Good morning!

The Fifth BOEM Gulf of Mexico Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force Meeting will begin at 9:00am CT.

If you are encountering any technical issues, please contact elee@kearnswest.com.

BOEM Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

BOEM Gulf of Mexico Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force Meeting

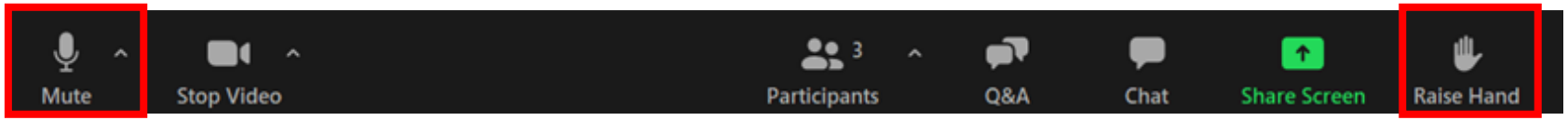
April 18, 2024

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Dr. James Kendall, Regional Director, *BOEM Gulf of Mexico Region*

Webinar Instructions – Task Force Members

- Click the mute button in the bottom toolbar to mute yourself when not speaking. If you are calling into the meeting using a phone, dial *6 on your keypad to unmute yourself.
- To enter the discussion, use the “raised hand” icon on the taskbar or add a comment in the chat pod. If you are calling into the meeting using a phone, dial *9 on your keypad to raise your hand.
- Please direct any technical questions to Eunice Lee using the “chat” function or email elee@kearnswest.com for support.



Webinar Instructions – Members of the Public

- Members of the public will be muted throughout the Task Force meeting and will not be able to unmute themselves.
- Members of the public will have the opportunity to share comments during the public input opportunity. More guidance will be shared later in the meeting.
- The chat function is not available. Please direct any technical issues during the Task Force meeting using the Q&A function or email Eunice Lee at elee@kearnswest.com for support.

Webinar Instructions – Members of the Public

Please note, this meeting is being recorded.

Meeting Objectives

- Overall purpose: Facilitate coordination and consultation among federal, state, local, and tribal governments regarding offshore wind energy and the renewable energy leasing process on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM).
- Provide an overview and seek in-depth feedback on the Proposed Sale Notice and related auction format.
- Provide opportunities for public input on the topics being considered by the Task Force.

Agenda

Time (CT)	Agenda Item
9:00 a.m.	Welcome & Opening Remarks
8:10 a.m.	Task Force Meeting Overview
9:25 a.m.	Presentation of the GOM Renewable Energy Proposed Sale Notice (PSN)
10:05 a.m.	Task Force – Questions and Comments on the Proposed Sale Notice
10:35 a.m.	*Break*
10:45 a.m.	Tribal Member Updates
10:55 a.m.	Task Force Member Updates
11:50 a.m.	Next Steps and Closing Remarks
11:55 a.m.	*Task Force Meeting Adjourns*
12:00 p.m.	Public Input Opportunity and Discussion
1:00 p.m.	*Adjourn*

Introductions

BOEM Conveners

Liz Klein, Director
Walter Cruickshank, Deputy Director

Office of Regional Director
- James Kendall, Regional Director
- Laura Robbins, Deputy Regional Director
- Lissa Lyncker, Chief of Staff

Office of Leasing and Plans
- Bernadette Thomas, Regional Supervisor
- Bridgette Duplantis, Chief, Leasing and Financial Responsibility Section
- Idrissa Boube, Program Analyst and GOM Task Force Coordinator, Leasing and Financial Responsibility Section
- Renee Bigner, Program Analyst, Leasing and Financial Responsibility Section
- Karoline DiPerna, Program Analyst, Leasing and Financial Responsibility Section

Public Affairs Office
- John Filostrat
- Hillary Mckey

Office of Environment
- Arie Kaller, Regional Supervisor
- Helen Rucker, Section Chief
- Ross Del Rio, NEPA Coordinator
- Michelle Nannen, NEPA Coordinator
- Mark Belter, Section Chief
- Kate Segarra, Supervisor
- Bill Rosenzweig, Tribal Liaison
- Mariana Steen, Fisheries Biologist

Office of the Solicitor
- Robert Sebastian, Solicitor

Resource Evaluation
- Chris DuFore, Geophysicist

Office of Renewable Energy
- Karen Baker, Program Manager
- Marilyn Sauls, Branch Chief
- David MacDuffee, Branch Chief

Introductions – Elected Officials & Representatives

- U.S. House of Representatives, Office of Congressman Clay Higgins (LA-03)
- U.S. House of Representatives, Office of Congressman Garret Graves (LA-06)
- U.S. House of Representatives, Office of Congressman Steve Scalise (LA-01)
- U.S. Senate, Office of Senator Bill Cassidy
- U.S. Senate, Office of Senator John Kennedy

Introductions – Tribal Nations

- Chitimatcha Tribe of Louisiana
- Coushatta Tribe
- Jena Band of Choctaw Indians
- Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana

Introductions – States

State of Alabama

- Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR)
- Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM)

State of Louisiana

- Breazeale Sachse & Wilson
- Center for Planning Excellence
- Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA)
- Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Entergy Louisiana
- Foundation for Louisiana
- Louisiana Chemical Association
- Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry
- Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD)
- Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF)

State of Louisiana (cont.)

- Louisiana Division of Administration, Office of Facility Planning and Control
- Louisiana Division of Administration, Office of Fisheries
- Louisiana Division of Administration, Office of State Lands
- Louisiana Economic Development (LED)
- Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office (DOSCO)
- Louisiana Public Service Commission
- Louisiana State Legislature
- Office of Cultural Development, Division of Historic Preservation
- Office of Indian Affairs

State of Mississippi

- Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)
- Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR)
- Mississippi Development Authority (MDA)
- Mississippi Military Communities Council
- Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH)
- Office of Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves
- The Port of Gulfport

State of Texas

- Texas General Land Office (GLO)
- Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD)

Introductions – Local Governments

- Calcasieu Parish
- Cameron Parish
- Cameron Parish Port
- City of New Orleans
- Greater Lafourche Port (Port Fourchon)
- Gulf Coast Center for Law & Policy
- Jefferson Parish
- Lafourche Parish
- Loyola University New Orleans
- New Orleans City Council
- Plaquemines Parish
- Port of Lake Charles
- Port of New Orleans
- St. Bernard Parish
- St. Mary Parish
- Terrebone Parish
- The Nature Conservancy of Louisiana
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- Vermilion Parish

Introductions – Federal Agencies

- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
- Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
- Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (FPISC)
- Marine Mammal Commission (MMC)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- National Park Service (NPS)
- National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)
- Small Business Administration (SBA)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)
- U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)
- U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
- U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)

Task Force Meeting Process Guidelines

- "Honor" the agenda.
- Participate respectfully.
- Speak in order; facilitator will mind the queue.
- Provide name/affiliation each time you speak.
- Please mute yourself when not speaking.
- Participating on video for Task Force members is encouraged.

BOEM Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Presentation of the GOM Renewable Energy Proposed Sale Notice (PSN)

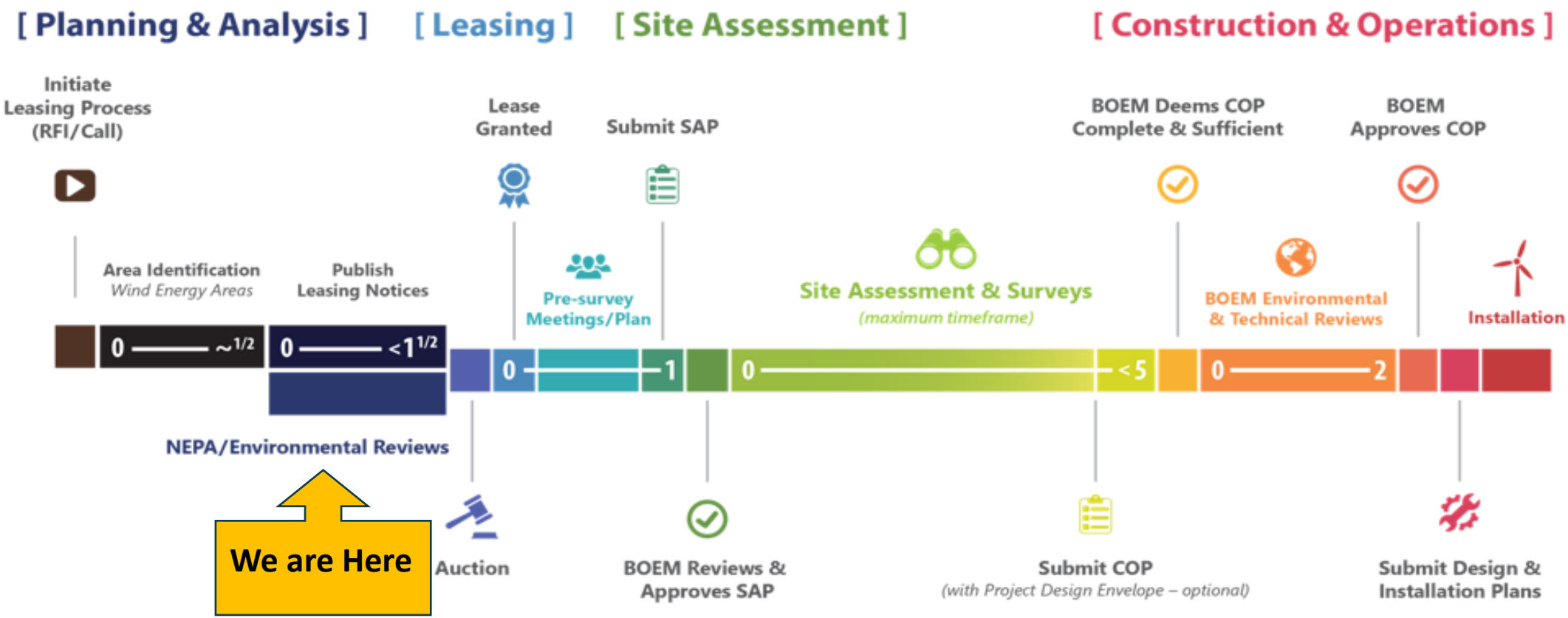
April 18, 2024

Renee Bigner, Program Analyst, Leasing and Financial Responsibility Section, BOEM
Wright Frank, Chief, Renewable Energy Policy Group , BOEM

