

Technical Announcement

U. S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region

Date: May 2013

Contact: Caryl Fagot
(504) 736-2590

Energy Market and Infrastructure Information for Evaluating Renewable Energy Projects for the Atlantic and Pacific OCS Regions Volume I: Technical Report and Volume II: Appendices

OCS Study BOEM [2013-0113](#) and [0114](#)

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, announces the availability of a new study report, *Energy Market and Infrastructure Information for Evaluating Alternate Energy Projects for the Atlantic and Pacific OCS Regions, Volume I: Technical Report and Volume II: Appendices*.

This report provides background information about the renewable energy industry and an introduction to electricity generation, transmission and distribution as related to renewable energy projects (wind, wave and ocean current). The report examines trends in the electricity market; factors affecting the delivery of power from an offshore generation site to the onshore electrical grid; the regulatory agencies involved; and the infrastructure needed to manufacture, install and maintain the various technologies. It also identifies, within each discussion, how the offshore renewable energy industry differs from the offshore oil and gas industry. The report examines the potential community impacts through two case studies: a wave park off the Oregon coast and a wind park off the Massachusetts coast.

The study finds that the largest impediment to developing offshore renewable energy is in its transmission and integration into onshore electricity. The general maritime infrastructure (e.g., ports, shipbuilding and repair and vessels) required by the offshore renewable energy industry is already available. The extent to which it will be necessary to manufacture specialized installation vessels (as opposed to retrofitting existing vessels) will depend on the pace at which energy farms are put into operation. The effects of renewable energy development on jobs in certain areas will depend on whether a sufficient number of projects become close enough to reality that companies are willing to invest in new manufacturing plants (e.g., turbines, marine electric cable, etc.). If this happens, the number of jobs created to support the entire supply chain could be substantial.

This report is available only in compact disc format from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, at a charge of \$15.00, by referencing OCS Study BOEM 2013-0113 and 0114. The report may be downloaded free of charge from the BOEM

website: [Environmental Studies Program Information System \(ESPIS\)](#). You will be able to obtain this report also from the National Technical Information Service in the near future. Here are the addresses. You may also inspect copies at selected Federal Depository Libraries.

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
Public Information Office (GM 217G)
1201 Elmwood Park Blvd.
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394
Phone: (504) 736-2519, 1-800-200-GULF
Fax: (504) 736-2620

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Technical Information Service
5301 Shawnee Rd.
Springfield, Virginia 22312
Phone: (703) 605-6000, 1-800-553-6847
Fax: (703) 605-6900
Website: <http://www.ntis.gov/>

BOEM Main Website: <http://www.boem.gov/>