

Request for Interest in Renewable Energy Leasing Offshore Rhode Island

Introduction

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What is an RFI?

- A Request for Interest (RFI) is 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
- An RFI is published by MMS in the Federal Register

Public Comment Period

- The published RFI is accompanied by a public comment period
- The comment period is variable, but typically no less than 60 days
- Only submissions received by the comment period deadline will be considered

Purpose of the RFI

- OCSLA 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

- Once MMS has reviewed information submitted, MMS will make a determination of competitive interest
 - Geographic overlap?
 - Intertract competition

Evaluation Factors to Determine Competitive Interest

- Some factors MMS could consider:
 - Site locations
 - Timing and type of proposed activities
 - Infrastructure
 - Anticipated power production and likely purchasers
 - Environmental and resource data and information
 - Qualifications to hold an OCS lease
- Others?

RFI Elements for Task Force Consideration

- Description of the RFI Area
- Required Indication of Interest Information

Task Force members will have the opportunity to review and comment on the draft RFI prior to its publication in the Federal Register

Questions?