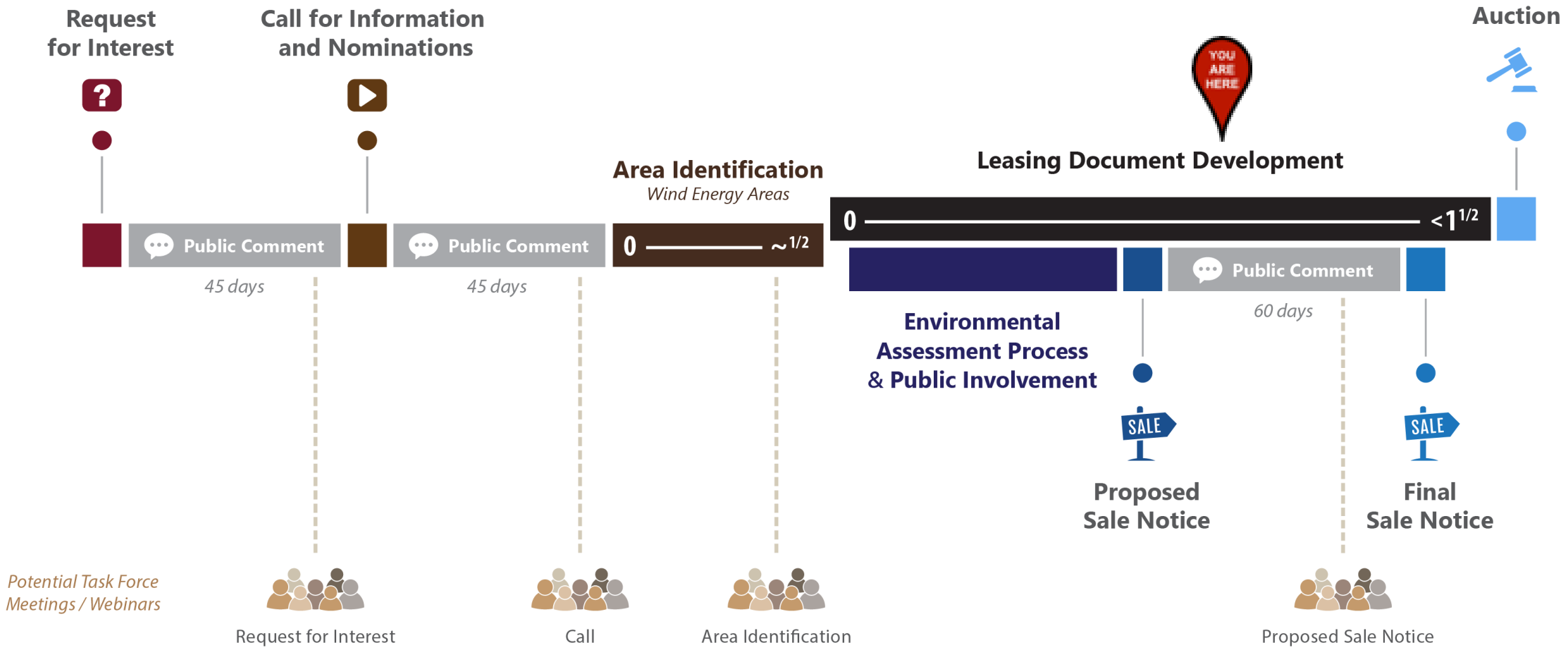
Agenda

- Lease Sale Process and Background
- NEPA analysis
- Consultation and Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA)
- Potential Lease-Specific Terms, Conditions and Stipulations
- Auction Format and Bidding Credits

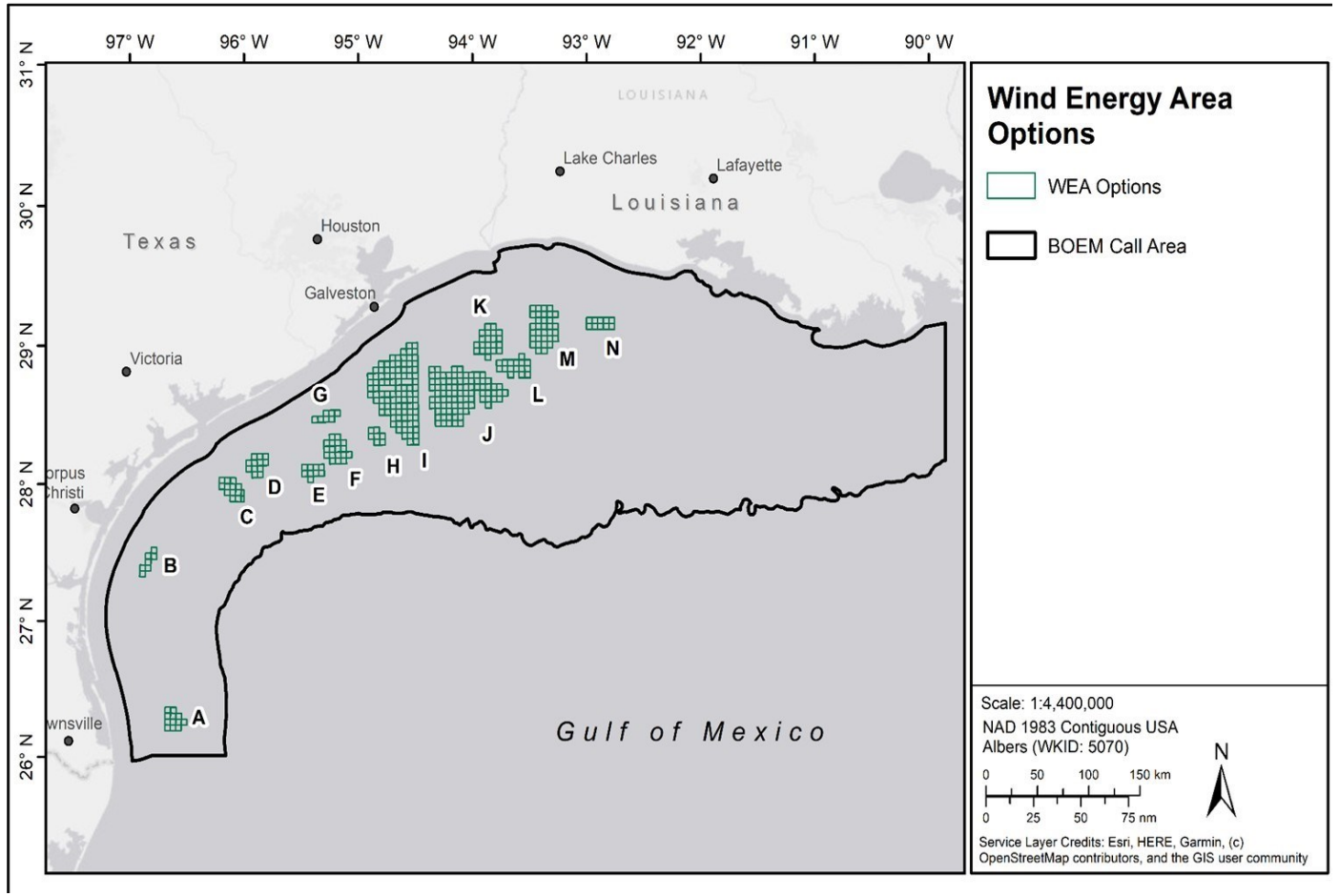
Leasing and Development Process



Renewable Energy Leasing Process: From RFI/Call to Lease Sale



Background - Identified Wind Energy Area Options

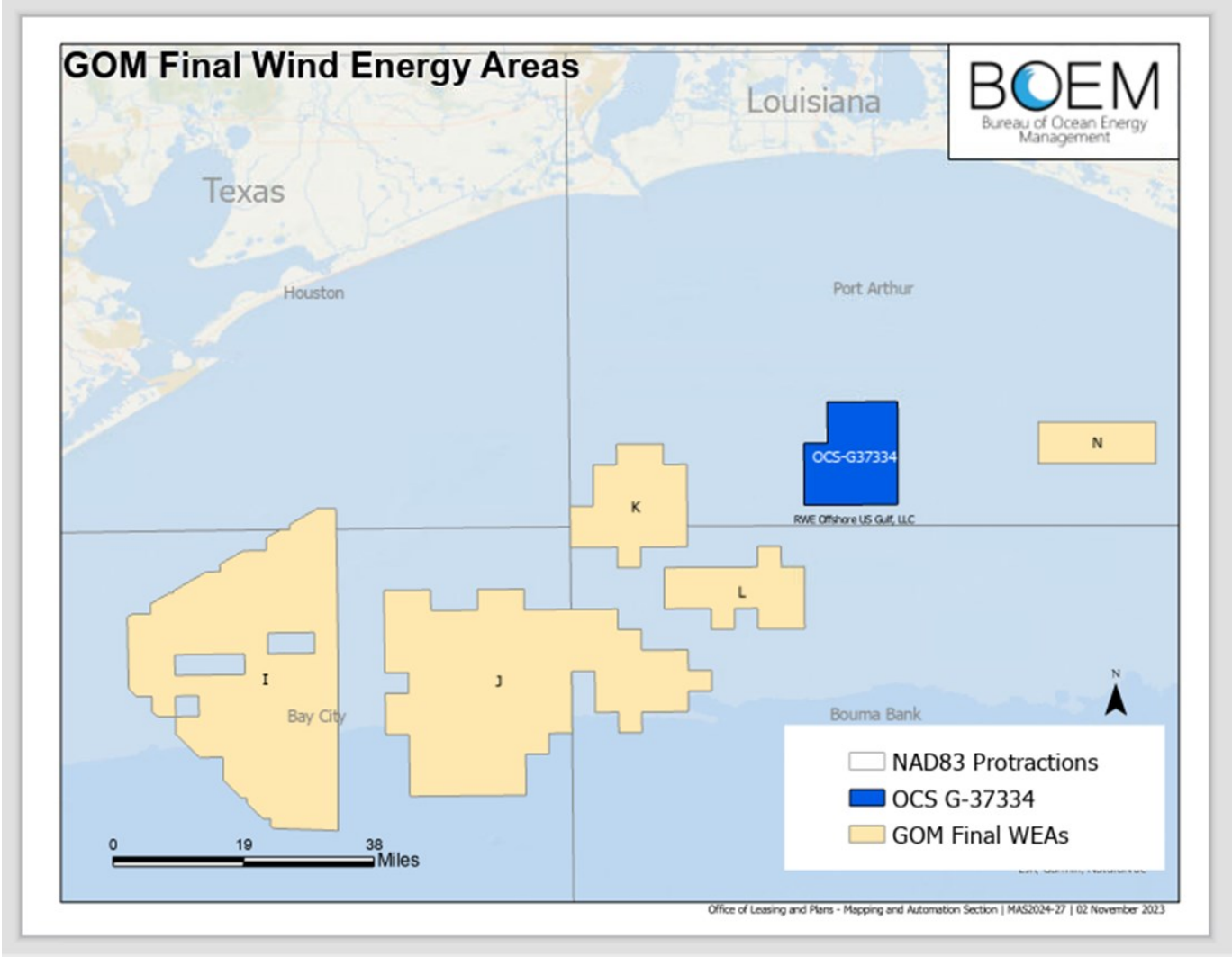


- 14 WEAs were identified as possible options
- Option B was removed due to DOD conflicts
- The Programmatic Environmental Assessment covers the entire call area up to 18 leases.

