

OCS Policy Committee

Function

The OCS Policy Committee will give advice related to discretionary functions of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, representing the collective viewpoint of coastal states, environmental interests, industry, and other parties to the Secretary of the Interior through the Director of the Minerals Management Service. These functions include all aspects of leasing, exploration, development and protection of OCS resources.

Membership

There are three categories of members on this Committee. All members may designate alternates to attend Committee meetings in their place.

State Members

The Governor of each coastal state and Pennsylvania may nominate for appointment by the Secretary one policy-level person to serve as a member of the Committee. Each state member will serve until the member resigns or is removed by the Governor of the state the member represents. If a state vacancy occurs, the Governor of the state in which there is a vacancy may nominate another person to serve on the Committee. A coastal state is any state bordering on the Atlantic, the Pacific, the Gulf of Mexico, or the Long Island Sound.

Discretionary Members

The Secretary may appoint up to 12 members from the private and public sector to serve 2-year terms on the Committee. Members may be reappointed to serve additional 2-year terms. Appointments are to balance the Committee in terms of background, constituency, points of view, and function.

Federal, Ex Officio Members

The head person of each of the following organizations will appoint one policy-level person to serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Committee:

- Department of Commerce
 - \$ Department of Defense
 - \$ Department of Energy

- \$ Department of State
- \$ Department of Transportation
- \$ Environmental Protection Agency

Each Federal, ex officio member will serve until the member resigns or is removed by the Federal agency that appointed the member. If a Federal ex officio vacancy occurs, another person may be appointed by the agency to serve on the Committee.

The following officers of the Department of the Interior, or their designee, are nonvoting ex officio members of the Committee:

- Assistant Secretary - Land and Minerals Management
 - \$ Assistant Secretary - Fish and Wildlife and Parks
- Director - Minerals Management Service

Officers

The Committee will elect from its membership a Chair and Vice Chair to serve 2-year terms. The Director, Minerals Management Service, or designee will serve as the Designated Federal Officer, provide the services of an Executive Secretary, and attend all meetings.

Official to Whom the Committee Reports

The Secretary of the Interior through the Director of the Minerals Management Service.

Office Responsible for Providing Necessary Support

The Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service.

Subcommittees

The Committee may establish subcommittees to study issues in-depth and to develop recommendations for consideration by the full Committee. Membership will be balanced in terms of points of view, subcommittee function, and expertise required by the subcommittee. Subcommittees may include people who are not members of the Committee. The Committee Chair will appoint subcommittee members.

Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least twice a year. Other meetings may be called at the request of a majority of the Committee members.

Travel Expenses

Each state and discretionary member, or alternate member, will be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred when attending Committee meetings in accordance with Federal travel regulations as implemented by the Department of the Interior.

Estimated Operating Costs

We estimate that the activities of the OCS Policy Committee will require an estimated \$90,000 and 2 work years of Federal employee support annually.

Meeting Minutes

Detailed minutes of each Committee meeting, recommendations made, and copies of all studies and reports received, issued, or approved in conjunction with the activities of the Committee will be available for public inspection at the following location:

Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
381 Elden Street, Mail Stop 4001
Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817