MMS Public Meeting

# Welcome

OCS Renewable Energy and
Alternate Use Programmatic EIS

# Who is MMS?

*The Minerals Management Service manages the energy and mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf and Federal and Indian mineral revenues to enhance public and trust benefit, promote responsible use, and realize fair value.*

# Minerals Management Service

- Responsible for management of 1.76 billion OCS acres
  - Lease issuance to decommission
- Day-to-Day
  - ≈ 8,500 leases
  - ≈ 47 million acres leased
  - ≈ 30% of oil; 21% natural gas
  - ≈ 4,000 production platforms
  - ≈ 33,000 miles of pipeline
  - ≈ 42,000 OCS personnel
  - ≈ 125 operating companies
- $8 billion annual revenue

# Programmatic EIS for Outer Continental Shelf Renewable Energy and Alternate Use

## Regional Planning Areas on the Outer Continental Shelf

# Energy Policy Act 2005

- Signed by President August 8, 2005
- 23 different provisions related to Offshore resource management
- Includes Renewable Energy
- Includes Alternate Use of Existing Infrastructure

# What Does Energy Policy Act of 2005 do?

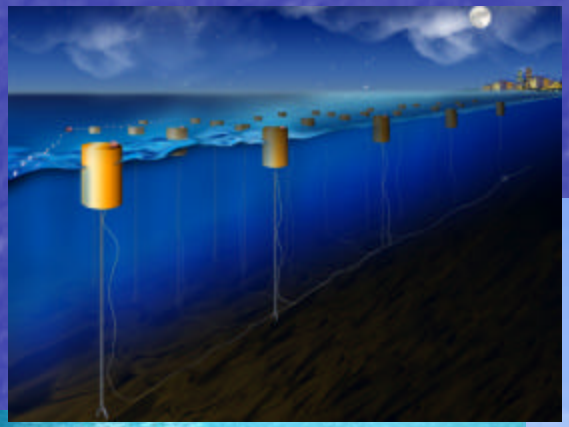
- Amends OCS Lands Act (OCSLA) to authorize the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) to act as “lead” agency for certain alternate energy and marine-related uses on the OCS
  - DOI designated OCSLA authority to MMS
- MMS must develop regulatory regime that
  - Ensures consultation with States and other stakeholders
  - Grants leases, easement, or right-of ways
  - Enforces regulatory compliance
  - Requires financial surety
  - Provides fair return to the Nation

# What does Energy Policy Act of 2005 not do?

- Supersede or modify existing Federal authority
- Apply to areas designated as National Marine Sanctuaries, National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, or any National Monument
- Does not include Ocean Thermal Energy

# OCS Renewable Energy Uses

- Create a new regulatory process
  - Issue necessary regulations
  - Establish revenue sharing formula
  - Ensure safe operations and environmental protection



# Examples of OCS Renewable Energy

- Wind Energy
- Wave Energy
- Ocean Current Energy
- Solar Energy
- Hydrogen

# Examples of Alternate Use

- Aquaculture
- Research
- Education
- Recreation
- Offshore Operations Support
- Telecommunications

# MMS Tasks

- Near term
  - Evaluation of proposed projects
- Long term
  - Develop a regulatory program that integrates "new" uses with existing uses of offshore resources

# Near Term: Evaluate Proposed Projects

- Separate scoping process from Programmatic EIS
- Identify State and Federal resource agencies and NGOs with information and expertise
- Evaluate the environmental and technical components of each proposal from construction through decommissioning

# Long Term: Developing a Framework

- Program design premises:
  - Enter into meaningful dialogue with stakeholders
  - Create new regulatory process
  - Focus on “regulator” role
  - Use sound science, engineering, and environmental protection principles

# What are MMS's main goals?

- Provide for multiple-use management of Federal offshore lands for non-traditional energy and related uses
- Protect the Nation's economic and land use interests
- Establish a predictable process that facilitates private sector permitting and encourages public sector input
- Provide the public and private sector with certainty and stability

# What are MMS's main goals?

- Increase and balance the Nation's sources and supplies of energy
- Encourage new and innovative technologies to help meet our energy needs
- Support the Energy Policy Act's initiative to simplify permitting for energy production in an environmentally safe manner

# Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR)

- Published ANPR in the *Federal Register* in December 2005.
- Requested comments on issues including:
  - Access to OCS lands and resources,
  - Coordination and consultation,
  - Environmental information and compliance,
  - Operational activities, and
  - Payments and revenues.
- Public comment period closed on February 28, 2006.

# Prepare Programmatic EIS

- Address both program and rule
- Programmatic level now; site specific later
- Identify generic impacts of renewable energy technologies
- Identify generic impacts of alternate use of existing facilities
- Recommend mitigation measures
- Recommend best practices

# Why is an EIS Needed?

- Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), analyze how the proposed action could impact the natural and human environment
- The analysis in an EIS is used to help the decision maker and the public understand the environmental and socioeconomic advantages and disadvantages of the decision
- The analysis is made available for citizens to review

# What's in an EIS?

- An Environmental Impact Statement is a comprehensive analysis of environmental and socioeconomic impacts
- Describes the purpose and need for the proposed program
- Identifies environmental impacts and mitigation
- Analyzes alternatives to a proposed action
- Analyzes the short and long term impacts and the commitment of resources that could result
- Describes how public concerns were treated in the analysis

# What is Scoping?

The purpose of scoping is to determine the extent and content of an EIS

- For scoping, MMS asks for public comment and input from States, local governments, Tribes, industry, Federal Agencies, public interest groups, environmental groups, and citizens
- Comments may be made on the web, in person at scoping meetings, or through the mail

# What types of comments/input is MMS looking for?

- Comments on program and rule now; site-specific later
- Issues of concern related to renewable energy development and alternate use of existing facilities
- Input from industry regarding potential areas of interest, types of technologies, timing, etc.
- Identification of mitigation measures and alternatives
- Environmental and predictive information pertaining to offshore and coastal areas potentially affected by OCS development

# Programmatic EIS Schedule

- Scoping – May 5 to July 5, 2006
- Publish Draft EIS – February 2007
- Publish Proposed Rule – February 2007
- Public Hearings – March, April 2007
- Comment Period Closes – April 2007
- Publish Final EIS – August 2007
- Record of Decision – September 2007
- Final Rule – September 2007

# How to Comment

- At this meeting
- Using the comment cards
- At our website: http://ocsenergy.anl.gov
- In writing:

MMS Renewable Energy and Alternate Use
Programmatic EIS Scoping
Argonne National Laboratory
9700 S. Cass Avenue
Argonne, IL 60439