



# REGULATORY UPDATE

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**Branch**



# ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES

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- **MMS formed in 1982**
- **BSEE formed in 2011**
  - **Office of Offshore Regulatory Programs**
    - **Regulations and Standards Branch**

# COMMUNICATING WITH LESSEES



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- **BSEE uses:**
  - **Regulations**
  - **Notice to Lessees**



# REGULATIONS

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- **Must follow Administrative Procedure Act**
- **Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPR)**
  - Requires notice and opportunity for comment
  - Published in the Federal Register
  - Available on [regulations.gov](http://regulations.gov)
- **Final Rule**
  - Addresses public comments
  - Revises NPR
  - Establishes effective date for compliance



# NOTICES TO LESSEES

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- **NTLs provide guidance on regulations**
  - **May be National or Regional**
- **Posted on BSEE's webpage**
- **BSEE may publish in the Federal Register for public comments**



# Information on Rules

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- **REGULATIONS.GOV**
  - Publish Notice of Proposed Rulemakings
  - Used to submit comments
  - Post public comments received
  - Publish Final Rule
- **The e-CFR**
  - ([www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov))
  - Updated when a final rule is effective (within 3 days)
- **BSEE webpage**
  - <http://www.bsee.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/index.aspx>



# Safety Regulations

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- **BSEE operations are governed by a wide variety of laws, regulations, and other communications with the offshore industry.**
- **BSEE enforces compliance with these regulations and periodically updates rules to reflect advancements in technology, new information, and new laws.**



# Final Safety Measures Rule

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- **Published in the Federal Register August 22, 2012**
- **Effective October 22, 2012**
- **Addressed public comments and refined the Interim Final Rule requirements for compliance with documents incorporated by reference;**
- **Enhanced the description and classification of well-control barriers;**
- **Defined testing requirements for cement;**
- **Clarified requirements for the installation of dual mechanical barriers; and**
- **Extended requirements for BOPs and well-control fluids to well-completion, workover, and decommissioning operations.**





# SEMS II

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- **Final Rule - Revisions to Safety and Environmental Management Systems (SEMS II)**
- **Responds to public comments**
- **Addresses**
  - **Stop Work Authority (SWA)**
  - **Ultimate Work Authority (UWA)**
  - **Employee Participation**
  - **Guidelines for reporting unsafe working conditions**
  - **Additional requirements for conducting job safety analysis (JSA)**
  - **Revises auditing requirements**

# Standards Incorporated in Recent Final Rules



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- **Production Measurement Documents Incorporated by Reference**
  - **Incorporated 12 additional production measurement standards**
    - **9 American Petroleum Institute (API)**
    - **3 American Gas Association (AGA)**
    - **Published March 29, 2012**
- **Final Safety Measures Rule incorporated**
  - **API RP 53, Recommended Practices for Blowout Prevention Equipment Systems for Drilling Wells, Third Edition, March 1997; reaffirmed September 2004.**
  - **API Standard 65–Part 2, Isolating Potential Flow Zones During Well Construction; Second Edition, December 2010.**

# Standards Being Considered for Future Rules



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- **ANSI/API Spec. 14A, Specification for Subsurface Safety Valve Equipment**
- **ANSI/API Spec. 17J, Specification for Unbonded Flexible Pipe**
- **API 570 Piping Inspection Code: In-service Inspection, Rating, Repair, and Alteration of Piping Systems**
- **API Standard 53, Blowout Prevention Equipment Systems for Drilling Wells**
- **ANSI/API Spec. Q1, Specification for Quality Programs for the Petroleum, Petrochemical and Natural Gas Industry, ISO TS 29001:2007**
- **API Spec. 11D1, Packers and Bridge Plugs, ISO 14310:2008**
- **API RP17H, Recommended Practice for Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) Interfaces on Subsea Production Systems, ISO 13628-8:2002**

# First Domestic and International Workshop New Orleans, November 14 -15, 2012

## QUESTIONS?

