

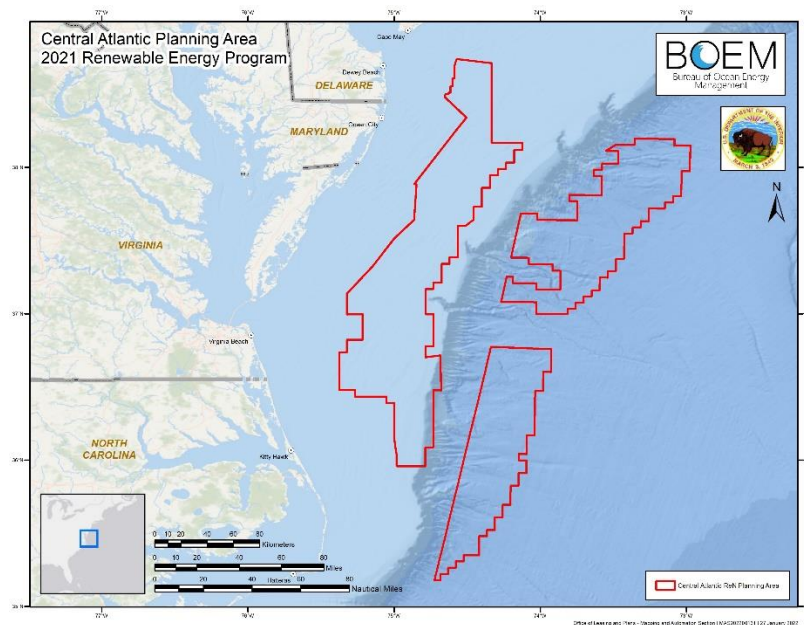
**Central Atlantic Draft Call for Information and Nominations Summary for Central Atlantic Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force Review**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this document is to outline the basic principles and major decision points BOEM is considering as it develops a Call for Information and Nominations (Call) for the Central Atlantic. BOEM will convene the Central Atlantic Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force (Task Force) on February 16, 2022, to gain input on the draft Call and update members on recent planning activities.

**Background:** In response to coastal state requests for additional lease areas and the Biden Administration’s goal to deploy 30 GW of offshore wind by 2030, BOEM began its lease planning process and is convening a Central Atlantic Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force. The Task Force will serve as a forum to discuss and share information related to the planning and leasing process and encompasses the area offshore Delaware south to Cape Hatteras, North Carolina.

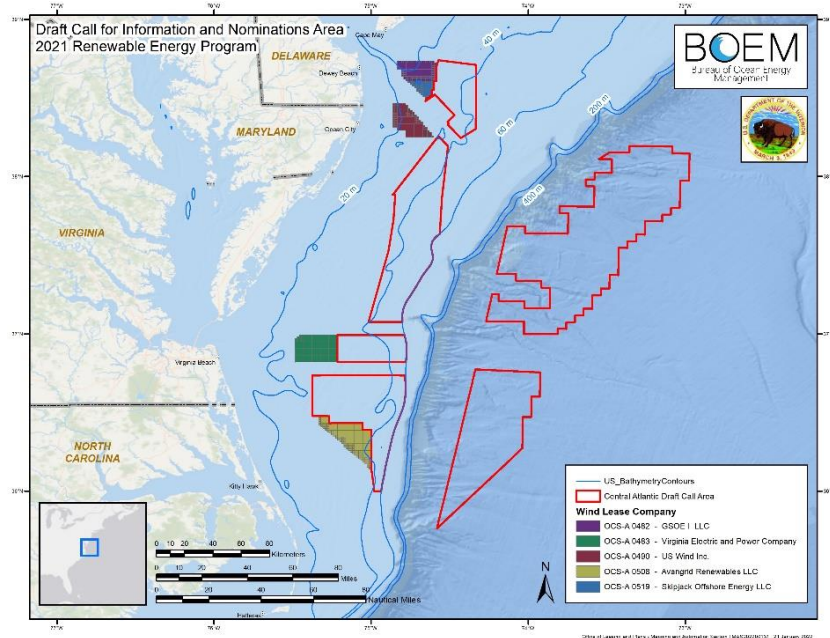
BOEM delineated draft Planning Areas (Figure 1) after considering known conflicts in the area and requested feedback from Federal, State and Tribal Governments as well as many stakeholders through engagement meetings. The stakeholder meetings included representatives of the maritime industry, fisheries, environmental non-governmental organizations, and the wind energy industry. Meeting presentations and summaries can be found on BOEM’s website here:

