

**From:** [Tim Ragen](#)  
**To:** [cheryl.blundon@boemre.gov](mailto:cheryl.blundon@boemre.gov)  
**Cc:** [Melissa Herman](#); [Vicki Cornish](#)  
**Subject:** ICR 1010-0151 Information Collection for Plans and Information  
**Date:** Friday, October 28, 2011 3:16:59 PM

---

**Dear Ms. Blundon –**

The Marine Mammal Commission has reviewed the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's Federal Register notice regarding information collection requirements related to exploration plans and development and production plans for operations conducted on the Outer Continental Shelf (76 Fed. Reg. 60856). The information required from oil and gas lessees and operators in exploration plans and development and production plans are used by the Bureau and other federal agencies to evaluate whether planned operations are safe; will not adversely affect the marine, coastal, or human environment; and will conserve Outer Continental Shelf resources.

The information required in exploration plans and development and production plans is outlined in 30 CFR part 250, subpart B, Plans and Information (§250.200 – 299) and related Notices to Lessees and Operators. This includes information regarding any adverse effects of the proposed action on marine mammals and other protected species, mitigation measures necessary to avoid or minimize the incidental taking of these species, and information to determine the effectiveness of such mitigation measures. Lessees and operators also may be required to comply with additional mitigation measures as required by the National Marine Fisheries Service or the Fish and Wildlife Service, in accordance with section 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. As such, information collection requirements for exploration plans and development and production plans are necessary to evaluate compliance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act as well as other applicable laws and regulations to determine whether the plans should be approved or modified. The Commission therefore supports the Bureau's continued collection of information from oil and gas lessees and operators in exploration plans and development and production plans, as specified in OMB No. 1010-0151.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Ragen

---

Timothy J. Ragen, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
U.S. Marine Mammal Commission  
4340 East-West Highway, Room 700  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
U.S.A.  
301.504.0087 (office)  
301.504.0101 (direct)  
301.881.4751 (cell)  
[tragen@mmc.gov](mailto:tragen@mmc.gov)  
<http://www.mmc.gov>

---