§ 250.1901 What is the goal of my SEMS program?

The goal of your SEMS program is to promote safety and environmental protection by ensuring all personnel aboard a facility are complying with the policies and procedures identified in your SEMS.

(a) To accomplish this goal, you must ensure that your SEMS program identifies, addresses, and manages safety, environmental hazards, and impacts during the design, construction, startup, operation, inspection, and maintenance of all new and existing facilities, including mobile offshore drilling units (MODU) while under BOEMRE jurisdiction and Department of Interior (DOI) regulated pipelines.

(b) All personnel involved with your SEMS program must be trained to have the skills and knowledge to perform their assigned duties.

§ 250.1902 What must I include in my SEMS program?

You must have a properly documented SEMS program in place and make it available to BOEMRE upon request as required by § 250.1924(b).

(a) Your SEMS program must meet the minimum criteria outlined in this subpart, including the following SEMS program elements:

1. General (see § 250.1909)
2. Safety and Environmental Information (see § 250.1910)
3. Hazards Analysis (see § 250.1911)
4. Management of Change (see § 250.1912)
5. Operating Procedures (see § 250.1913)
6. Safe Work Practices (see § 250.1914)
7. Training (see § 250.1915)
8. Mechanical Integrity (Assurance of Quality and Mechanical Integrity of Critical Equipment) (see § 250.1916)
9. Pre-startup Review (see § 250.1917)
10. Emergency Response and Control (see § 250.1918)
11. Investigation of Incidents (see § 250.1919)
12. Auditing (Audit of Safety and Environmental Management Program Elements) (see §§ 250.1920)
13. Recordkeeping (Records and Documentation) and additional BOEMRE requirements (see § 250.1928).

(b) You must also include a job safety analysis (JSA) for OCS activities identified or discussed in your SEMS program (see § 250.1911(b)).

(c) Your SEMS program must meet or exceed the standards of safety and environmental protection of API RP 75 (incorporated by reference as specified in § 250.198).

§ 250.1903 Definitions.

Definitions listed in this section apply to this subpart and supersede definitions in API RP 75, Appendices D and E (incorporated by reference as specified in § 250.198).

Designated and qualified personnel means employees (not contractors) that are knowledgeable of your program, and have actual work experience and training in implementing and auditing a SEMS or a similar program in an offshore oil and gas environment.

Personnel means direct employee(s) of the operator and contracted workers who are involved with or affected by specific jobs or tasks.

§ 250.1904 Documents incorporated by reference.

The effect of incorporation by reference of a document into the regulations in this part is that the incorporated document is a requirement. When a section in this part incorporates all of a document, you are responsible for complying with the provisions of that entire document, except to the extent that section provides otherwise. If any incorporated document uses the word “should”, it means must for purposes of these regulations.

§§ 250.1905–250.1908 [Reserved]

§ 250.1909 What are management’s general responsibilities for the SEMS program?

You, through your management, must require that the program elements discussed in API RP 75 (incorporated by reference as specified in § 250.198) and in this subpart are properly documented and are available at field and office locations, as appropriate for each program element. You,
through your management, are responsible for the development, support, continued improvement, and overall success of your SEMS program. Specifically, you, through your management, must:

(a) Establish goals and performance measures, demand accountability for implementation, and provide necessary resources for carrying out an effective SEMS program.

(b) Appoint management representatives who are responsible for establishing, implementing and maintaining an effective SEMS program.

(c) Designate specific management representatives who are responsible for reporting to management on the performance of the SEMS program.

(d) At intervals specified in the SEMS program and at least annually, review the SEMS program to determine if it continues to be suitable, adequate and effective (by addressing the possible need for changes to policy, objectives, and other elements of the program in light of program audit results, changing circumstances and the commitment to continual improvement) and document the observations, conclusions and recommendations of that review.

(e) Develop and endorse a written description of your safety and environmental policies and organizational structure that define responsibilities, authorities, and lines of communication required to implement the SEMS program.

(f) Utilize personnel with expertise in identifying safety hazards, environmental impacts, optimizing operations, developing safe work practices, developing training programs and investigating incidents.

(g) Ensure that facilities are designed, constructed, maintained, monitored, and operated in a manner compatible with applicable industry codes, consensus standards, and generally accepted practice as well as in compliance with all applicable governmental regulations.

(h) Ensure that management of safety hazards and environmental impacts is an integral part of the design, construction, maintenance, operation, and monitoring of each facility.

(i) Ensure that suitably trained and qualified personnel are employed to carry out all aspects of the SEMS program.

(j) Ensure that the SEMS program is maintained and kept up to date by means of periodic audits to ensure effective performance.

§ 250.1910 What safety and environmental information is required?

(a) You must require that SEMS program safety and environmental information be developed and maintained for any facility that is subject to the SEMS program.

(b) SEMS program safety and environmental information must include:

(1) Information that provides the basis for implementing all SEMS program elements, including the requirements of hazard analysis (§250.1911);

(2) Process design information including, as appropriate, a simplified process flow diagram and acceptable upper and lower limits, where applicable, for items such as temperature, pressure, flow and composition; and

(3) Mechanical design information including, as appropriate, piping and instrument diagrams; electrical area classifications; equipment arrangement drawings; design basis of the relief system; description of alarm, shutdown, and interlock systems; description of well control systems; and design basis for passive and active fire protection features and systems and emergency evacuation procedures.

§ 250.1911 What criteria for hazards analyses must my SEMS program meet?

You must ensure the development and implementation of a hazards analysis (facility level) and a job safety analysis (operations/task level) for all of your facilities. For this subpart, facilities include all types of offshore structures permanently or temporarily attached to the seabed (i.e., mobile offshore drilling units; floating production, storage and offloading facilities; tension-leg platforms; and spars) used for exploration, development, production, and transportation activities for oil, gas, or sulphur from areas leased in the