



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT**

**INFORMATION TO LESSEES (ITL) AND OPERATORS OF FEDERAL OIL AND
GAS LEASES ON THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF (OCS)**

The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) is issuing this ITL to notify all lease holders and operators of oil and gas operations on the OCS effective June 8, 2015, BSEE recognizes the Center for Offshore Safety (COS) as an Accreditation Body (AB) for purposes of qualifying Audit Service Providers (ASPs) to perform objective evaluations of your Safety and Environmental Management Systems (SEMS).

All audits conducted to comply with the SEMS regulations (30 CFR 250 Subpart S) after June 4, 2015, are required to be led by an accredited ASP. A list of COS-accredited ASP's is maintained on the COS website

<https://accreditation.centerforoffshoresafety.org/Accreditation/AccreditationList>.

As part of the agreement by BSEE to name COS as an AB, COS has agreed to initiate a stakeholder feedback process in which you can submit to COS for resolution comments and concerns about your experiences with the audit process. The ASPs will inform you of that procedure when they start their new audits. In addition, BSEE and COS have agreed to other process checks to uphold and improve the objectivity, quality and value of all SEMS audits going forward.

The BSEE will continue to accept applications from other organizations who are interested in provided accreditation services under the SEMS regulations.

Contact

For questions regarding this ITL, please contact Stan Kaczmarek from the SEMS section in the Office of Offshore Regulatory Programs (OORP) by email at stan.kaczmarek@bsee.gov or telephone at 703-787-1612.

6/18/15

Dated

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas Morris", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Douglas Morris, Chief
Office of Offshore Regulatory Programs
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement