



Floyd R. Masga
Administrator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp



Juanet Sablan
Acting Director, DCRM

DATE: July 31, 2026

NOTICE: The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) under the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ), the State's federally approved coastal management program (CMP), is currently reviewing a negative determination by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) in accordance with Section 307(c)(1) of the Coastal Zone management Act (CZMA) of 1972, as amended, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) regulations at 15 CFR § 930.35.

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Project name: Proposed Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Commercial Leasing

Proponent: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), U.S. Department of the Interior

Location: Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) waters surrounding the CNMI.

Total Area: Approximately 69,101, 413 acres consisting of two distinct areas:

Eastern Proposed Action Area: Approximately 35,483,044 acres (143,595 km² / 6,502 whole or partial blocks), located 128 miles (206 km) east of Saipan and 127 miles (205 km) east of Guam at its closest point. Water depths range from 3,700 feet to 25,100 feet (1,130 m – 7,650 m).

Western Proposed Action Area: Approximately 33,618,369 acres (136,049 km² / 6,248 whole or partial blocks), located 54 miles (87 km) west of Saipan and 46 miles (74 km) west of Guam at its closest point. Water depths range from 2,820 feet to 18,670 feet (860 m – 5,690 m).

The southern boundary lies north of the OCS Administrative Boundary between the CNMI and Guam on the OCS (*Area ID Memo, March 2026*).

The proposed OCS Commercial Leasing of the action areas is subject to review for consistency under the policies of the CNMI Management Program, and is published for compliance with 15 CFR § 930.42. Comments for this certification may be submitted **within 25 days** of the publication of this notice.

Federal Consistency is a provision of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) that requires federal actions that affect the coastal zone to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of a State's federally approved coastal management program (CMP). To submit comments, or access more information about the proposed activities, you may contact DCRM via email at fedcon@dcrm.gov.mp, (670) 664-8300, or access the DCRM website under Public Notices at: <https://dcrm.gov.mp/our-programs/permitting/federal-consistency/>.