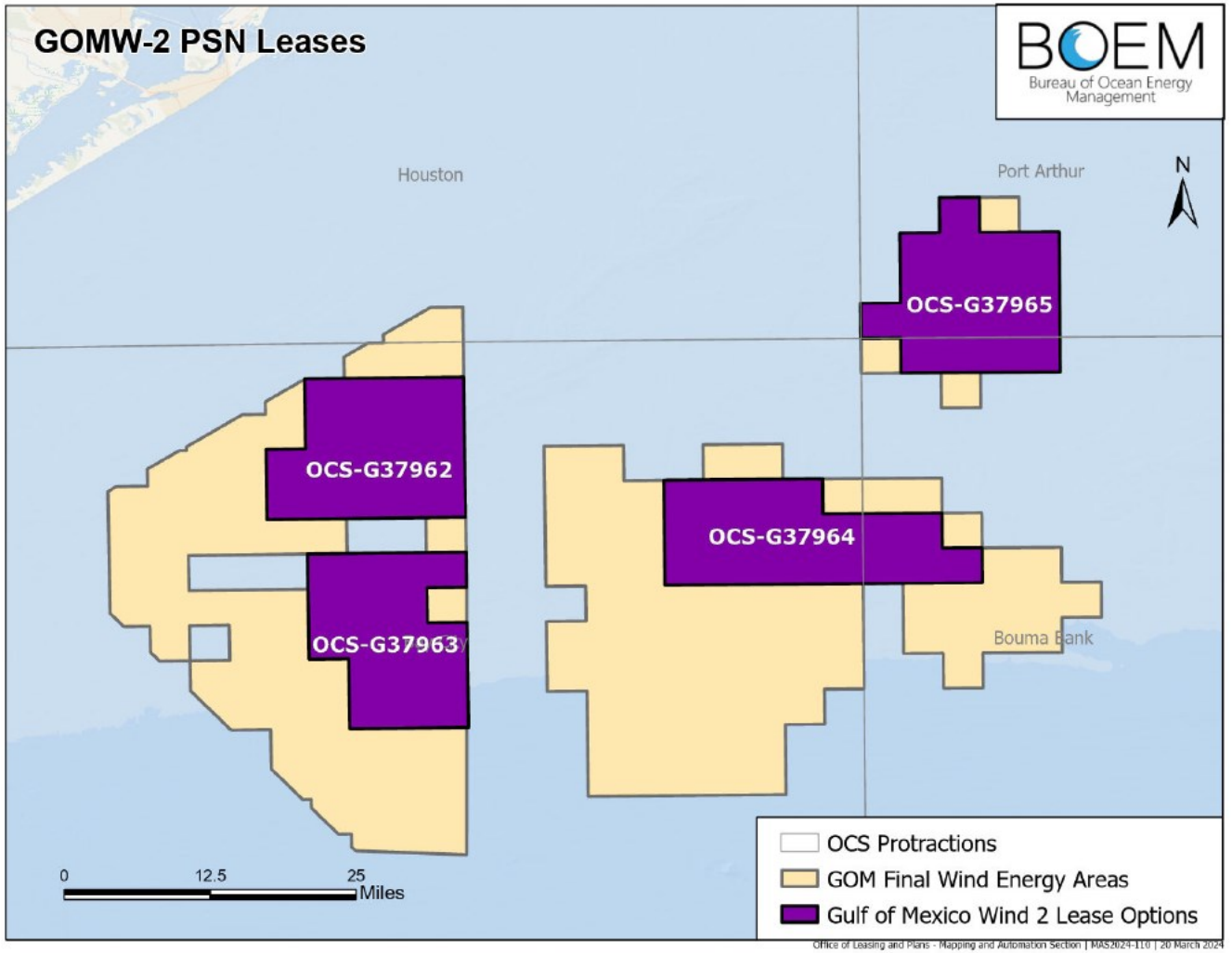
GOMW-2 Final Wind Energy Areas

Published October 27, 2023

1. Option J : 495,567 acres
2. Option K : 119,635 acres
3. Option L : 91,157 acres
4. Option N : 56,978 acres
5. Option I : 508,265 acres
    1. Option I designated a Final WEA on October 31, 2022



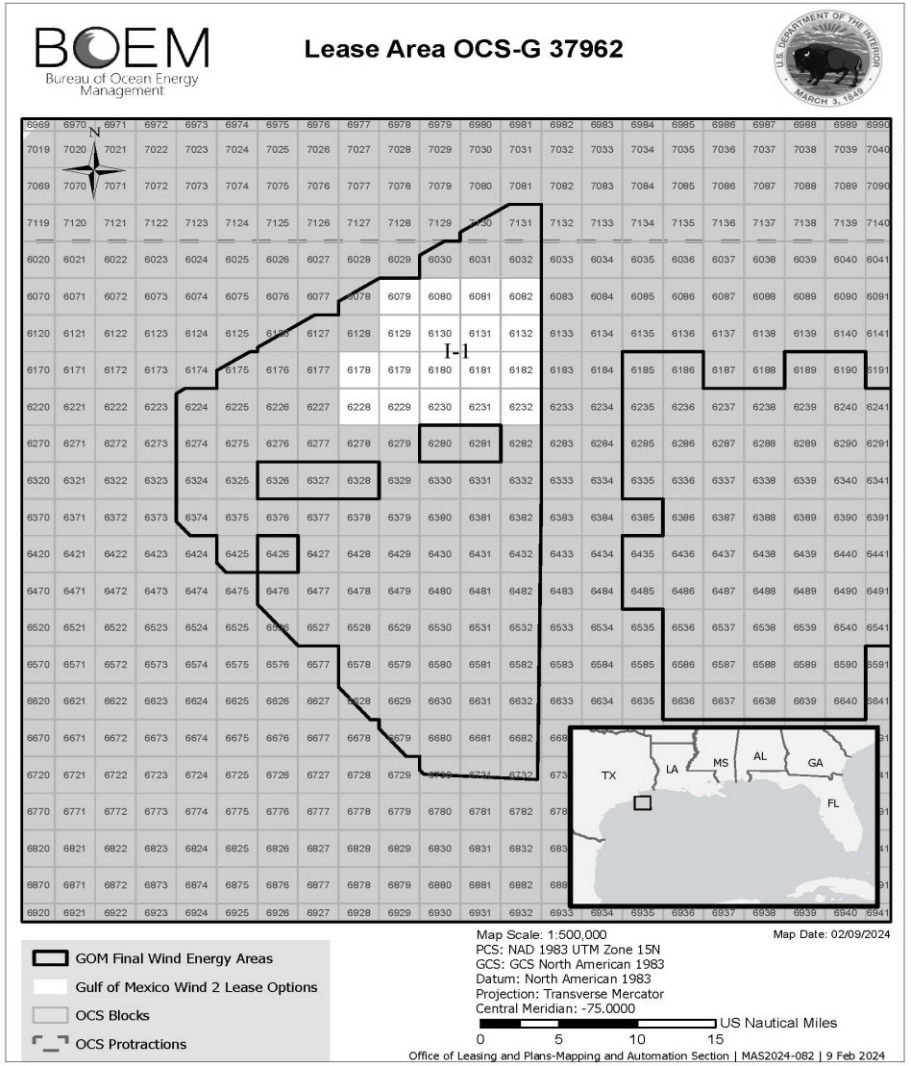
Leases Proposed in GOMW-2 PSN



Proposed Lease G37962 (I-1)

	Lease G37962
Acres	102,480
Installation Capacity (MW)[1]	1,244
Homes powered[2]	435,400
Power Production (MWh/yr)[3]	3,269,232
Max Depth (meters[m])	36
Min Depth (m)	16
Closest distance to TX (km)	28

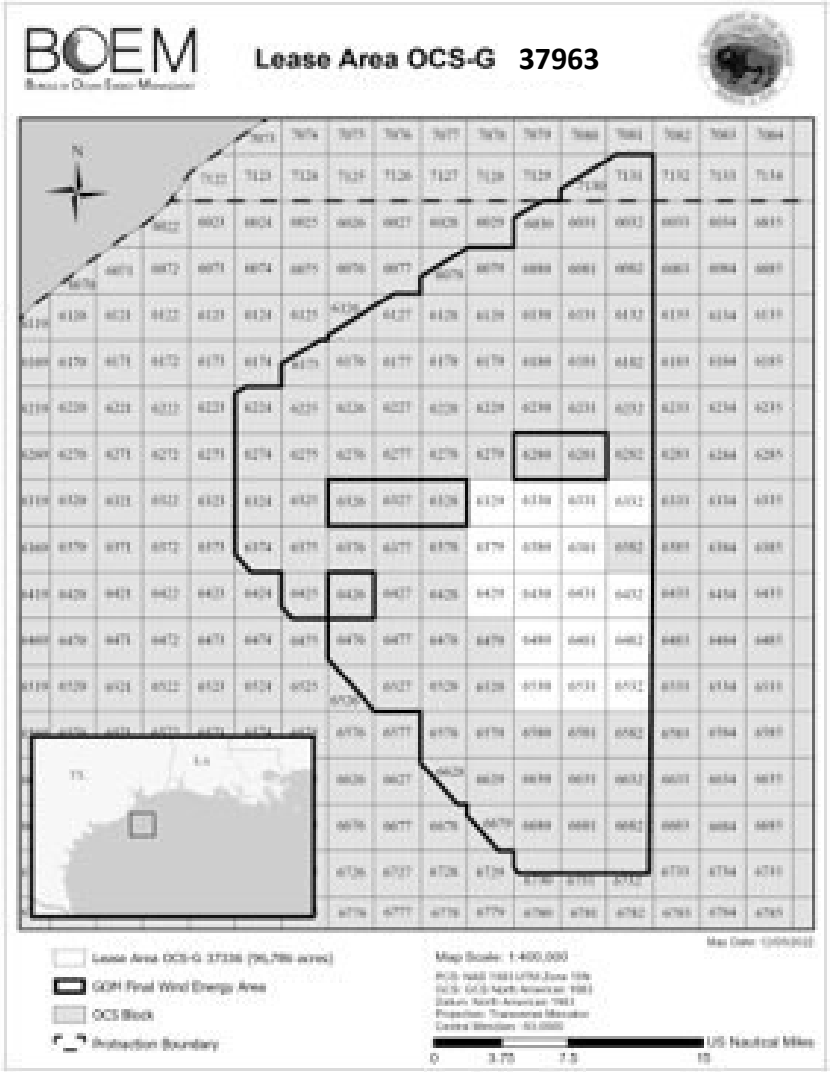
[1] Megawatts (MW) based upon 3MW/sqkm
[2] Based upon 350 homes per MW
[3] Formula = Capacity (MW) * 8760 (hrs/yr) * 0.3 (capacity factor)



