

Department of the Interior Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Manual

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Series: Delegation

Part 200: Delegation Policy

Chapter 1: Redelegations

Office of Primary Responsibility: Office of Budget and Administration

BOEMM 200.1

1.1 **Purpose.** This chapter establishes the policy and guidelines for the redelegation of authority from the Director to other officials within the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM).

1.2 **Scope.** This policy applies to all BOEM managers and employees delegated authorities of the BOEM Director.

1.3 **Objectives.** The objective of this chapter is to provide for efficient and effective methods of redelegation of authority.

1.4 **Authority.**

A. 200 Departmental Manual (DM) 1-3, “General Provisions.”

B. 218 DM 1, “General Program Authority - Outer Continental Shelf.”

1.5 **Definitions.**

A. **Authority.** The ability to make the final, binding decision and/or take specific action as an official representing the U.S. Government. Such authorities have a legal basis in statute or regulation. Authority to make a decision or take an action can be redelegated. An example of such authority is the ability to approve agreements under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act.

B. **Redelegation of Authority.** The ability of an official who holds a particular authority to give to another official or officials the power to take actions or make decisions of legal standing under that authority.

C. **Responsibility.** The state or fact of being answerable or accountable for something within one’s power or control. For example, the daily administration of procedures relating to agreements is an assigned responsibility inherent in a position.

1.6 **Policy.** The BOEM policy is to decentralize authority to the lowest level of operation at which such authority would be most practicable and efficient. The Delegation Series of the BOEM Manual (BOEMM) will serve as the official medium for issuing redelegations of authority from the Director to the managers.

A. Effect of Further Redelegation.

(1) Officers who redelegate their authority do not divest themselves of the power to exercise that authority, nor does the redelegation relieve them of the responsibility for action taken in accordance with the redelegation.

(2) Officials and Officers higher in the chain of command are automatically delegated any authority redelegated to any position or office under their jurisdiction unless otherwise clearly specified in the redelegation.

(3) Acting Officials, unless otherwise stated in a redelegation, have the full authority of those whose duties they are performing. No special redelegation of authority need be made to anyone serving in an acting capacity.

B. Limitations. Persons redelegated authority must exercise it in accordance with public laws; executive directives; Federal regulations; and Department and BOEM policies, standards, organization and budgetary limitations, and administrative instructions.

C. Publication of Redelegations in the Federal Register. Any delegation (or redelegation) of authority which has a direct impact on any sector of the public will be published in the Federal Register. See 200 DM 1 and 200 DM 2 for more information.

1.7 **Procedures.**

A. In determining the extent to which authority should be redelegated, consideration should be given to the existence of adequate policy and program guidance; the presence of competent personnel and adequate facilities; the need for centralized operations in the interest of efficiency, security, or financial control; or the necessity of coordinating programs on a bureau-wide, Department, or interagency basis.

B. Redelegations should be prepared in terms of position titles rather than named individuals. Requests for redelegations of authority from the Director to other officials made by heads of offices seeking specific authority are prepared in the form of a proposed BOEM directive (manual chapter, handbook, or interim policy document (IPD)). Approval of the BOEM directive indicates approval of the delegation. See BOEM 381.1-H, Preparing and Processing Directives Handbook, for more information.