<https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/central-atlantic-activities>



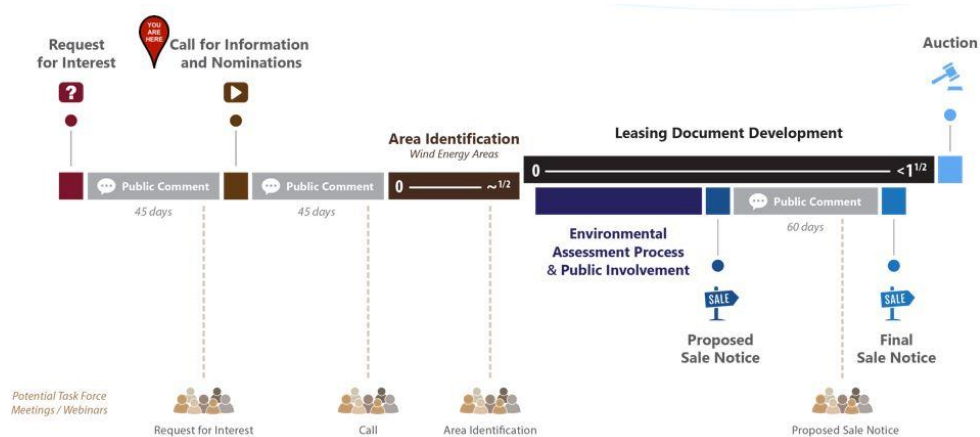
**Figure 1: Central Atlantic Draft Planning Area**

Based on feedback received from these meetings, which will be discussed at the Task Force Meeting, BOEM is now releasing a DRAFT Call for Information and Nomination Area (Figure 2). The DRAFT Call Area is a 31% reduction in size from the initial Planning Area.



**Figure 2: Central Atlantic DRAFT Call for Information and Nominations Area**

During the Task Force Meeting, BOEM will solicit feedback from Task Force Members on the DRAFT Call Area. Members of the public will be able to provide input at the end of the meeting. The next step in the BOEM leasing process (Figure 3) will be to compile feedback received at the Task Force Meeting to further analyze the DRAFT Call Area and develop the Call for Information and Nominations Area. This document will be published in the *Federal Register* with a 45-day comment period in Q2 2022.



**Figure 3: BOEM leasing process from a Request for Interest to a Lease Auction**

**Topics of Discussion and Questions for Task Force Members:**

While BOEM looks forward to all input related to this planning effort, we have identified specific topics and questions below that are of particular interest. Please review the topics and questions below and be prepared to provide feedback at the Task Force meeting, as appropriate.

1. Is there additional information on existing maritime uses, environmental considerations, or other constraints that should be considered as BOEM further refines the DRAFT Call Area?
2. From your perspective, are there areas within the DRAFT Call Area that appear more suitable for offshore wind development?
3. Is there a specific amount of lease area (e.g., acres, MW capacity) that should be targeted to respond to state goals for this region?
4. BOEM recognizes that any path to achieving a large-scale introduction of offshore wind energy into the grid will require transmission solutions that go beyond traditional radial connections and significant grid upgrades. We look forward to continued dialog with the Task Force and interested parties as we explore solutions to this challenge. Are there landfall locations for transmission interconnection points that should be avoided due to their ecological or culturally sensitive nature? Are there existing transmission interconnection locations that should be considered when siting lease areas?