



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20240-0001

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) are developing a joint notice of proposed rulemaking to regulate activities related to carbon sequestration on the outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 requires the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations for safe and environmentally responsible carbon sequestration on the OCS. We are working toward publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking in the Fall of 2023.

The purpose of carbon sequestration is to store carbon dioxide (CO₂) on a permanent basis in secure subsurface geologic reservoirs to reduce the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere and mitigate its impact on global climate change. The proposed rule would address aspects of carbon sequestration on the OCS, including the transportation and geologic sequestration of CO₂, leasing of OCS areas for that purpose, storage site characterization (i.e., delineation of potential storage reservoirs), environmental plans and mitigation measures, facility and infrastructure design and installation, injection operations, monitoring, incident response, financial assurance, and safety, among others.

We write to ensure that you are aware of this new proposed rulemaking that is under development, to answer any immediate questions you may have, and to invite formal government-to-government consultation. Please let us know if you have any questions or wish to engage in formal consultation by contacting BOEM's and BSEE's Tribal Liaison Officer (TLO), Hillary Renick (hillary.renick@boem.gov, (703) 787-1445 or Jack Lorrigan (jack.lorrigan@bsee.gov, (907) 334-5357. Ms. Renick and Mr. Lorrigan will share any information that you provide with both bureaus.

BOEM and BSEE may consult at any time with federally recognized Tribes as sovereign nations, but your input before proposal of the rule would be welcome. You will, of course, have the opportunity to comment on the rule and engage in additional government-to-government consultation after the rule is proposed, if that is your preference.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Klein
Director
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Kevin Sligh
Director
Bureau of Safety and Environmental
Enforcement