BOEM manages the responsible exploration and development of offshore energy and marine mineral resources on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The bureau promotes energy independence, environmental protection and economic development through responsible management of these offshore resources based on the best available science.

BOEM’s offshore oil and gas leasing program considers environmental, social and economic values of the nation's domestically produced energy supply. OCS production accounts for about 18 percent of domestic crude oil and four percent of domestic natural gas supply. In Fiscal Year 2016, federal leasing revenues for the OCS were approximately $2.8 billion. The sales value of the oil and gas resources amounted to about $26 billion, and generated about $55 billion in total spending in the economy. These expenditures supported approximately 315,000 domestic jobs.

As an emerging part of the nation’s all-of-the-above energy portfolio, BOEM’s OCS renewable energy program provides a new source of domestic energy supply with less carbon emissions, and offers the prospect of more domestic jobs and wages, and increased revenues from lease bonuses, rentals on acreage leased, and production operating fees. In the future, BOEM anticipates development of offshore renewable energy from three sources: wind energy, ocean wave energy and ocean current energy.

In addition to its offshore energy responsibilities, BOEM manages appropriate access to OCS marine minerals such as sand and gravel for coastal restoration projects. BOEM has authorized more than 139 million cubic yards of OCS material for 52 coastal restoration projects in eight states to restore more than 303 miles of the nation's coastline. These projects protect billions of dollars of infrastructure and ecological habitats while restoring public beaches affected by severe erosion.

Key functions of the bureau include:

- The BOEM Office of Strategic Resources, which is responsible for the development of the Five Year Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Natural Gas Leasing Program, oversees assessments of the oil, gas and other mineral resource potential of the OCS, inventories oil and gas reserves, develops production projections, conducts economic evaluations to ensure fair market value is received by U.S. taxpayers for OCS leases, and prepares official maps and GIS data for the OCS.
- BOEM conducts **Oil and Gas Lease Sales**, and negotiates **Sand and Gravel** agreements. Shore protection, beach nourishment, and coastal habitat restoration projects are the primary uses of sand and gravel.

- The BOEM **Office of Renewable Energy Programs** oversees orderly, safe, and environmentally responsible renewable energy development activities on the OCS. The program grants leases, easements, and rights of way for offshore renewable energy. BOEM works directly with federal, state, local and tribal governments through 14 renewable energy task forces. These valuable stakeholder groups help identify wind energy areas and issues related to upcoming offshore renewable energy projects.

- BOEM’s **Office of Environmental Programs** prepares and oversees environmental reviews, including **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)** analyses for offshore energy and mineral development. In addition, BOEM develops, funds, and manages rigorous scientific research to inform policy decisions regarding the development of energy and mineral resources on the OCS.

- **BOEM has three regional offices:** in New Orleans, La.; Camarillo, Calif.; and Anchorage, Alaska. The regional offices manage oil and gas resource evaluations, environmental studies and assessments, leasing activities -- including the review of exploration plans and development plans -- fair market value determinations, and geological and geophysical permitting.

**BOEM Organizational Structure**