

United States Department of the Interior  
Geological Survey Minerals Management Service  
Reston, VA. 22092 Washington, D.C. 20240

ANNEX NO. 1  
between the  
UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
and the  
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE  
Implementing Their Respective Responsibilities Under  
Secretarial Order No. 3071, As Amended

1. A subcommittee consisting of the Chief Geologist, USGS, and the Associate Director, Offshore Minerals Management, as Co-Chairmen, and their designees will meet quarterly or more often, if requested by either Co-Chairman, to resolve identified problems arising between MMS and USGS. The party identifying the problem will prepare a written description of the problem and a proposed solution in advance of the joint subcommittee meeting for resolution at the meeting. Unresolved problems will be forwarded to the joint coordination committee chaired by the USGS and MMS Directors.
2. The subcommittee shall jointly review each Agency's activities on the OCS/EEZ as they relate to OCS/EEZ leasing programs to ensure that, to the maximum extent possible, consistent with the mission responsibilities of each Agency, that they are coordinated with the State/Federal task force and leasing activities of MMS, and the mapping, assessment, and research activities of the USGS in order to ensure that the benefits arising from these activities are maximized for both programs.
3. Meetings of the joint coordination committee chaired by the Directors of USGS and MMS shall be scheduled every 6 months or more often, if requested by either Director.
4. The agenda for each meeting of the committee will include a topic covering "Identified Problem Areas" for resolution by the committee. Each unresolved problem identified will be accompanied by a written description of the problem as prepared by the originating office.

*(Signed Original on File)*

William D. Bettenberg, Director  
Minerals Management Service

Dallas L. Peck, Director  
Geological Survey

Date: 9/1/88

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## Charter

### Committee to Coordinate Activities of the Minerals Management Service and the U.S. Geological Survey

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) have common interests on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The USGS conducts basic research on the geologic framework and processes in the national domain which includes the OCS/EEZ. The MMS exercises appraisal, leasing, and management functions in direct support of the Department of the Interior's OCS/EEZ leasing program. Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding between the USGS and the MMS implementing Secretarial Order 3071, as amended, it is desirable that the programs of the two bureaus be planned and conducted cooperatively in those areas of mutual interest. Accordingly, there is established the MMS/USGS Coordinating Committee.

The responsibilities of the Committee are to:

- o Oversee development of a plan to produce a joint assessment of undiscovered offshore petroleum resources as part of a Department of the Interior assessment of petroleum resources of the Nation and review progress of the national assessment.
- o Review, on an annual basis, the programs of the two agencies to avoid duplication of effort, ensure joint planning and operations of USGS and MMS where appropriate to enhance both agencies' missions, ensure that USGS earth science data are available as appropriate for MMS reports, and discuss the extent to which interagency funding is appropriate to accomplish the missions of each agency.

The Committee, composed of the Directors and designated staff of the two agencies, will meet semiannually. One meeting to review program plans will be approximately 60 days prior to the start of each fiscal year. A second meeting, near midfiscal year, will review progress of planned activities.

*(Signed Original on File)*

William D Bettenberg, Director  
Minerals Management Service

Dallas L. Peck, Director  
U.S. Geological Survey

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between the

UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

and the

MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Implementing Their Respective Responsibilities Under

Secretarial Order No. 3071, As Amended

1. Purpose. The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to identify and clarify the responsibility of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the Minerals Management Service (MMS) under Secretarial Order No. 3071, January 19, 1982, as amended by Amendment No. 1, May 10, 1982, and to provide for joint coordination of activities on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

2. MMS Responsibilities. The MMS will exercise all appraisal and management functions in direct support of the OCS/EEZ leasing program. The MMS functions include, but are not limited to, the following:

A. acquisition, interpretation, and dissemination of data and information collected under permits issued by MMS;

B. preparation of all OCS/EEZ appraisals and resource estimates for departmental purposes including the biennial reports required under Section 606 of the OCS Lands Act, resource estimates for proposed legislation pertaining to OCS/EEZ energy and nonenergy programs, resource estimates of OCS planning areas and for the sale alternatives within these planning areas, and resource estimates for preparation of the 5-year OCS lease sale schedule. This includes estimates for energy minerals and, as required, nonenergy minerals;

C. determination of the areas of hydrocarbon/mineral potential in each OCS planning area and recommendations to the Secretary of those areas to be included in the Call for Information and nominations;

D. preparation of regional hazards data and analyses necessary to support the NEPA and Secretarial decision process for OCS/EEZ mineral leasing activities;

- E. preparation of geologic or resource reports required by the OCS/EEZ lease sale process; and
- F. fair market value determinations for OCS/EEZ energy and nonenergy mineral leases.

3. USGS Responsibilities. The USGS will exercise functions derived from its Organic Act that were not transferred to MMS under Secretarial Order No. 3071, as amended. These activities include research for nationwide assessments of the geology and mineral resources of the national domain including coastal waters, the continental margins, and the EEZ but not in direct support of the OCS/EEZ leasing program. The USGS functions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. collection of new data as fundamental to its research mission;
- B. preparation and synthesis of resource data and information generated as a result of research;
- C. preparation of geologic framework studies, topical and process studies, and the synthesis of nonproprietary data related to geologic potential generated as a part of research activity;
- D. synthesis of available regional hazards data and analysis generated by USGS in its research mission, including descriptions of major regional shallow geologic features, such as faults, earthquakes, seafloor instability due to erosion and slumping, volcanic activity, and seismicity information, as appropriate; and
- E. petroleum geology and nonenergy minerals geology and environmental geology studies generated as a result of its research effort, and syntheses of these and related data.

4. Coordination.

- A. A joint committee shall be established between the two agencies to provide for review and coordination of MMS/USGS programs on the OCS/EEZ.
- B. The MMS and USGS shall notify one another about significant data acquisition and data processing activities. If either Bureau has an interest in obtaining copies of data or conducting additional data processing, it may contact or visit the appropriate offices to inspect the data. If copies are requested, they shall be provided

within 45 days, and the cost of reproduction shall be borne by the requester.

C. In the event that proprietary data are requested by either Bureau, the proprietary data shall be provided according to subsection B above, after a separate agreement has been prepared and signed by the requesting party establishing their need to know and verifying that the receiving office will act as a secondary office of control, safeguard the data and not disclose the data or deliverables to third parties. The data shall be returned to the primary office of control following use.

D. Matters that cannot be resolved at the office level between the two agencies shall be referred to the Director of the USGS and the MMS or their designees through the coordinating committee for adjudication.

5. Effective Date. This MOU is effective upon signature. It may be amended at any time by mutual written agreement of both Bureaus and may be terminated by either Bureau upon 60 days written notice.

*(Signed Original on File)*

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Director, U.S. Geological Survey

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Director, Minerals Management Service

Date:

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Director, U.S. Geological Survey

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