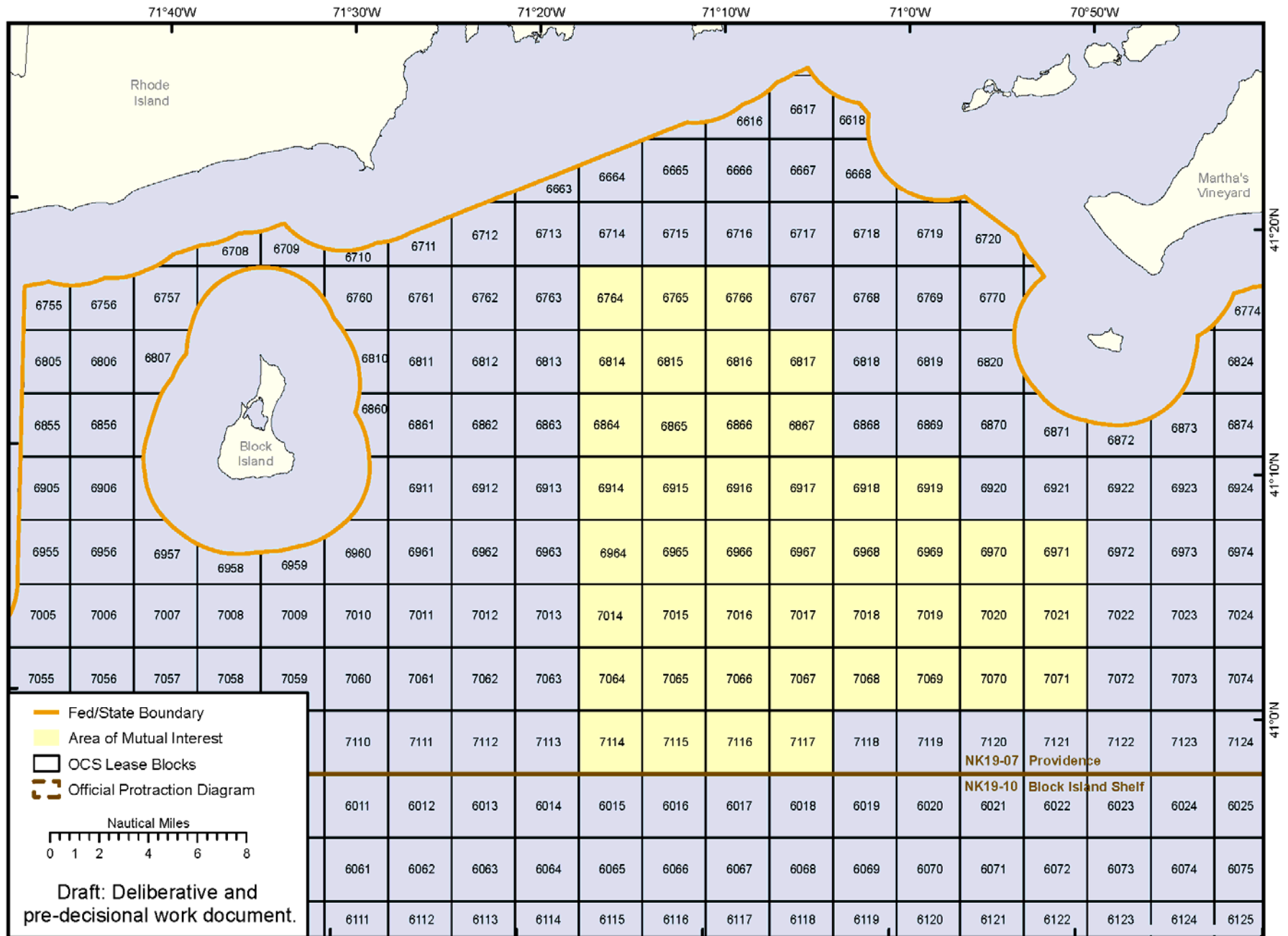


- On the OCS offshore Rhode Island and Massachusetts
- Divided into two areas separated by an existing Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS):
  - Northwest Section, (2.5 nmi<sup>2</sup>)
    - 1 partial OCS lease block
  - Southeast Section (251 nmi<sup>2</sup>)
    - 32 whole and 10 partial OCS lease blocks

