

**Letter of Intent Between The National Agency for Industrial Safety and Environmental Protection  
of the Hydrocarbons Sector of the United Mexican States and The Bureau of Safety and  
Environmental Enforcement – United States Department of the Interior**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this Letter of Intent is to document that The National Agency for Industrial Safety and Environmental Protection of the Hydrocarbons Sector, also referred as Agency for Safety Energy and Environment of the United Mexican States (Mexico) hereinafter, ASEA and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement hereinafter, BSEE of the Department of the Interior of the United States of America (U.S.) intend to strengthen cooperation, coordination and information sharing related to the development, oversight, and enforcement of safety and environmental regulations for development of offshore hydrocarbon resources.

**Background**

ASEA was formally established on March 2nd, 2015 as a decentralized administrative body of Mexico's Secretariat for Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT). It has technical and administrative autonomy and is responsible for the regulation and supervision of industrial and operational safety as well as environmental protection in activities and facilities related to the hydrocarbons sector.

BSEE is responsible for the development, oversight, and enforcement of safety and environmental regulation for offshore energy and mineral operations, and promotes safety, protects the environment, and ensures the efficient development and conservation of offshore mineral and energy resources. BSEE is also responsible for oil spill preparedness planning and preparedness for offshore facilities.

Mexico and the U.S. have a long history of mutually beneficial cooperation on conservation, management and sustainable development of natural resources.

The continued cooperation between BSEE and ASEA is in keeping with broader bilateral efforts for cooperation in the environmental and hydrocarbons sector between the two countries, including but not limited to the 2000 Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Department of the Interior and the SEMARNAT and the Agreement between the United States of America and the United Mexican States Concerning Transboundary Hydrocarbon Reservoirs in the Gulf of Mexico.

**Terms of Cooperation**

Desiring to foster development, oversight and enforcement of regulation to promote a safe and environmentally responsible development of the offshore hydrocarbon resources of Mexico and the U.S., BSEE and ASEA intend to pursue terms of cooperation which may include the following:

1. periodic information and experience exchanges;
2. organization of bilateral events and visits of delegations;
3. participation as observers in activities related to their respective authorities;
4. conducting of joint studies and research where appropriate;
5. training of staff;
6. further cooperation by way of any other terms BSEE and ASEA may hereafter mutually determine.

**Responsibilities**

BSEE and ASEA designate the following officials as responsible for implementing the terms of this Letter of Intent:



1. On behalf of ASEA: The Executive Director of ASEA
2. On behalf of BSEE: The Director of BSEE

Or in both cases, the person formally designated by them.

### **Scope and Relationships**

BSEE and ASEA intend to carry out the terms of cooperation referred to herein within the scope of their respective legal authorities. Nothing in this Letter of Intent creates, affects, amends, or alters any legal rights, obligations, or requirements of BSEE and ASEA.

### **Funding**

All terms of cooperation under this Letter of Intent are subject to the availability of appropriated funds. BSEE and ASEA intend to implement the terms of cooperation covered by this Letter of Intent in accordance with each party's capabilities and applicable laws.

### **Notices**

Notices to either Participant may be given electronically. Any notices and correspondence under this Letter of Intent may be transmitted to:

#### For BSEE:

Office of Congressional and International Affairs  
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
United States of America

#### For ASEA:

Office for International Cooperation (Dirección  
General de Cooperación Internacional)  
Agencia de Seguridad, Energía y Ambiente  
Melchor Ocampo 469, Col. Nueva Anzures,  
Delegación Miguel Hidalgo  
Distrito Federal, C.P. 11590  
México  
Cooperación.internacional@asea.gob.mx

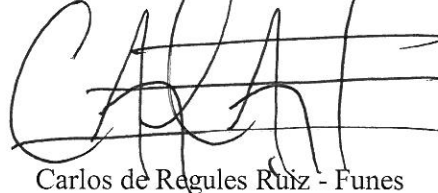
Signed in duplicate in the city of Washington, D.C. on this 20th day of October, 2015, in the English and Spanish languages.

For the Bureau of Safety and Environmental  
Enforcement:



Brian Salerno

For the National Agency for Industrial Safety and  
Environmental Protection of the Hydrocarbons  
Sector:



Carlos de Regules Ruiz - Funes