Proposed Lease G37963 (I-2)

	Lease G37963
Acres	96,786
Installation Capacity (MW)[1]	1,175
Homes powered[2]	411,250
Power Production (MWh/yr)[3]	3,087,900
Max Depth (meters[m])	36
Min Depth (m)	16
Closest distance to TX (km)	39

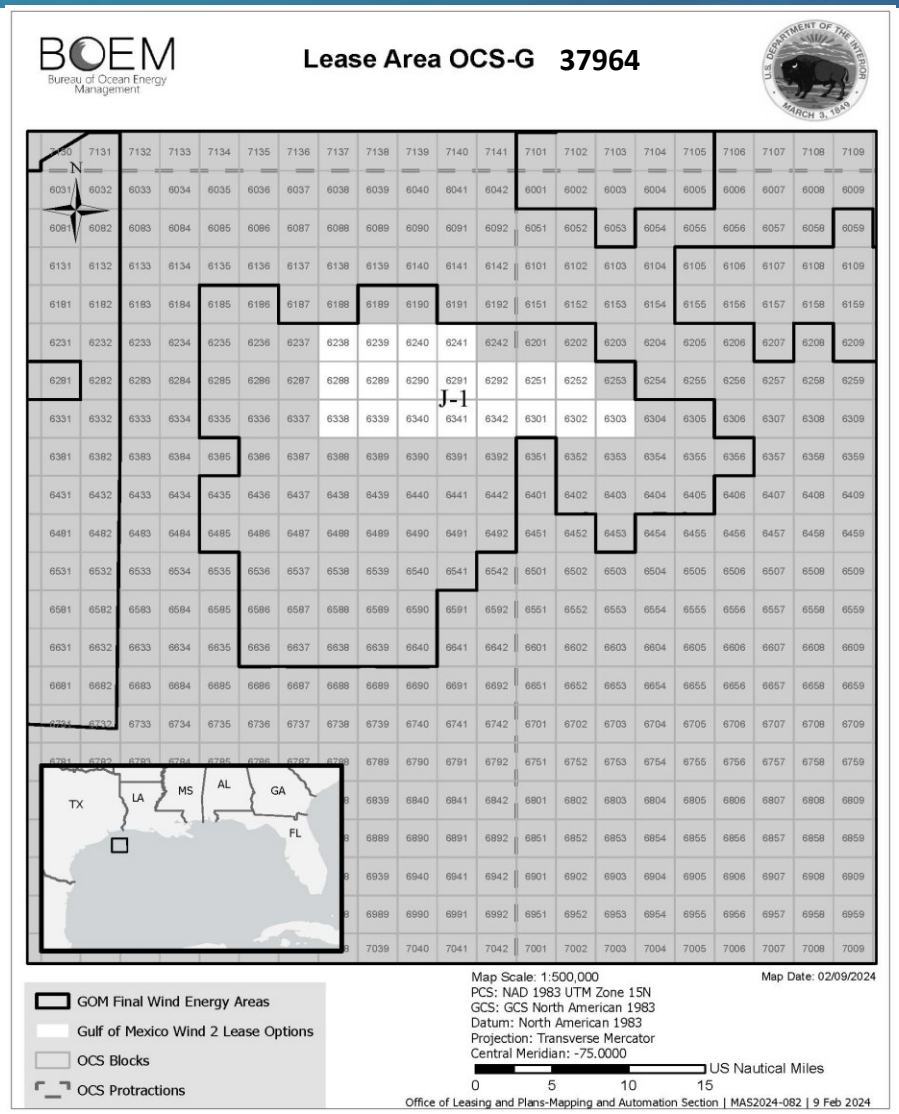
[1] Megawatts (MW) based upon 3MW/sqkm
[2] Based upon 350 homes per MW
[3] Formula = Capacity (MW) * 8760 (hrs/yr) * 0.3 (capacity factor)



Proposed Lease G37964 (J-1)

	Lease G37964
Acres	108,230
Installation Capacity (MW)[1]	1,314
Homes powered[2]	459,900
Power Production (MWh/yr)[3]	3,453,192
Max Depth (meters[m])	34
Min Depth (m)	21
Closest distance to TX (km)	75

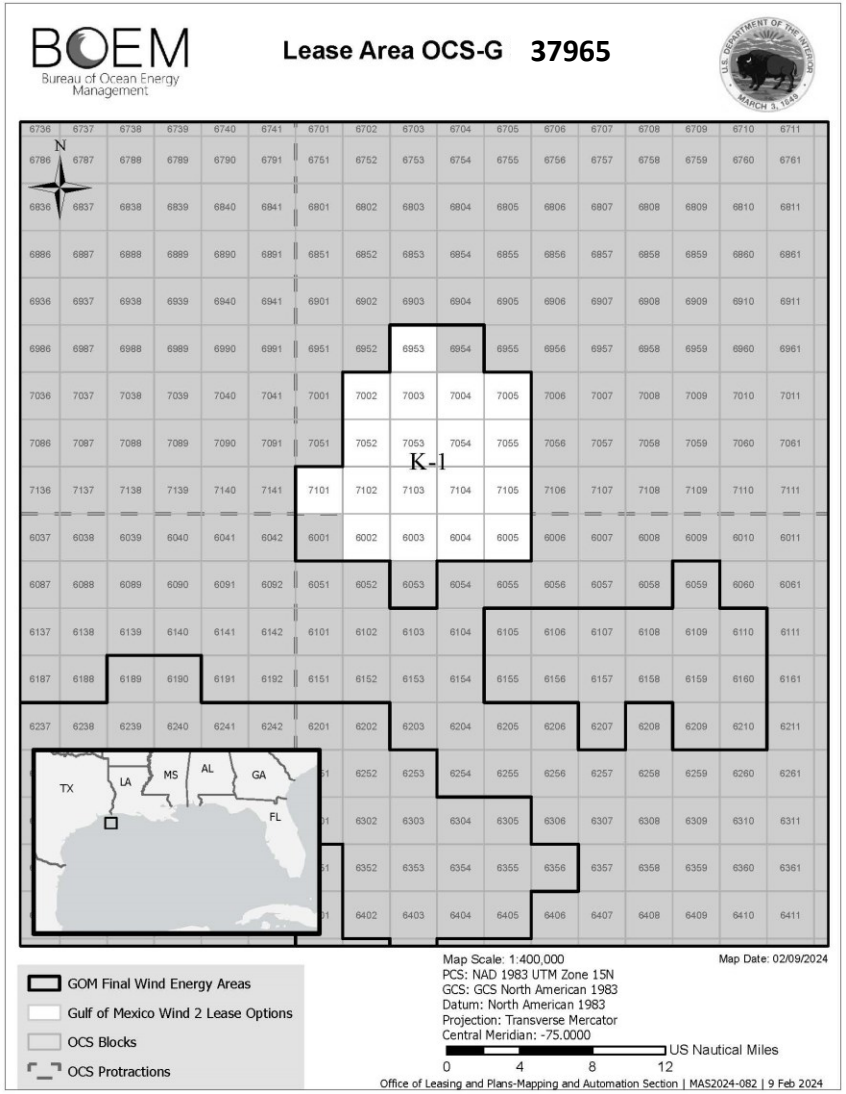
[1] Megawatts (MW) based upon 3MW/sqkm
[2] Based upon 350 homes per MW
[3] Formula = Capacity (MW) * 8760 (hrs/yr) * 0.3 (capacity factor)



Proposed Lease G37965 (K-1)

	Lease G37965
Acres	102,544
Installation Capacity (MW)[1]	1,245
Homes powered[2]	435,750
Power Production (MWh/yr)[3]	3,271,860
Max Depth (meters[m])	23
Min Depth (m)	18
Closest distance to TX (km)	58
Closest distance to LA (km)	59

[1] Megawatts (MW) based upon 3MW/sqkm
[2] Based upon 350 homes per MW
[3] Formula = Capacity (MW) * 8760 (hrs/yr) * 0.3 (capacity factor)



Proposed Lease Area Statistics

Lease Area Descriptive Statistics

Lease Area	Acres	Installation Capacity[1]	Homes Powered[2]	Power Production (MWh/yr.)[3]	Max Depth (meters)	Min Depth (meters)	Closest Distance to TX (km)	Closest Distance to LA (km)
G37962	102,480	1,244	435,400	3,269,232	36	16	28	
G37963	96,786	1,175	411,200	3,087,900	36	16	39	
G37964	108,230	1,314	459,900	3,453,192	31	24	75	100
G37965	102,544	1,245	435,750	3,271,860	23	18	58	59
TOTAL	410,040	4,978	1,742,250	13,082,184				

[1] Megawatts (MW) based upon 3MW/sqkm
[2] Based upon 350 homes per MW
[3] Formula = Capacity (MW) * 8760 (hrs/yr) * 0.3 (capacity factor)

Input Requested from Stakeholders

- Delineation, number, size, orientation and location of Leases Areas Offered
- Benefits to underserved communities
- Bidding credits –
  - Workforce training & supply chain development
  - Fishing compensatory mitigation fund
- Tribal Nations, ocean users, underserved communities, agencies, and other stakeholders engagement and reporting
- Prescribed layouts – uniform and aligned

NEPA Analysis

Michelle Nannen

Environmental Assessment Unit 1, Gulf of Mexico Region

Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)

- **Environmental Assessment (EA)**
  - BOEM conducted a programmatic EA for the Gulf of Mexico Call Area prior to the OSW-1 Lease Sale
- **Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)**
  - BOEM revisited the analysis conducted in the EA and verified that the conclusions were still valid for the OSW-2 Lease Sale in a DNA
  - The DNA will be filed in the administrative record for the OSW-2 Lease Sale

