

## Ocean Energy Management, Interior

## § 556.302

the request for comments in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

### **§ 556.205 What does BOEM do before approving a proposed final Five Year program or a significant revision of a previously-approved Five Year program?**

At least 60 days before the Secretary may approve a proposed final Five Year program or a significant revision to a previously approved final Five Year program, BOEM will submit a proposed final program or proposed significant revision to the President and Congress. BOEM will also submit comments received and indicate the reasons why BOEM did or did not accept any specific recommendation of the Attorney General of the United States, the governor of a State, or the executive of a local government.

## **Subpart C—Planning and Holding a Lease Sale**

### **§ 556.300 What reports may BOEM and other Federal agencies prepare before a lease sale?**

For an oil and gas lease sale in a Five Year program, and as the need arises for other mineral leasing pursuant to part 581 of this chapter, BOEM will 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.

### **§ 556.301 What is a Call for Information and Nominations?**

BOEM issues a Call for Information and Nominations (“Call”) on an area proposed for leasing in the Five Year program through publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER and other publications. A Call may include more than one proposed sale. Comments are requested from industry and the public on:

(a) Industry interest in the area proposed for leasing, including nomina-

tions or indications of interest in specific blocks within the area;

(b) Geological conditions, including bottom hazards;

(c) Archaeological sites on the seabed or near shore;

(d) Potential multiple uses of the proposed leasing area, including navigation, recreation, and fisheries;

(e) Areas that should receive special concern and analysis; and

(f) Other socioeconomic, biological, and environmental information.

### **§ 556.302 What does BOEM do with the information from the Call?**

(a) Based upon information and nominations received in response to the Call, and in consultation with appropriate Federal agencies, the Director will develop a recommendation of areas proposed for leasing for the Secretary for further consideration for leasing and/or environmental analysis.

(1) In developing the recommendation, the Director will consider available information concerning the environment, conflicts with other uses, resource potential, industry interest, and other relevant information, including comments received from State and local governments and other interested parties in response to the Call.

(2) The Director, on his/her own motion, may include in the recommendation areas in which interest has not been indicated in response to a Call. In making a recommendation, the Director will consider all available environmental information.

(3) Upon approval by the Secretary, the Director will announce the area identified in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(b) BOEM will evaluate the area(s) identified for further consideration for the potential effects of leasing on the human, marine, and coastal environments, and may develop measures to mitigate adverse impacts, including lease stipulations, for the options to be analyzed. The Director may hold public hearings on the environmental analysis after an appropriate notice.

(c) BOEM will seek to inform the public, as soon as possible, of changes from the area(s) proposed for leasing that occur after the Call process.

(d) Upon request, the Director will provide relative indications of interest