§ 256.20 Consideration of coastal zone management program.

In the development of the leasing program, consideration shall be given to the coastal zone management program being developed or administered by an affected coastal State under sections 305 or 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended, (16 U.S.C. 1454, 1455). Information concerning the relationship between a State’s coastal zone management program and OCS oil and gas activity shall be requested from the Governors of the affected coastal States and from the Secretary of Commerce prior to the development of the proposed leasing program at the time information is requested under §256.16 of this part.


Subpart C—Reports From Federal Agencies

§ 256.22 General.

For oil and gas lease sales shown in an approved leasing schedule and as the need arises for other mineral leasing, the Director shall prepare a report describing the general geology and potential mineral resources of the area under consideration. The Director may request other interested Federal Agencies to prepare reports describing, to the extent known, any other valuable resources contained within the general area and the potential effect of mineral operations upon the resources or upon the total environment or other uses of the area.

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shall inform the Governor of those areas that are to be given further consideration for leasing. The Secretary shall enter into consultation with the Governor to determine whether the area may contain oil or gas pools or fields underlying both the OCS and lands subject to the jurisdiction of the State.

(c) After selection for leasing of those tracts which may have oil or gas pools or fields underlying both the OCS and lands under State jurisdiction, the Secretary shall offer the Governor an opportunity to enter into an agreement for the equitable disposition of revenues from such tracts under section 8(g)(2) of the Act.

(d) If no agreement can be reached within 90 days of the Secretary’s offer, the tracts may be leased and all revenues deposited in a separate Treasury account pending equitable disposition of the revenues under sections 8(g)(3) and (4) of the Act.

Subpart E—Area Identification and Tract Size

§ 256.29 Proposed notice of sale.

(a) The Director shall evaluate fully the potential effect of leasing on the human, marine and coastal environments, and develop measures to mitigate adverse impacts, including lease stipulations. The views and recommendations of Federal agencies, State agencies, local governments, organizations, industries and the general public shall be used as appropriate. The Director may hold public hearings on the environmental analysis after appropriate notice.

(c) In general, the Director shall seek to inform the public as soon as possible of additions or deletions that occur after the identification of areas.

§ 256.28 Tract size.

(a) A tract selected for oil and gas leasing shall consist of a compact area not exceeding 5,760 acres, unless the authorized officer finds that a larger area is necessary to comprise a reasonable economic production unit.

(b) The tract size for the leasing of other minerals shall be specified in the notice of sale.

Subpart F—Lease Sales

§ 256.29 Proposed notice of sale.

(a) The Director shall in consultation with appropriate Federal agencies develop measures, including lease stipulations and conditions, to mitigate adverse impacts on the environments. For oil and gas lease sales, appropriate proposed stipulations and conditions shall be contained or referenced in the proposed notice of lease sale.

(b) A proposed notice of lease sale shall be submitted to the Secretary for approval. All comments and recommendations received and the Director’s findings or actions thereon, shall also be forwarded to the Secretary.

(c) Upon approval by the Secretary, the proposed Notice of Sale shall be sent to the Governor of any affected State and a notice of its availability.