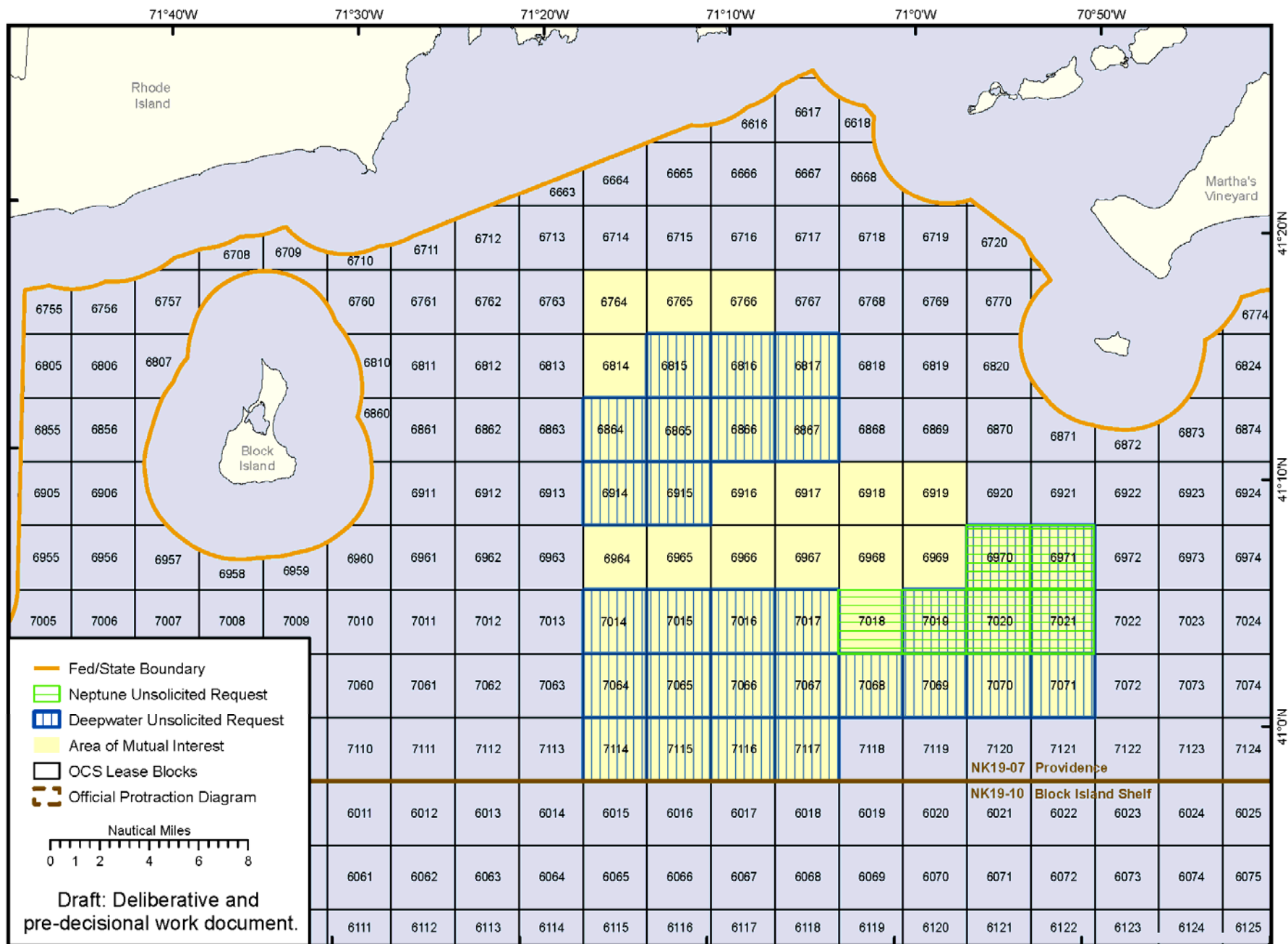
# Preliminary Draft Rhode Island / Massachusetts Call Area



