

Perspectives from the National Academy of Sciences

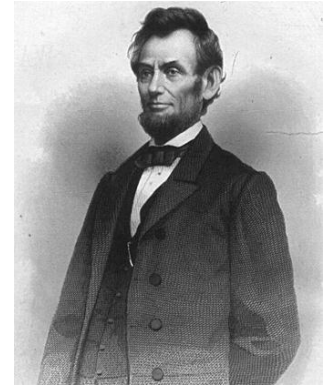
Presentation to BOEM's Outer Continental Shelf
Scientific Committee Meeting
May 15, 2014

Overview of Presentation

- Overview of the National Academies
- New Academy Committee for BOEM
- NAS Gulf Program

Overview of the National Academies

Established to advise the United States government



- ▶ “...The Academy shall, whenever called upon by any department of the Government, investigate, examine, experiment, and report upon any subject of science...”
 - ▶ 1863 Congressional Charter of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences

Overview



3 Honorary Societies:

- National Academy of Sciences
- National Academy of Engineering
- Institute of Medicine

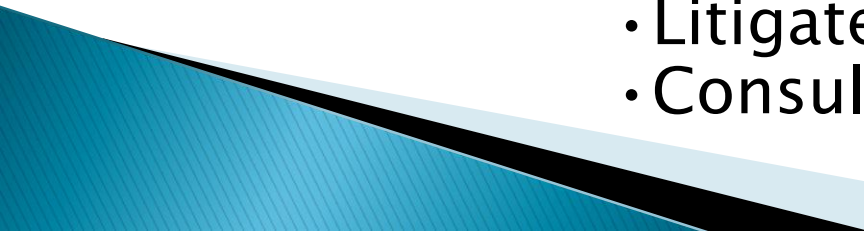
And an operating arm:

- National Research Council

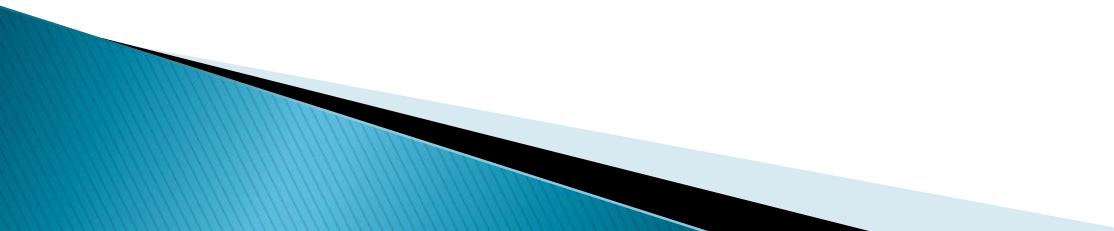
The National Academies are...

- Advisers to the nation on science, engineering, and medicine
- Independent and objective
- Nonprofit
- Nonpartisan
- Able to draw on leading experts from scientific and technical disciplines (volunteers)

The National Academies do not...

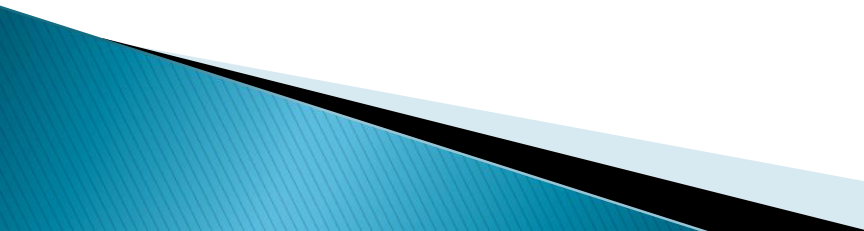
- Make policy
 - Lobby
 - Litigate
 - Consult to for-profit entities
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What we do

- **Studies** that provide independent, expert consensus advice through peer-reviewed reports
 - **Workshops** that convene leading scientists, engineers, public health, and other experts to share their views on important science-policy issues
 - **Standing committees** that provide an ongoing neutral forum for an agency (or agencies) to engage with the scientific community and other agencies on topics related to its mission
 - **Roundtables** that provide an ongoing neutral forum for stakeholders to exchange views and examine issues of common interest
 - **Research management**
 - **Fellowships/grants**
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New BOEM Standing Committee

Statement of Task

- ▶ Convene experts from academia, industry, and other organizations to provide independent, technical input on issues of interest to BOEM's environmental studies and assessment programs, and potentially other programs;
 - ▶ Facilitate stakeholder discussions of controversial issues;
 - ▶ Enhance the understanding of developments in related fields of science and technology, and if warranted, to develop NRC studies on specific topics;
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New BOEM Standing Committee

Statement of Task (continued)

- ▶ Provide a venue for BOEM staff to meet and exchange information with staff from other federal agencies and help BOEM define its unique role in the interagency process; and
- ▶ Facilitate the exchange of information and lessons learned with staff from other world class applied environmental studies and assessment programs with a view to assisting BOEM in being the best in such programs.

NRC Reports



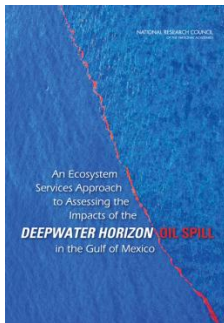
Tall

Letter report, peer review of technical document
A Review of Genwest's Final Report on Effective Daily Recovery Capacity (EDRC)



Grande

Workshop report
Seasonal to Decadal Predictions of Arctic Sea Ice



Venti

Full scope consensus study
An Ecosystem Services Approach to Assessing the Impacts of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico