

### **BOEM-HI Task Force Meeting**



# Overview of BOEM's Leasing Process

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June 3, 2015 • Honolulu, Hawaii





### **BOEM's Leasing Process**

#### Planning and Analysis

- BOEM publishes Call for Information and Nominations
- •BOEM identifies priority Wind Energy Areas (WEAs) offshore. WEAs are locations that appear most suitable for wind energy development, or
- Processes unsolicited application for lease
- BOEM may prepare an Environmental Assessment for Lease Issuance and Site Assessment Activities

#### Leasing

- •BOEM determines whether Competitive Interest exists
- If Competitive Interest exists, BOEM notifies the public and developers of its intent to lease through Sale Notices before holding a lease sale
- •If Competitive Interest does not Exist, BOEM negotiates a lease (note: issuance may be combined with plan approval)

#### Site Assessment

- Lessee conducts site characterization studies
- Lessee submits Site Assessment Plan (SAP)
- BOEM conducts environmental and technical reviews of SAP, eventually deciding to approve, approve with modification, or disapprove the SAP
- If approved, Lessee assesses site (usually with meteorological tower(s) and/or buoy(s)

#### Construction and Operations

- Lessee may conduct additional site characterization
- Lessee submits Construction and Operations Plan (COP)
- BOEM conducts environmental and technical reviews of COP, eventually deciding to approve, approve with modification, or disapprove the COP
- If approved, Lessee builds wind facility

Intergovernmental Task Force Engagement





#### **Step 1: Start of the Leasing Process**

#### **BOEM's leasing process begins with one of two events:**

#### **BOEM** receives an unsolicited lease request

 This is the process we are using because AWH submitted unsolicited lease requests in Jan 2015

#### **BOEM** issues a Call for Information and Nominations

 This process has been used in other areas of the United States





#### **Step 2: Request for Interest**

#### **BOEM** reviews the application

 BOEM makes a determination whether the applicant is qualified to hold an OCS lease (Feb 2015)

#### **BOEM-Hawaii Task Force Meeting (Jun 2015)**

- BOEM presents application(s) to Task Force
- Task Force provides feedback on draft RFI

#### **BOEM Issues Request for Interest (RFI)**

BOEM issues RFI as a Federal Register notice





#### **Step 3: Determination**

## After the RFI comment period closes, BOEM reviews the information received and makes a determination

- Determination of <u>No</u> Competitive Interest: If <u>no</u> indications of competitive interest are received, follow non-competitive lease issuance process
- Determination of Competitive Interest: If indications of competitive interest <u>are</u> received, follow competitive lease issuance (auction) process





#### **Step 4: Lease Process**

#### **Competitive**

- BOEM prepares & publishes a Call for Information and Nominations (Call)
- Proposed Sale Notice
- Final Sale Notice
- Lease Sale / Auction
- Lease Award
- Lessee submits plan(s)

#### **Non-Competitive**

- BOEM publishes a
   Determination of No
   Competitive Interest (DNCI)
- Lease terms & conditions are negotiated
- BOEM may offer a noncompetitive lease
- Lessee submits plan(s)
- Lease issuance may be combined with approval of plan(s)



#### **Initial Plans**

#### A Plan is required

- The Site Assessment Plan (SAP) describes the activities the applicant plans to undertake for the characterization of lease area
- The Construction and Operations Plan (COP)
  describes the construction, operations, and
  conceptual decommissioning plans
- The SAP and COP may be combined and submitted together





#### **BOEM Review of Initial Plans**

## BOEM performs technical and environmental reviews of the plans and may:

- Approve the plan(s)
- Approve the plan(s) with modifications
- Disapprove the plan(s)

Once BOEM approves the plans, the activities described in them can be conducted by the applicant.





### **BOEM-HI Task Force Meeting**



## **Questions?**

**Up Next: Request for Interest** 

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