BOEM ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES PROGRAM: Ongoing Studies

Region: Alaska

Planning Area(s): All Alaska Planning Areas

Title: Conference Management and Reports on BOEM Results

(AK-12-01)

BOEM Information Need(s) to be Addressed: Conference management supports formal information transfer meetings (ITMs) and workshops to disseminate study results and to resolve environmental and technical issues for BOEM program managers. These conferences increase public confidence in the data used by the OCS program. Workshops may be coordinated with future lease sales and for NEPA analyses and documentation focusing primarily on the Beaufort Sea and Chukchi Sea.

Total Cost: \$499,500 **Period of Performance:** FY 2012-2015

Conducting Organization: BGES, Inc.

BOEM Contact: Rick Raymond

Description:

<u>Background</u>: The transfer of scientific information is continuous and the Alaska Environmental Studies Program (ESP) needs to constantly organize and conduct ITMs and workshops. Conference participants have the opportunity to exchange environmental studies information with experts and interested parties on selected topics oriented to formulating concepts for new research projects and/or to address study needs. During the past decade the Alaska ESP has held information status meetings and planning workshops for the exchange of studies information among scientists, stakeholders and the general public.

To improve the accessibility, use and exchange of study results, the Alaska OCS Regional office conducts public meetings with a variety of formats. Generally, ITMs are 3-day events and workshops of shorter duration (1 to 2 days in length) that may focus on a single discipline or topic. ITM conferences make clear the scope and detail of information-gathering activities relating to the Alaska OCS. They give interested parties an opportunity to participate in discussions of important topics dealing with oil and gas leasing, exploration, and development in the Arctic region. They also serve as opportunities for regional staff to learn about the information that has been gathered and, therefore, help ESP to formulate study plans for future years.

<u>Objectives</u>: The objective of this procurement is to provide the logistical support for small meetings and workshops to highlight the work of the Environmental Studies Program in Alaska and foster sharing of information among researchers and interested parties through small meetings, workshops and publications on OCS environmental studies information.

<u>Methods</u>: The primary method is to manage meetings and workshops and assist with preparation, coordination, logistics, program agenda, and invitation of speakers and participants.

Current Status: Ongoing

Final Report Due: N/A

Publications Completed: None

Affiliated WWW Sites: http://www.boem.gov/akstudies/

Revised Date: April 2015

ESPIS: Environmental Studies Program Information System

All completed ESP studies can be found

here: http://www.data.boem.gov/homepg/data_center/other/espis/espisfront.asp