

# **Outer Continental Shelf Policy Committee**

## **Charter**

### **Official Designation**

Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Policy Committee.

### **Scope and Objectives**

The OCS Policy Committee will provide advice to the Secretary of the Interior through the Director of the Minerals Management Service (MMS) related to discretionary functions of the Bureau under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act and related statutes. The Committee will review and comment on all aspects of leasing, exploration, development and protection of OCS resources and provide a forum to convey views representative of coastal states, local government, offshore mineral industries, environmental community, and other users of the offshore and the interested public.

### **Duration and Termination**

The Committee will terminate 2 years from the date this charter is filed, unless renewed prior to that date in compliance with section 14(a) (2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The Committee's charter may be renewed by the Secretary as long as the Offshore Minerals Management Program of the Minerals Management Service requires the expertise and advice of the Committee.

### **Official to Whom the Committee Reports**

The Secretary of the Interior through the Director of the Minerals Management Service.

### **Bureau Responsible for Providing Necessary Support**

The Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service.

### **Estimated Annual Operating Costs**

Annual activities of the Committee will require approximately \$75,000 and 1.5 work years of Federal employee support.

### **Description of Duties**

The duties of the Committee are solely advisory and are stated in Scope and Objectives above.

## **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings**

The Committee will meet at the request of the Director, but not less than once a year. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the Committee Chair.

## **Travel Expenses**

Each appointed non-Federal member or appointed alternate if attending in place of the non-Federal member will be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred when attending Committee and subcommittee meetings in accordance with Federal travel regulations as implemented by the Department of the Interior.

## **Membership**

The Secretary will appoint non-Federal members and their alternates to the Committee to serve a 2-year term. Non-Federal members may not serve more than three consecutive terms. The Secretary may revoke the appointment of the member and the alternate if the appointed member fails to attend two consecutive meetings. Previous service on the Minerals Management Advisory Board OCS Policy Committee will count as service on this Committee for purposes of determining eligibility. However, to facilitate the transition from the Minerals Management Advisory Board OCS Policy Committee, any member who has served three consecutive terms or more on that Committee is eligible to be nominated for an additional 2-year term on the OCS Policy Committee. After a 2-year break in service, that member will again be eligible for appointment.

### ***Non-Federal Members***

To ensure fair and balanced representation with consideration for the efficiency and fiscal economy of the Committee, the Secretary will appoint:

- One member from each state having Federal offshore oil and gas leases, representing the interests of the state.
- Four members from among coastal states that have an interest in offshore sand or other mineral resources or alternative energy uses of the OCS to represent those interests. Nominations for these four appointments will be accepted from the National Governor's Association.
- Six members to represent the following constituencies: environmental community, major oil industry, independent producers, natural gas industry, offshore service industries, and marine mining industry.
- Two members to represent local government. The local government representatives must be from different states.

### ***Ex officio, Non-Federal Positions***

All other coastal state governors may designate a representative to participate in Committee deliberations. These representatives attend the meeting at their own expense and are nonvoting participants.

### ***Federal Members***

The following officials, or their designees, are nonvoting, ex officio members of the Committee:

- Assistant Secretary – Fish and Wildlife and Parks
- Director, Minerals Management Service
- Secretary, Department of Commerce
- Secretary, Department of Defense
- Secretary, Department of Energy
- Secretary, Department of State
- Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
- Commandant, United States Coast Guard

### **Subcommittees**

The Committee may establish subcommittees to study issues in-depth and to develop recommendations for consideration by the full Committee. Membership will be balanced in terms of perspective, subcommittee function, and expertise required by the subcommittee. Subcommittees may include people who are not members of the Committee. The Committee Chair will appoint subcommittee members. Subcommittee members will be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred when attending subcommittee or Committee meetings to present subcommittee deliberations to the full Committee. Subcommittee members will be reimbursed in accordance with Federal travel regulations as implemented by the Department of the Interior.

### **Officers**

The Committee will elect from its membership a Chair, Vice Chair, and Parliamentarian to serve a 2-year term. The Associate Director for the Offshore Minerals Management Program, Minerals Management Service, or designee, will serve as the Designated Federal Officer and the Executive Secretary and will attend all meetings.

### **Meeting Minutes**

Detailed minutes of each Committee meeting, recommendations made, and copies of all studies and reports received, issued, or approved in conjunction with the activities of the Committee will

be available for public review at the following location:

Department of the Interior  
Minerals Management Service  
381 Elden Street, Mail Stop 4001  
Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817

### **Ethics Responsibilities of Members**

A member may not participate in matters that will directly affect, or appear to affect, the financial interests of the member or the member's spouse or minor children, unless authorized by the Designated Federal Officer. Compensation from employment does not constitute a financial interest of the member so long as the matter before the Committee will not have a special or distinct effect on the member or the member's employer, other than as part of a class. The provisions of this paragraph do not affect any other statutory or regulatory ethical obligations to which a member may be subject.

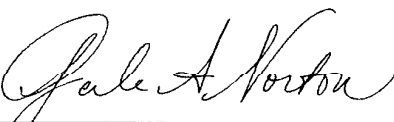
### **Internet Homepage**

Information on the Committee may be found on MMS's Internet site, [www.mms.gov](http://www.mms.gov).

### **Authority**

We have determined that the Committee is in the public interest in connection with duties of the Department of the Interior. We have authority for these duties under the OCS Lands Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1331 et. seq.).

The Committee activities will be governed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), as amended, and implementing regulations.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Interior

FEB 27 2004

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

APR 27 2004

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Filed