
BOEMRE Team Returns from Papua New Guinea Visit After Sharing Technical Expertise with Officials

PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA – Experts from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) recently completed a technical assistance workshop on offshore oil and gas regulatory programs for the Government of Papua New Guinea. The workshop was sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Energy Governance and Capacity Initiative.

BOEMRE's International Activities Program identifies initiatives to promote better integration of safety and environmental management into the decision-making process regarding offshore energy development. These initiatives focus on monitoring oil and natural gas development and developing and refining safety and environmental standards through technical exchanges with international regulatory counterparts and by providing expert advice to the State Department.

"BOEMRE welcomes this opportunity to share our knowledge and experience with the government of Papua New Guinea. Our continued partnership with the State Department, which allows us to assist countries as they develop their energy sectors, is an opportunity for us to share lessons learned and best practices to ensure the safe and environmentally responsible development of oil and natural gas resources off their coast," said BOEMRE Director Michael R. Bromwich.

Approximately 70 representatives from Papua New Guinea's various government ministries and the private sector attended the three-day workshop. Training topics included geologic and economic modeling, reviewing, authorizing and inspecting exploration and production infrastructure, environmental review and compliance, and revenue collection, management and oversight.

Kepsey Puiya, a representative from Papua New Guinea's Department of Petroleum and Energy, said, "I see there's a need for all Papua New Guinea government agencies to work together, and this training workshop will pave the way forward."

"This workshop will strengthen your ability to manage project development, put you on equal footing with your colleagues in the private sector, and is the beginning for you to exchange information and build the network among yourselves including your U.S. colleagues," said U.S. Ambassador Teddy B. Taylor.

The workshop was part of the U.S. Government's ongoing engagement with the Government of Papua New Guinea to help enhance their institutional capacities to strengthen energy sector governance and ensure sound revenue management.

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