Environmental Assessment

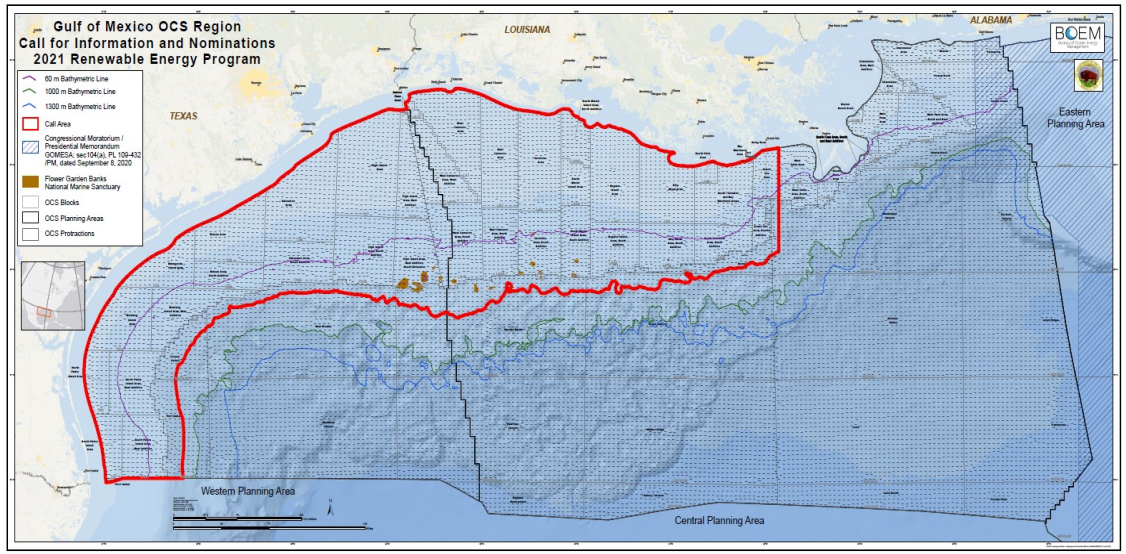
- **Analysis ONLY covers the impacts of issuing leases and the associated site assessment and site characterization activities**
  - Meteorological (met) buoys
  - Vessel trips
  - Geological and biological surveys
- **Analysis does NOT include**
  - Specific project layouts
  - Cable routes for specific projects
  - Visual impacts of a project
  - Wind Energy Area (WEA) identification
- **Analysis of *SPECIFIC* projects**
  - Covered later in the process
  - After a lease is obtained and project plan submitted
  - Additional opportunities for engagement and consultation

Example of a meteorological (met) buoy
Source: National Data Buoy Center, 2012

Approach for the EA

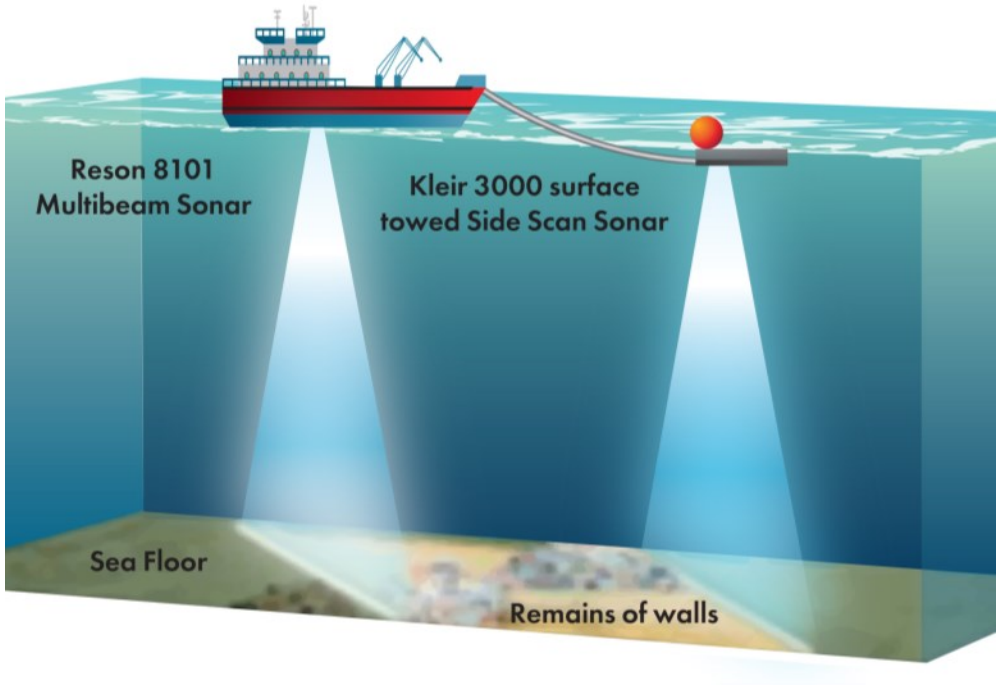
- **Approach differs from Atlantic wind energy lease issuance EAs**
  - Analyzed the Call Area rather than the WEAs
    - Allows greater flexibility for future identification of WEAs
    - Provides NEPA coverage for non-competitive and research leases proposed in the Call Area

- **Approach more in line with stakeholders in the GOM Region**
  - Familiar with regional NEPA analysis
  - Similar approach to conventional energy NEPA in the GOM Region
    - Analysis for more than one lease issuance
    - Flexibility for ID of several WEAs and lease areas over time
    - Allows for up to 18 leases to be covered in this analysis



Scope of the Analysis

- **EA is a programmatic assessment**
  - May be used for more than one lease issuance
- **Up to 18 leases in the Call Area**
  - Number of leases based on the estimate of foreseeable future activities based on historical trends of an emerging Renewable Energy Program on the Atlantic OCS
  - EA analyzes impacts of
    - A single OCS wind energy lease issuance
    - Issuance of 18 OCS wind energy leases
- **No more than 6-8 leases issued per lease sale**
  - Similar to those issued for Atlantic sales



Example of a seafloor survey

More Information on the Environmental Assessment

- **The EA concluded with a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)**
  - The FONSI is available on the BOEM website
    - https://www.boem.gov/sites/default/files/documents/renewable-energy/state-activities/FONSI_Signed20230524.pdf

- **Environmental Assessment (EA)**
  - The EA is available on the BOEM website
    - https://www.boem.gov/sites/default/files/documents/renewable-energy/state-activities/GOM%20Wind%20Lease%20EA_0.pdf

- **Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)**
  - The DNA indicated that the conclusions of the EA are still valid and applicable for the OSW-2 Lease Sale

Coastal Zone Management Act

Michelle Nannen

Environmental Assessment Unit 1, Gulf of Mexico Region

Consistency Determination (CD)

- **Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA)**
  - BOEM must comply with federal consistency regulations under CZMA for GOMW-2

- **Consistency Determination (CD)**
  - BOEM prepared a consistency determination (CD) for leases proposed in the GOMW-2 PSN
  - The programmatic EA supports the evaluation contained within the CD
  - The CD was sent to Louisiana (LA) and Texas (TX) coastal management programs (CMPs) in April 2024 beginning the federal consistency review process

Federal Consistency Review Process

- **Federal Consistency Review under 15 CFR part 930 subpart C**
  - 60-day review period for LA and TX CMPs is scheduled to conclude in June 2024
  - LA and TX CMPs could provide concurrence or objection to BOEM's CD, or BOEM could presume concurrence if a response is not provided by the end of the review period
  - LA and TX CMPs may request a 15-day extension which BOEM must grant under CZMA

Potential Lease-Specific Terms, Conditions and Stipulations

Aditee Madkekar, Renewable Energy Policy Group

Potential Lease-Specific Terms, Conditions and Stipulations

The following Lease-Specific Terms, Conditions and Stipulations are proposed to be included in Addendum C of the Lease Instrument:

- Site Characterization
- Reporting
- National Security and Military Operations
- Standard Operating Conditions
- Encourage Project Labor Agreements
- Supply Chain Statement of Goals
- Workforce Training and/or Domestic Supply Chain Development Bidding Credit (17%)
- Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation Fund Bidding Credit (8%)
- Siting Conditions

Potential Lease-Specific Terms, Conditions, and Stipulations

- **Reporting and Enhanced Engagement**
  - Progress Report submitted by Lessee every 6 months
    - Must include Communication Plans for fisheries, Tribes, and agencies
    - Must include coordinated engagement between Regional Lessees
- **Project Labor Agreements (PLAs)**
  - The Lessee must make every reasonable effort to enter into a PLA that covers the construction stage of any project proposed for the Lease Area.
- **Supply Chain Statement of Goals**
  - The Lessee must submit a statement describing plans, including engagement with domestic suppliers, for contributing to the creation of a robust and resilient US-based offshore wind supply chain.

Hydrogen

- Minor edits were made to the lease instrument in the PSN to allow lessees to propose hydrogen production as an energy product of offshore wind generation under 585.200(b). Two core areas were adjusted:
  - Easement and Project Description
  - Operations Calculations

Auction Format and Bidding Credits

Sarah Coffman, Chief of the Economics Division

Auction Format

- Multiple-factor auction format
  - Bidding system will be a combination of monetary and non-monetary factors.
  - The non-monetary factors will be bidding credits for commitments to financial investments in specific initiatives that further OCSLA's objectives.
- The bid in each round will represent the sum of the cash bid and the value of any non-monetary factors that the bidder qualified for in the form of bidding credits.
- BOEM will start the auction at the minimum bid price for the Lease Area and increase prices incrementally until no more than one active bidder per Lease Area remains in the auction.
  - The proposed minimum bid is $50 per acre.
- Auction will use a ‘second price’ rule.
  - Lease Area will be won by the bidder that submits the highest bid, but the winning bidder will pay the highest bid amount where there was competition.

Bidding Credit Calculation

- BOEM revised its calculation of bidding credits between GOMW-1 and GOMW-2
- For GOMW-2, Bidding Credits are calculated as a percentage of the winning bid
  - Previously, BOEM calculated bidding credits as a percentage of the cash bid.
- BOEM's proposed bidding credit percentages remain under its 25 percent winning bid bidding credit cap.

	GOMW-1	Example $10mm bid	GOMW-2	Example $10mm bid
Workforce Training/Supply Chain Development	15% of cash bid	$1.54mm	17% of winning bid	$1.7mm
Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation	10% of cash bid	$0.77mm	8% of winning bid	$0.8mm
Totals	23.08% of winning bid	$2.31mm	25% of the winning bid	$2.5mm

Proposed Bidding Credits

- Bidders may receive a bidding credit in exchange for committing to a monetary contribution to offshore wind programs or initiatives.
  - Bidding credits are calculated as a percentage of the bid.
  - BOEM caps bidding credits at 25 percent of the winning bid.

1. 17 percent non-monetary bid credit for a contribution to workforce training, supply chain development, or a combination of both.
   - Bidding credit for a commitment to invest in programs that will advance U.S. offshore wind energy **workforce training and/or supply chain development**.
     - The credit is intended to incentivize investments that would not occur otherwise.
2. 8 percent non-monetary bid credit for a contribution to a Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation Fund.
   - Bidding credit for establishing or contributing to an existing **Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation Fund**.

