

OVERVIEW

The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement's Office of Offshore Regulatory Programs evaluates emerging technologies, identifies and implements safety improvement opportunities, and develops and maintains associated regulations, policies, standards, and guidelines consistent with BSEE's mission.

Additionally, branches of OORP support compliance programs governing energy operations on the Outer Continental Shelf.

MISSION

The mission of OORP is to drive and support continual improvement in safety, environmental protection, and offshore resource conservation. This is done through data and risk analysis, safety improvement initiatives, regulatory development and maintenance, policy development and oversight, stakeholder engagement, energy operations, and emerging technology evaluations.

OORP BRANCHES AND OFFICES

OORP has a varied and interesting portfolio of programs, including:

Emerging Technologies Branch identifies and evaluates critical equipment and technology to reduce risk, support safe operations, and promote environmental stewardship on the OCS. ETB also initiates and supports science-based research to fulfill BSEE's mission aligned with Secretarial and Executive Orders.

Engineering Technology Assessment Center provides engineering expertise to OORP, and BSEE regions, on the assessment of offshore operations, and review of unproven or cutting-edge technologies by staying abreast of leading-edge operational development focused on offshore energy.

Inspection Policy Branch is responsible for the development and coordination of national-level policies, program administration, and oversight for BSEE's Offshore Energy Industry Inspection Program.

Offshore Safety Improvement Branch is responsible for oversight of the BSEE's programs focused on leading or supporting safety and environmental performance improvement. In addition to managing issue specific improvement initiatives identified from facility





inspections, incident investigations or research projects, OSIB is responsible for BSEE's National Aviation Management and Aviation Safety Management Programs, BSEE's Medical Standards and Offshore Credentials Programs, the offshore energy safety and environmental management systems programs.

Regulations and Standards Branch

develops new and updates existing and regulations, develops and issues regulatory guidance, assesses industry standards for incorporation into BSEE's regulations, ensures Paperwork Reduction Act compliance, and processes BSEE Federal Register notices.

Risk Assessment and Analysis Branch

works with government and industry to capitalize on the best risk-management approaches, data analysis, and risk and safety implications from equipment failures, incidents, and near misses to inform stakeholders, and strengthen worker and environmental safety protections on the OCS.

Safety Performance Enhanced by Analytical Review

team, within the Risk Assessment and Analysis Branch, researches and develops advanced data analytic techniques and tools, and strategic utilization within bureau-wide processes that will enable BSEE to refine the analysis of data to identify safety and environmental hazards related to energy operations on the OCS.

AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY / KEY INITIATIVES

With so many programs, OORP has multiple areas of responsibility with employees working on various key initiatives including:

- OCS regulations and the associated policy documents.
- Priority rulemaking.
- Standards update initiatives.
- Safety and pollution prevention research.
- Inspection policies.
- Internal controls, processes, and organizational maturation.
- BSEE's Cybersecurity Effort.
- Renewables Program Support (across all OORP mission lanes).
- Best Available and Safest Technology.
- Safety and Environmental Management Systems.
- Safe Lifting Initiative.
- BSEE's Aviation Program.
- Technology Evaluation.
- Safety Performance Enhanced by Analytic Review.
- Geologic Sequestration.

The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, established in 2011, is a U.S. Department of the Interior agency. BSEE promotes worker safety, environmental protection, and conservation of resources through regulatory oversight and enforcement of the offshore energy industry on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf.

The work done by OORP provides strategic guidance in support of BSEE's regulatory oversight and enforcement mission.

