

New Jersey MMS Task Force Meeting

Renewable Energy Uses of the Outer Continental Shelf

Trenton, New Jersey

May 12, 2010



Office of Offshore Alternative Energy Programs
Minerals Management Service

Overview



- What is an RFI?
 - Public Comment Period
- Purpose of the RFI
- Determining Competitive Interest
- Information to be Submitted in Response to an RFI
- Publication of the RFI
- Noncompetitive Process
- Competitive Process
- Description of the RFI Area
 - Base Area used at November 24, 2010 Task Force Meeting

What is a RFI?



- A formal invitation of submissions of interest in obtaining one or more commercial leases from MMS authorizing the construction and operation of a renewable energy project on the OCS
- Published by MMS in the *Federal Register* followed by a public comment period

Public Comment Period

- The published RFI is accompanied by a public comment period
- The comment period is variable, but will typically be for 60 days
- Only submissions received by the comment period deadline will be considered

Purpose of the RFI

- OCSLA (Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act) requires MMS to award leases competitively, unless MMS makes a determination that there is no competitive interest
- The RFI will assist MMS in determining if competitive interest exists in the described area

Determining Competitive Interest

- Based on the information received in response to the RFI, MMS will make a determination of competitive interest
 - Geographic overlap?
 - Intertract competition?

Information to be Submitted in Response to a RFI

- Items to be submitted in response to RFI:
 - Site locations
 - Timing and type of proposed activities
 - Infrastructure
 - Environmental and resource data and information
 - Qualifications to hold an OCS lease
- Others?

Publication of the RFI



- MMS evaluates submissions indicating particular areas of interest and makes a determination of competitive interest
- Geographic overlap or intertract competition
- Noncompetitive Process
- Competitive Process

Noncompetitive Process



- Publish notice of proposed lease
- Publish determination of no competitive interest in *Federal Register*
- Applicant submits Site Assessment Plan (SAP) within 60-days

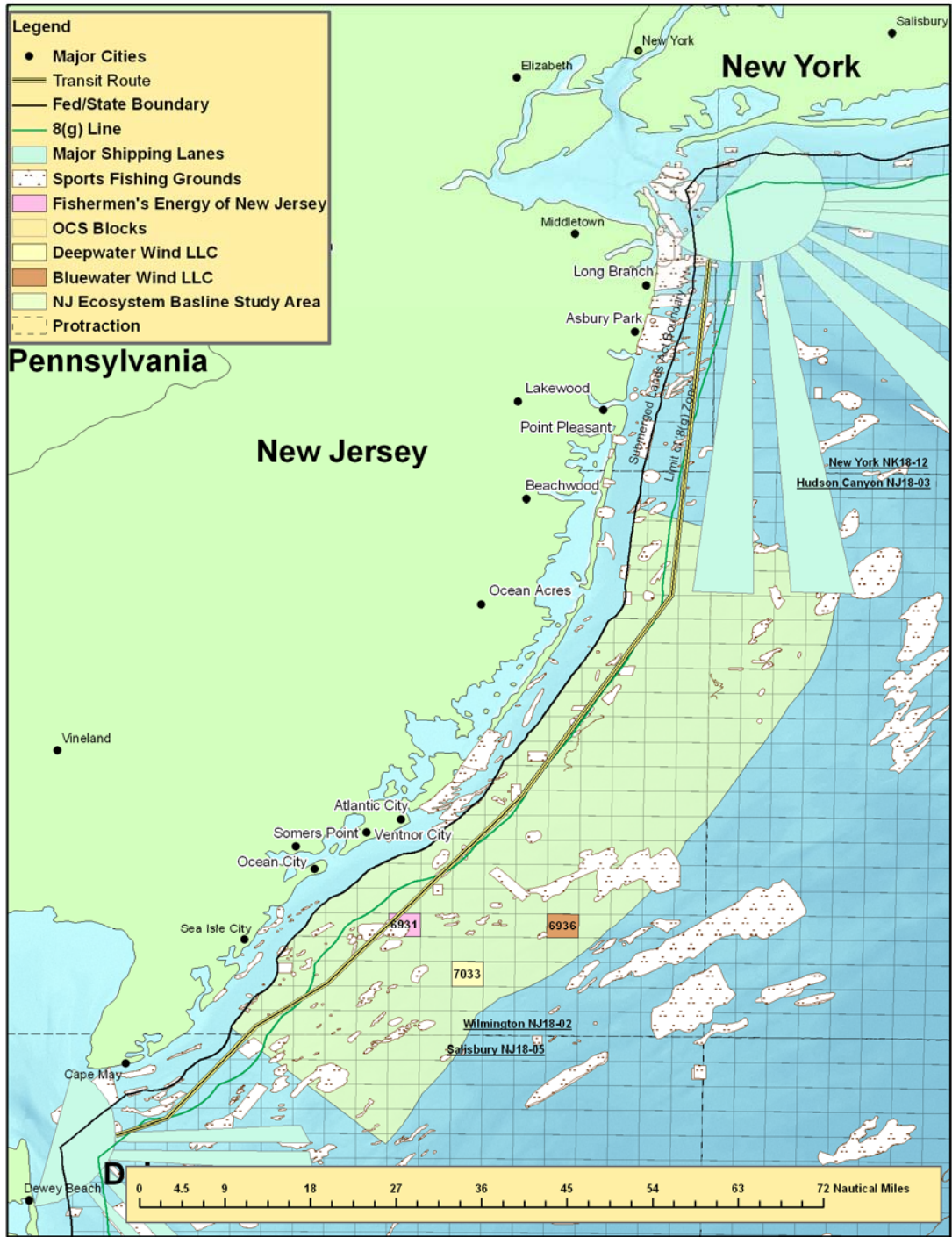
Competitive Process



- Call for Information and Nominations
- Area Identification
- Proposed Sale Notice
- Final Sale Notice
- Bid Evaluation
- Issuance of a Lease

Description of the RFI Area

- Influenced by:
 - NJ Ocean/Wind Ecological Studies
 - Unsolicited Lease Request
 - NJ Grant Solicitation Submissions
 - Interim Policy Leases
 - Task Force Input



Multipurpose Marine Cadastre

<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/mmc/index.html>

Questions?

Will Waskes

New Jersey Project Coordinator

Office of Offshore Alternative Energy Programs

703-787-1287

Will.Waskes@mms.gov