Proposed Bidding Credits – Workforce Training and Supply Chain

- Workforce Training and Supply Chain Development
  - 17 percent of the Cash Bid with the Contribution due by the lease's first FDR
  - Lessee retains flexibility consistent with its Conceptual Strategy to direct funds to most worthwhile training and supply chain efforts
    - Credit is intended to incentive investments that would not otherwise happen
  - Enhance, through training, the offshore wind workforce or to stand-up the domestic supply chain for offshore wind technology, manufacturing, assembly, or services
    - OCSLA nexus: operations must be conducted in a safe manner by well-trained personnel
    - OCSLA nexus: expeditious and orderly development, and protection of national security interests

Proposed Bidding Credits – Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation

- Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation Fund
  - 8 percent bidding credit in exchange for an equivalent cash commitment to an Atlantic Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation Fund
    - OCSLA Nexus: 8(p) requires BOEM to consider other uses of the sea including fisheries
  - Credit Design Features
    - Fund's first priority is for gear loss or damage or income loss, but if excess funds are actuarily determined, funds can be used for engagement and select gear upgrades
    - The fund provides certainty to fisheries stakeholders and is available as a perpetual fund to mitigate impacts from other leases
    - Fund must include fiduciary governance, strong internal controls, and annual reporting

Bidding Credits - Conceptual Strategy

- Bidders must submit a bidding credit conceptual strategy with the BFF.
  - The bidder's conceptual strategy will be reviewed by a BOEM Auction Panel for compliance with the bidding credit requirements.
  - Result is a Pass/Fail for each credit
- The BFF-Addendum provides instructions for completing the Conceptual Strategy.

Bidding Credit Example

- A provisional winner will pay the posted price for each lease area it won less its bidding credit.
- Example: a winning bidder qualifies for both bidding credits (a 25 percent bidding credit) and the total winning bid is $10 million.
  - The bidder would pay its $7.5 million cash bonus to the Office of Natural Resource Revenue (ONRR).
  - The bidder receives a credit of $1.7 million towards its winning bid in exchange for committing $1.7 million to workforce training or development of the domestic supply.
  - The bidder receives a credit of $0.8 million towards its winning bid in exchange for committing $0.8 million to a Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation Fund.

Task Force Discussion
Questions and Comments on the Proposed Sale Notice

BREAK

Return at 10:45 a.m. CT

Tribal Member Updates

Federal Updates

Gulf of Mexico
Port Access Route Study

LCDR Rachel Stryker

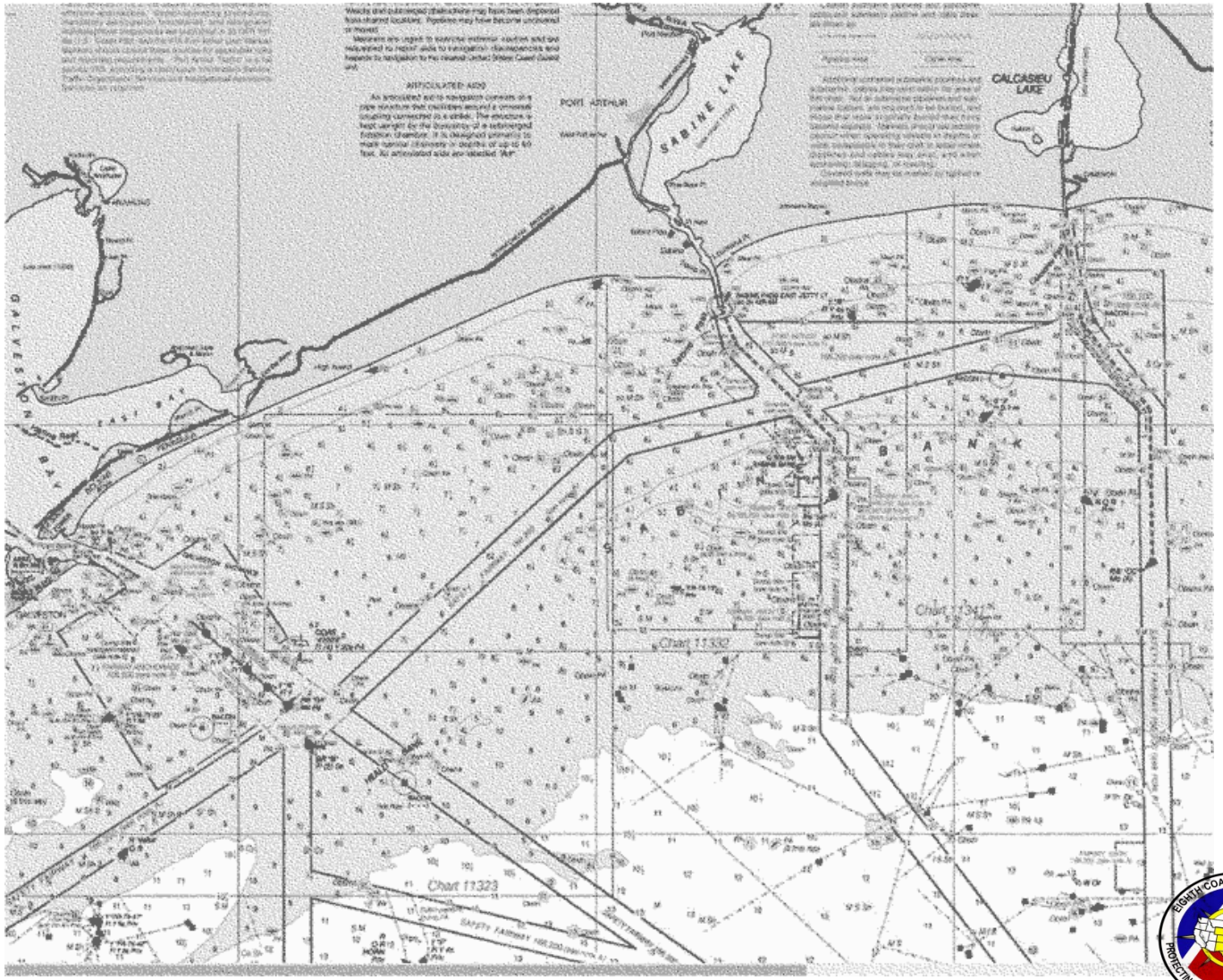
Port Access Route Study (PARS)

Previous Studies

- 1979-1981 (Approaches to US major ports)
  - No Major Changes to Gulf Fairways
  - Traffic Separation Scheme for Houston Galveston – adopted in 1982
  - Recommendation for Anchorages for Sabine Pass and Calcasieu Pass
- 1984-1985 (Heald Bank (31 nm off Galveston) and Louisiana Offshore Oil Port)
  - New Fairway around Heald Bank
  - No Changes to Louisiana Offshore Oil Port fairways

Additional Change 1989 – Traffic Separation Scheme for Houston Galveston updated

Nautical Chart with Current Access Routes

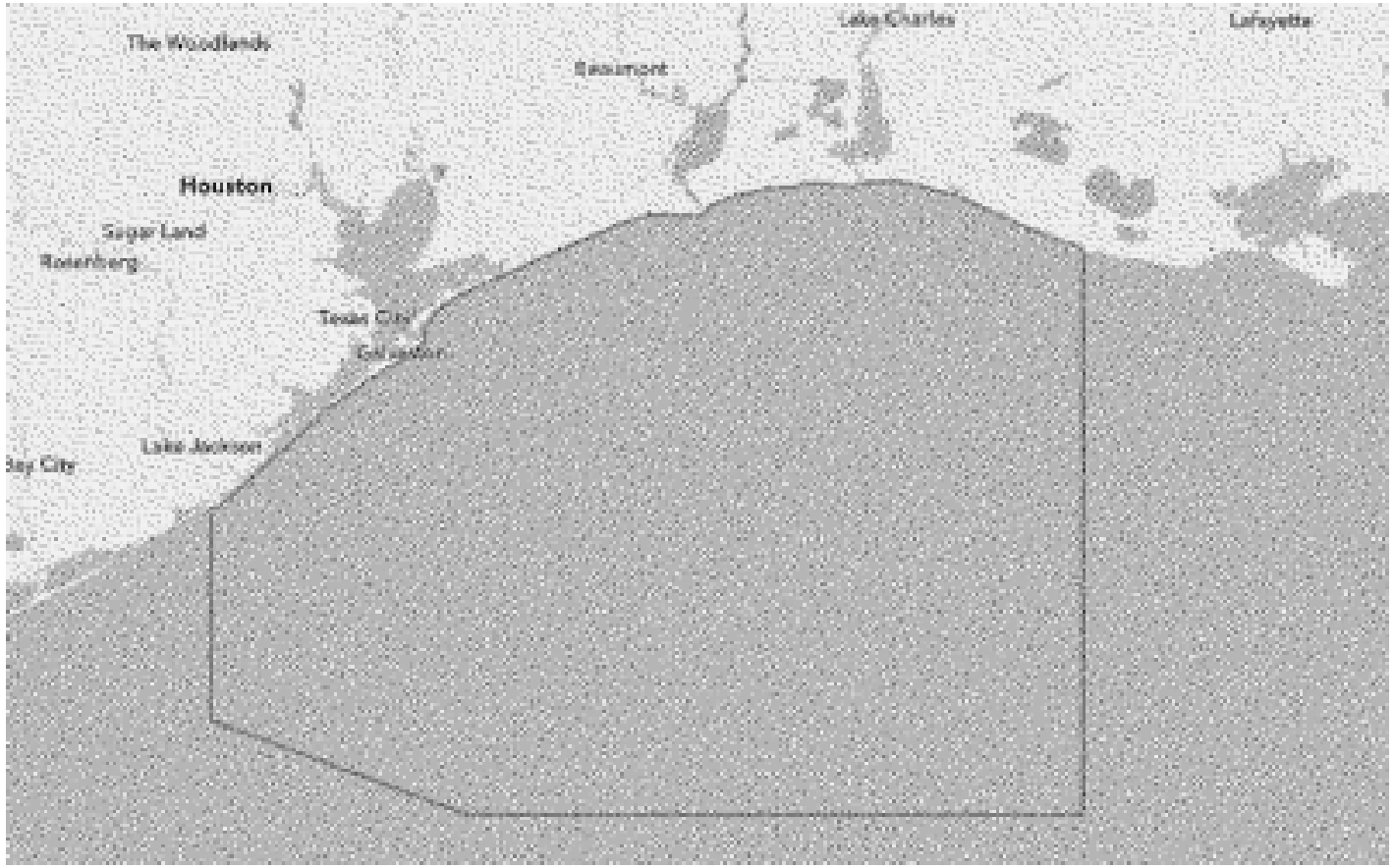


Homeland Security

Port Access Route Study (PARS)

- Federal Register Notice
  - 01 March 2023
  - Open for Comment until 17 May 2023
  - 7 Comments
    - Wind Energy
    - Mariners
    - Shipping Companies
  - Concerns
    - Entry into the Port
    - Lightering
    - Width of Fairways

