

FACT SHEET



BSEE FY 2019 Budget Rollout

Mission – The mission of the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement is to ensure the safe and environmentally sustainable exploration, development, and production of America’s offshore energy resources through regulatory oversight and enforcement.

Budget Overview – The 2019 budget request for the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement is \$199.9 million, including \$132.1 million in current appropriations and \$67.9 million in offsetting collections from rental receipts, cost recoveries, and inspection fees. The BSEE staffing will equal 881 full time equivalents in 2019, including 125 FTE which are fully reimbursed from other accounts to provide Department-wide shared services.

The 2019 request is a \$21.7 million increase from the 2018 CR baseline, largely reflecting a one-time rescission of \$25 million in prior year balances in 2017.

Safe and Environmentally Sustainable Production – The Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) is a vital national resource. As outlined in the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA), the Secretary of the Interior is responsible for appropriately managing development of energy resources on the OCS, while ensuring that all activities are conducted in a safe and environmentally sustainable manner. The BSEE was established on October 1, 2011 and is focused on encouraging robust, safe and environmentally sustainable energy production that upholds the requirements of OCSLA.

As a steward of the Nation’s OCS oil, gas, and mineral resources, the Bureau protects Federal royalty interests by ensuring that oil and gas production methods maximize recovery from underground reservoirs. While BSEE mitigates oil spill risks through a focused prevention program, it equally emphasizes that the offshore community be prepared with the best plans, equipment, and training to respond to oil spills when they occur. In addition, BSEE places great emphasis on enhancing and supporting safe and streamlined processes throughout industry.

The BSEE continues to adapt its oversight approaches as offshore operations expand and move into environments that require the use of new technologies. Programs have been established that allow BSEE to identify, evaluate, and promote emerging technologies that aim to mitigate the risk of offshore energy operations while increasing safe and environmentally responsible operations.

The BSEE’s 2016-2019 Strategic Plan and the Director’s “Change Management Action Plan” initiatives will guide the Bureau through current and future OCS activities. The action plan initiatives are focused on creating an organization that has strong and smart programs and processes moving forward by improving and streamlining processes, ensuring the efficient use of resources within BSEE, developing an accountable, competent, and engaged workforce, and integrating effective stakeholder engagement. Specific tasks include incorporating a risk based inspection protocol in the BSEE inspection strategy; evaluating the permitting processes and timeframes to ensure efficient use of resources and permitting functions are attuned with program needs.

Continued outreach and dialogue with stakeholders from academia, industry, non-governmental organizations, and other governmental agencies will enhance the knowledge base of technical personnel related to innovative technologies, appropriate regulatory application, real-time monitoring capabilities, and risk-based decision making for safety and environmental enforcement.

BSEE's inspection strategy employs a two part Risk-Based Inspection Program that focuses on low probability, high consequence items on specific facilities, and a separate inspection protocol that focuses on reducing the likelihood of events on the OCS through identification of trends that warrant the attention of focused inspections.

BSEE has undertaken change initiatives to increase participation in the bureau's efforts in collecting and using near-miss data to identify operational trends. BSEE continues to work with both operators and contractors to encourage the collection, analysis, and dissemination of critical safety data, issues, and trends across the industry.

Currently, BSEE is developing a new Human Capital Operating Plan that will reflect the goals strategies, and initiatives of the organization. Some of the more notable initiatives in progress are the development of competencies for the Bureau's mission critical occupations, completing the first cohort of its Leadership Development Program, implementation of a mentoring program, and obtaining consultative support to evaluate its technical training program and explore certification programs for its inspector workforce.