



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

New Orleans Office  
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard  
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

January 13, 2021

[Tribal Address]

Dear [Tribal Leader]:

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is the Bureau within the Department of the Interior responsible for offshore renewable energy development in Federal waters on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). BOEM invites the [Tribe] to participate in a BOEM Gulf of Mexico Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force (Task Force) to facilitate coordination and consultation among Federal, state, local and tribal governments on renewable energy activities on the OCS offshore Texas and Louisiana's coasts. The first Task Force meeting is tentatively planned for May 2021.

Pursuant to section 8(p) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43U.S.C. 1337(p)) and implementing regulations at Title 30 CFR Part 585, BOEM issues leases, easements, and rights-of-way for orderly, safe, and environmentally responsible renewable energy development activities, such as the siting and construction of wind technologies on the OCS. We believe it is beneficial to work closely with your organization and other Federal, state, local and tribal representatives to inform the planning process.

BOEM invites you to participate in the planning and implementation of the Task Force. Enclosed is a draft copy of the "Gulf of Mexico Task Force Charter." The draft charter outlines the purpose of the Task Force, planned tasks, and information on its membership. The immediate tasks include convening the first Task Force meeting, approving the charter, and collaborating on the initial steps of the OCS leasing process.

The BOEM point of contact for coordinating the Task Force is Ms. Tershara Matthews. Please confirm with Ms. Matthews by January 31, 2021 regarding your availability, or that of your designee, to participate on the task force. A meeting agenda and other relevant information will be provided when available via email to confirmed participants and posted on our website at [www.boem.gov/Renewable-Energy-Program/State-Activities/Index.aspx](http://www.boem.gov/Renewable-Energy-Program/State-Activities/Index.aspx)

If you decide to designate a representative to act on your behalf, please send their contact details to Tershara Matthews at 504-736-2676 or [tershara.matthews@boem.gov](mailto:tershara.matthews@boem.gov) and to Tribal Liaison Doug Jones at 504-736-2859 or [douglas.jones@boem.gov](mailto:douglas.jones@boem.gov). Please do not hesitate to contact them with any questions or concerns.

We look forward to your input, advice, and participation in this important effort.

Sincerely,

**MICHAEL**  
**CELATA**

Digitally signed by  
MICHAEL CELATA  
Date: 2021.01.13  
07:43:52 -06'00'

Michael A. Celata  
Regional Director  
New Orleans Office

Enclosure

ecc: Chief, Emerging Programs  
RS, OE-GOMR  
Unit Supervisor SSU-GOMR  
Regional Tribal Liaison, SSU, OE