Outline of PARS area



Homeland Security

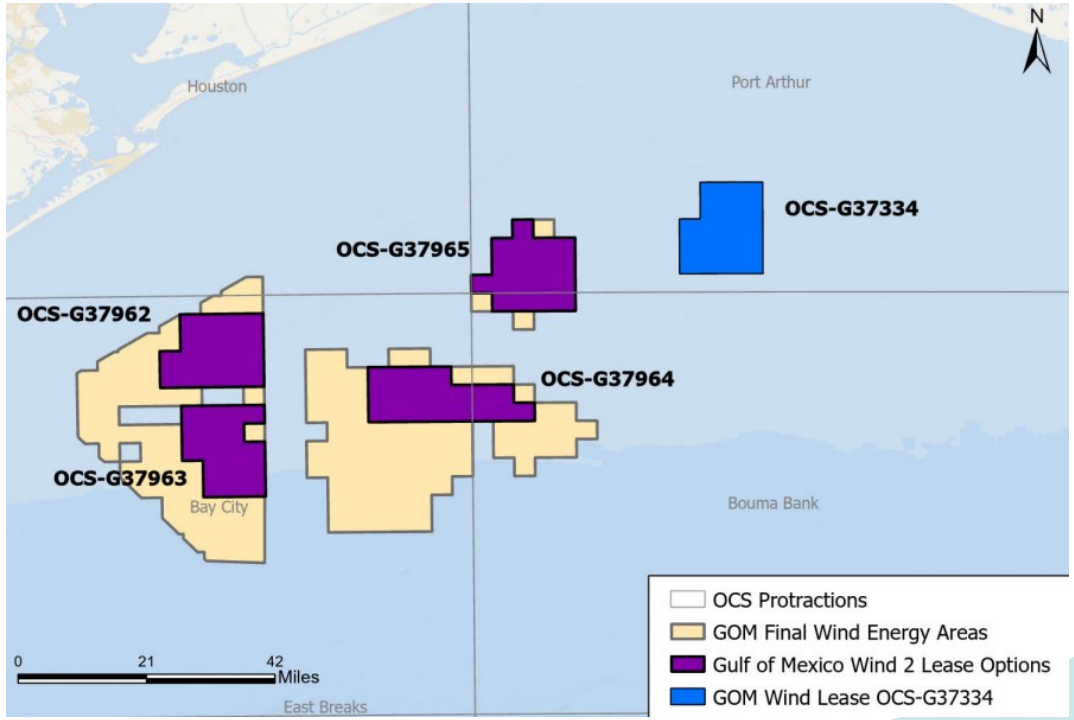
Offshore Wind Energy in the Gulf of Mexico

Task Force Meeting - April 18, 2024

NOAA FISHERIES

Successes & Challenges

- Building upon Successes
- Mission Critical Scientific Surveys
- Green Hydrogen
- Cumulative Impacts
- Stakeholder Interaction, Engagement, & Collaboration
- Regional Monitoring & Adaptive Management



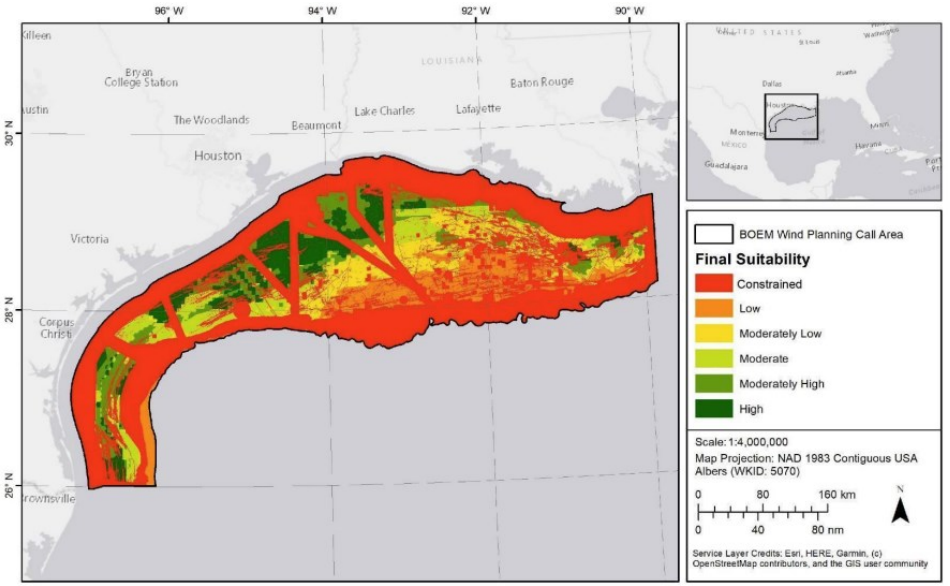
Successes of OSW Collaboration in the Gulf of Mexico

BOEM's successful rollout of OSW in the Gulf of Mexico is the result of leveraging partnerships with resource and permitting agencies to collaboratively deconflict WEAs.

- BOEM/NCCOS
  - Marine Spatial Planning helped inform the designation of Wind Energy Areas which was met with support from affected stakeholders
  - GOM MSP model being employed nationwide
  - Reduced conflicts with affected fisheries
  - Avoided Rice's whale critical habitat

- BOEM/NMFS
  - Inclusion of bidding credits for contributions to fisheries compensatory mitigation fund
  - Coordination to develop a joint NMFS/BOEM Survey Mitigation Strategy (ongoing)
  - Participation in NMFS research planning efforts (Integrated Ecosystem Assessment, NCEAS Working Group)

Continued collaboration and coordination is paramount to ensuring responsible OSW development occurs in the GOM



Mission Critical Scientific Surveys

- Four impacts to surveys:
  - Exclusion vessels and aircraft
  - Increased vessel transit time;
  - Impacts to statistical designs
  - Alteration of habitat types.

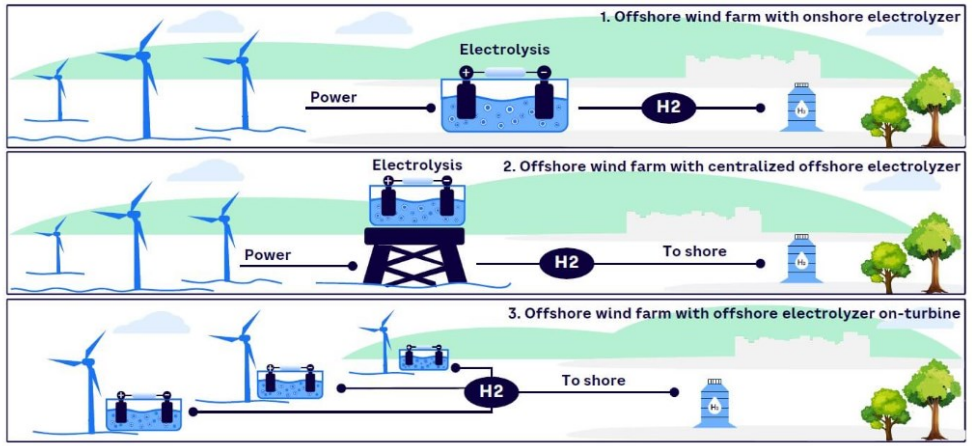
- Offshore wind development disrupts statistical design and increases uncertainty in stock assessments

- Finalize and implement the NOAA Fisheries/BOEM Southeast Region Survey Mitigation Strategy.

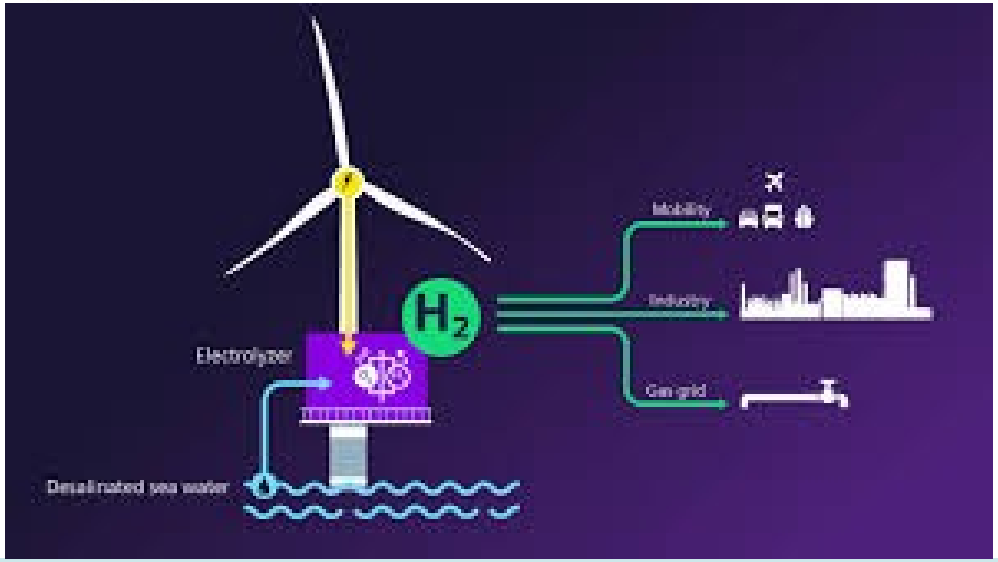
Green Hydrogen and Extension of Lease Scope

- Successful marine spatial planning was conducted for offshore wind, not green hydrogen.
- Green hydrogen requires substantial volumes of water, raising impingement concerns for fish eggs and larvae.
- Outputs from initial OSW developments are needed for electricity production that displaces fossil fuel generation.
- Future Marine Spatial Planning to inform additional lease opportunities (E.g. Gulf Wind 3+) must consider the full suite of potential lease activities.