# Rhode Island / Massachusetts Area of Mutual Interest

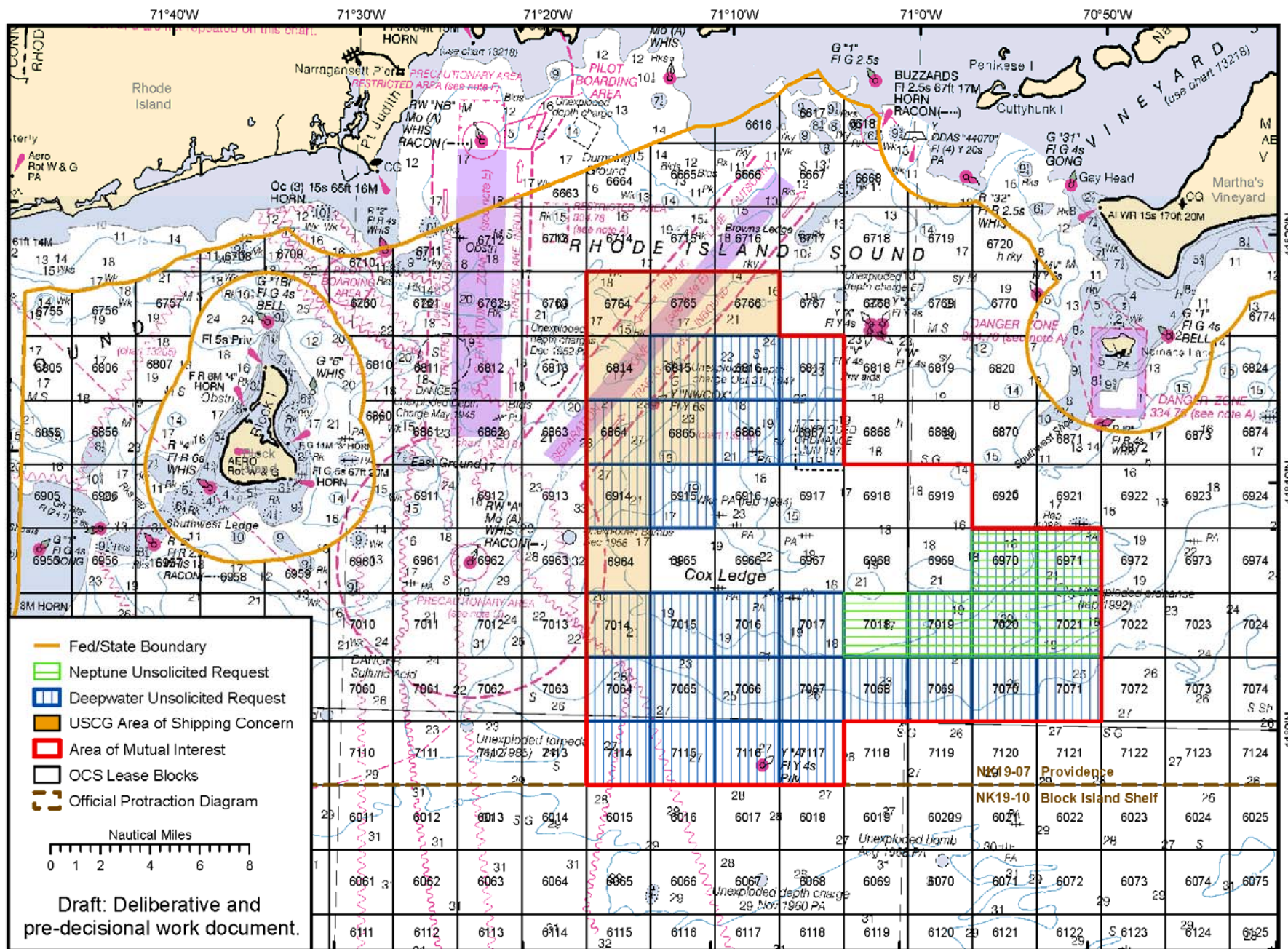


# Rhode Island / Massachusetts Area of Mutual Interest and Unsolicited Proposals

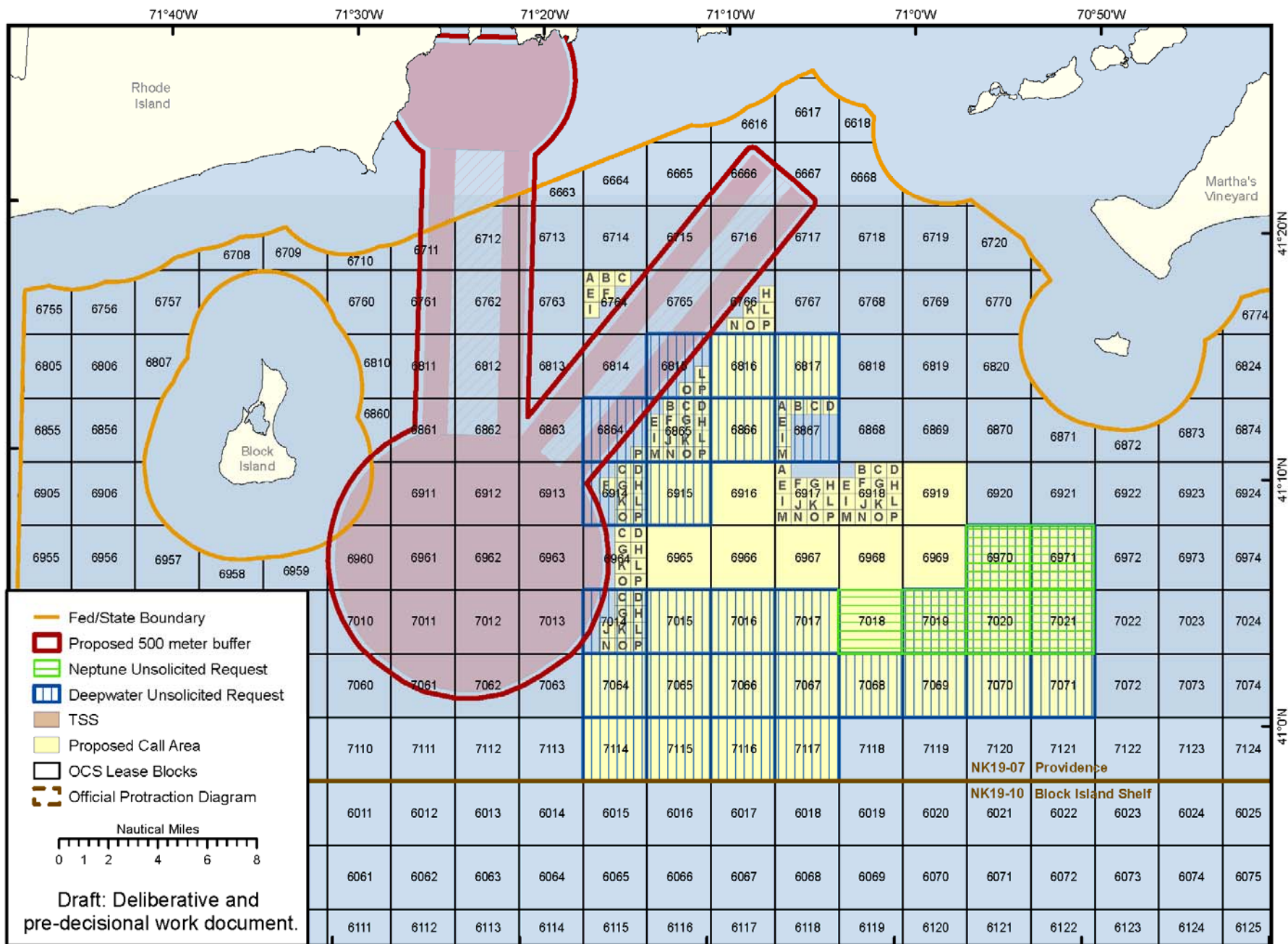




# Rhode Island / Massachusetts Area of Mutual Interest and Unsolicited Proposals



# Preliminary Draft Rhode Island / Massachusetts Call Area



# Required Nomination Information



- BOEMRE Protraction name, number and specific whole or partial OCS blocks or sub-blocks of interest for commercial wind leasing, including any buffer
- Description of objectives and facilities
- Schedule of proposed activities
- Available and pertinent data and information regarding renewable energy and environmental conditions
- Qualification documentation
- Instructions to unsolicited request applicants

# Requested Information from Interested or Affected Parties



- Geological conditions (including bottom and shallow hazards)
- Archaeological and cultural resource sites on the seabed or nearshore
- Historic properties
- Multiple uses of the area, including navigation (commercial and recreational vessel use), recreation, and fisheries (commercial and recreational)
- Other relevant socioeconomic, biological, and environmental information

# Protection of Privileged or Confidential Information

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- Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
  - Exemption 4
- Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

# Comments

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