Figure 5. Hydrogen integration with offshore wind farms, 3 models



Source: Arthur D. Little



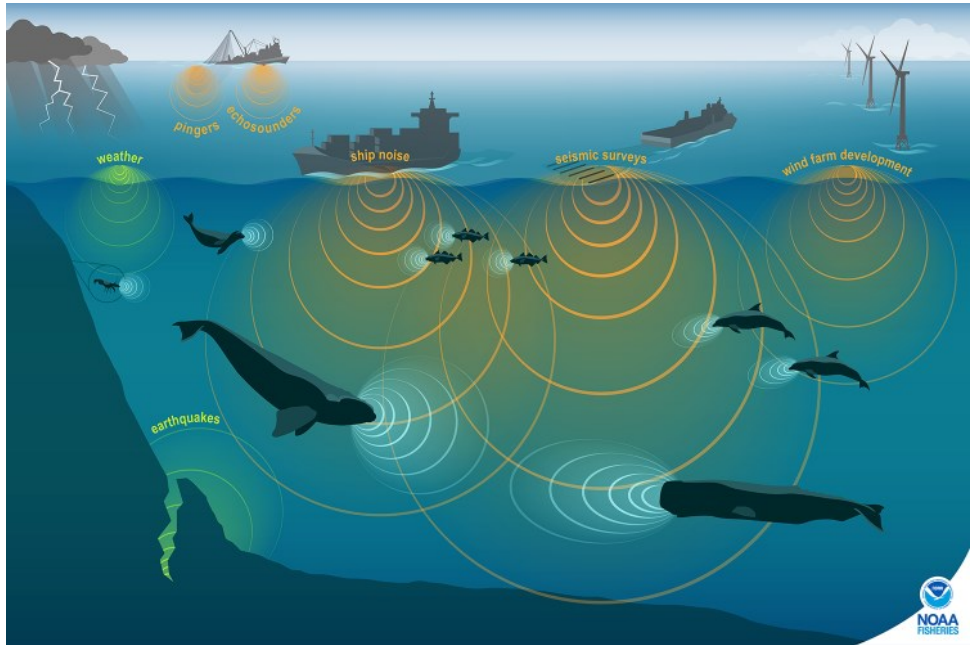
Stakeholder Engagement, Interaction, & Collaboration

- Continue coordinated stakeholder engagement to build upon the success of spatial planning with NCCOS as this process is imperative to informing future lease sales, cable routing scenarios, and ongoing adaptive management strategies.
- Equity and Environmental Justice considerations
  - Inclusion of all groups in the OSW development process.
- Social surveys and targeted focus groups will aid in understanding the social impacts of offshore wind development to coastal communities.
- We support the bidding credit process to incentivize developer contributions to workforce training and fisheries compensation mitigation funds.
  - It is unclear if an 8% bidding credit will result in sufficient funds to compensate for direct and indirect impacts to commercial and recreational fisheries.

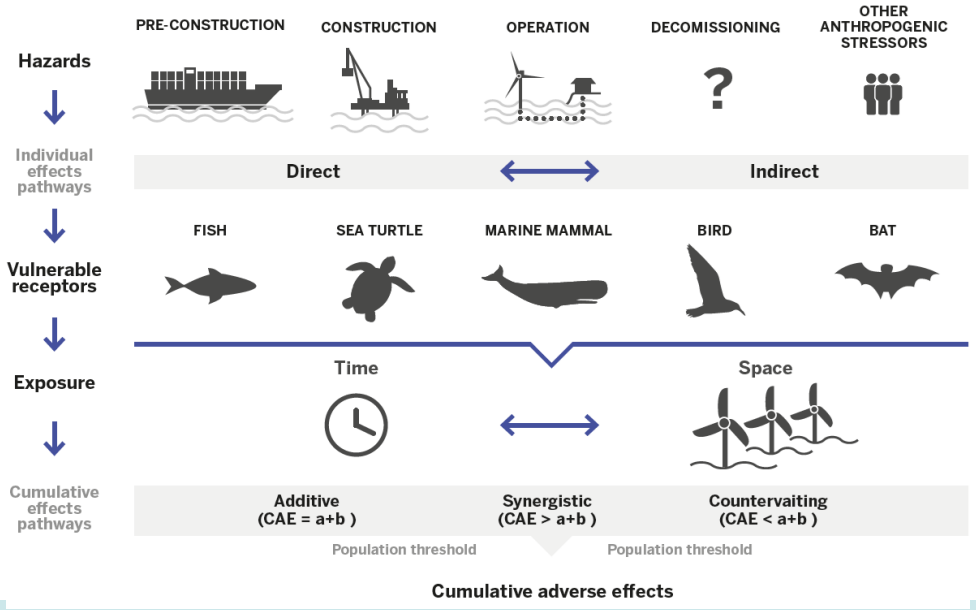
Coordinate regional stakeholder engagement throughout the lifespan of offshore wind projects to provide the forum necessary for adaptive management strategies.

Cumulative impact consideration

- As OSW grows in the region, the process of leasing and approval of operations operates on a project-by-project basis.
- The existing comment and approval process does not readily support consideration of cumulative impacts.
- How do we set up a consideration of cumulative impacts?

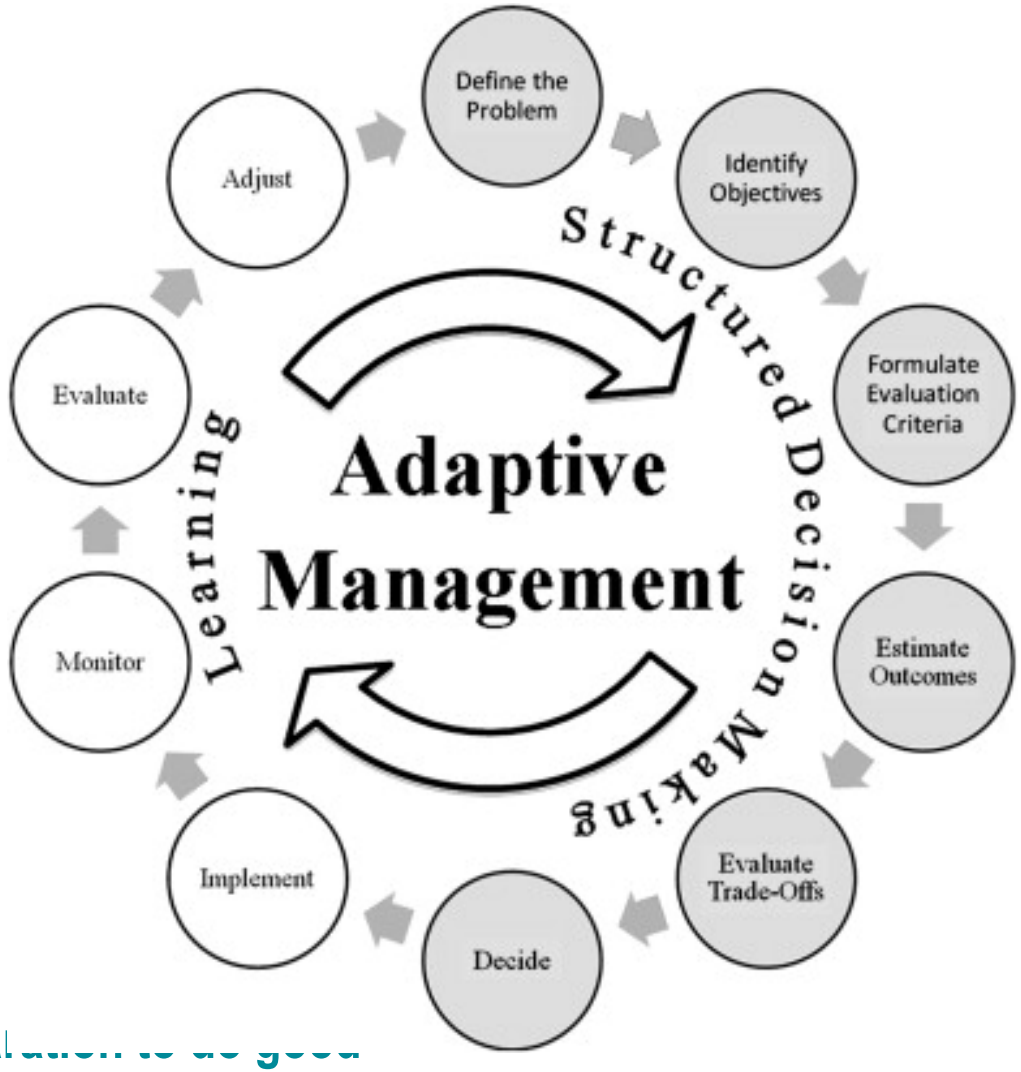


CUMULATIVE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ON WILDLIFE



Conclusion: Opportunities Moving Forward

- Programmatic Consultation
  - BOEM/NMFS could prepare a programmatic ESA Section 7 consultation to address construction, operation, and decommissioning activities.
  - This could greatly improve the efficiencies in the permitting process and consider cumulative impacts of wind energy on protected species.
- Regional Monitoring & Adaptive Management
  - Develop a regional monitoring program and funding mechanism tied to the lease sale to monitor the impacts of OSW energy development and inform adaptive management decisions.
  - Proactive measures and management will help mitigate the effects of offshore wind on trust resources at the local and regional scales.
  - Adaptive management to avoid and minimize unforeseen impacts from OSW development projects.
  - Learn before doing, not after doing.



Challenges present opportunities for adaptivity. The best prepa[illegible] work tomorrow is to do good work today.

State Updates

Alabama

Louisiana

Mississippi

Texas

Task Force Member Updates

Overview of Next Steps and Closing Remarks

Future Action: Next Few Months

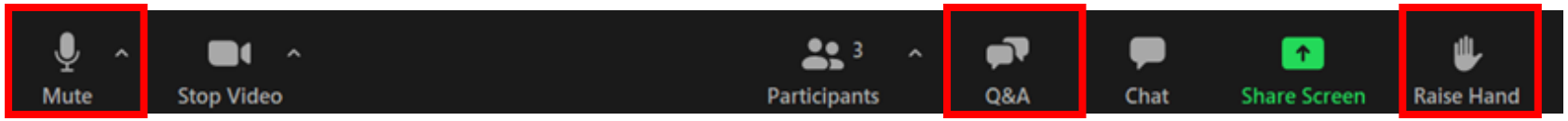
- Next Steps
  - BOEM participation at IPF
  - Provide formal comments on the PSN through www.regulations.gov [docket number BOEM-2024-0017] on or before 11:59 pm ET on May 20th, 2024.
  - Final Sale Notice (FSN)
  - Proposed Lease Auction

Task Force Meeting Adjourn
Return at 10:35 a.m. CT for Public Input Opportunity

Public Input Opportunity

Public Input Opportunity – Participation Guidelines

- To get in the queue to speak, please click the “raised hand” button (icon in the bottom taskbar). The facilitator will call on you.
- For phone participants, dial *9 to Raise Hand to enter the queue once called on by the facilitator, dial *6 to unmute and begin speaking.
- If needed, you can also share comments using the “Q&A pod” in the bottom taskbar. Messages will be read aloud by the facilitation team following the oral comments.



- Provide informal public input opportunity to share thoughts on the Task Force discussions or the issues they are addressing.
- Formal comments on the PSN should be provide through www.regulations.gov [docket number BOEM-2024-0017] on or before 11:59 pm ET on May 20th, 2024

Contact Information

- For any questions, please contact:
  - Renee Bigner, Renee.Bigner@boem.gov

- For media inquiries, please contact:
  - Hillary Mckey, Hillary.Mckey@boem.gov
  - John Filostrat, John.Filostrat@boem.gov

Public Input Opportunity – Participation Guidelines

- "Honor" the agenda and timing afforded.
- Participate respectfully.
- Speak in order; facilitator will mind the queue.
- Provide your name and affiliation before you speak.
- Speak clearly into the mic/phone for others to hear you.

THANK YOU!