

**CHESAPEAKE WATERSHED
COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEM STUDIES UNIT**

**AMENDMENT SIX to
COOPERATIVE and JOINT VENTURE AGREEMENT**

between

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Land Management
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Geological Survey
National Park Service**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
U.S. Forest Service
Natural Resources Conservation Service**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers–Civil Works
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency**

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

and

**THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND (HOST)
University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Bowie State University
Frostburg State University
Towson University**

**American University
Anne Arundel Community College**

Binghamton University
 Bryn Mawr College
 Christopher Newport University
 College of William and Mary
 Delaware State University
 Gallaudet University
~~Garrett College~~ [withdrawn]
 George Mason University
 George Washington University
 Hood College
 Howard University
 Indiana University
 Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 James Madison University
 Johns Hopkins University
~~Lock Haven University~~ [withdrawn]
 Longwood University
~~Mansfield University~~ [withdrawn]
 Maryland Institute College of Art
 Monmouth University
 Morgan State University
 Ohio University
 Old Dominion University
 The Pennsylvania State University
 St. Mary's College of Maryland
 Shepherd University
 Shippensburg University
 Smithsonian Institution
 Temple University
 University of Delaware
 University of the District of Columbia
 University of Mary Washington
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Richmond
 The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia
 Virginia Commonwealth University
 Virginia Institute of Marine Science
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
 West Virginia University
 DC Department of Energy and Environment
 Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
 The Academy of Natural Sciences
 American Bird Conservancy
 American Indian Higher Education Consortium
 Association for the Study of African American Life and History
 Association of African American Museums

Conservation Science Global, Inc.
Ecological Society of America
Live It, Learn It
National Aquarium
NatureServe
Park Rx America
Stroud Water Research Center
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
Austin Peay State University
Georgetown University
Immaculata University
Marymount University
United States Naval Academy
Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
Chesapeake Conservancy
Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania
Monument Lab
Preservation Maryland
Harrisburg University of Science and Technology
Biodiversity Research Institute
Chesapeake Bay Foundation
Leave No Trace
National Council on Public History
Native Plant Trust

Adding:
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

With the exception of the changes below, all terms and conditions of the Chesapeake Watershed CESU Cooperative and Joint Venture Agreement apply to this Amendment, and this Amendment is hereby made part of the Agreement.

ARTICLE I. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

A.2. The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) is hereby included in the Chesapeake Watershed CESU as a Federal Agency Partner.

P. Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (hereinafter called BSEE) was established in 2011 pursuant to S.O. 3299. BSEE is responsible for promoting safety, protection of the environment, and conservation of resources offshore through vigorous regulatory oversight and enforcement of offshore facilities engaged in energy exploration, development, and production operations on the Outer Continental Shelf. Department of the Interior Departmental Manual chapters were recently

updated and posted to the Electronic Library of the Interior Policies on September 14, 2022, which state:

"The Director, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), is delegated, through the Assistant Secretary – Land and Minerals Management (ASLM), the Secretary of the Interior's (Secretary) authority to oversee and regulate offshore operations and perform all related functions, including the following:

A. Under the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. §§ 1331 et seq.)[2], to conserve OCS mineral resources; to oversee offshore oil, natural gas, sulphur, and other energy and mineral exploration, development, and production; to oversee long-term carbon sequestration; to oversee production, transportation, or transmission of energy on OCS lands from sources other than oil and gas, such as renewable energy, or the use of OCS facilities for energy-related or other authorized marine-related purposes, including oversight of personnel safety; and to enforce safety and environmental standards related to those operations. The Director's oversight authority includes permitting, research, inspections for safety and environmental compliance, the implementation of offshore regulatory programs related to field operations, and training of inspectors. The Director's enforcement authority includes the authority to investigate, summon witnesses, require the production of evidence, assess civil penalties, and cancel or suspend activities.

B. Under the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982, as amended (30 U.S.C. §§ 1701 et seq.), the authority to ensure production accountability and regulatory compliance. The Director's authority includes the authority to assess civil penalties.

C. Under sections 2(b)(3), 2(d)(3), and 2(c)(3) of Executive Order 12777, as amended, that delegate the authority under sections 311(j)(1)(C), 311(j)(5), and 311(j)(6)(A) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of October 18, 1972 (33 U.S.C. §§ 1321 et seq.) as amended by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, including the authority to issue regulations: requiring the owners or operators of offshore facilities to prepare and submit response plans, establishing requirements for spill prevention and response equipment, and providing for inspections of such equipment.

D. Under 296 DM 2.3A, the authority to take action on requests from On-Scene Coordinators or, when the Regional Response Team is activated, from the designated representatives of the Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance for assistance responding to oil spills.

E. Under 318 DM, the authority to issue Federal Register notices that pertain to the responsibilities and functions assigned to BSEE. All proposed and final rules are issued by ASLM."

Through participation in the CESU Network, BSEE envisions conducting collaborative and interdisciplinary scientific and technological projects applied to safety, environmental protection, energy, biological, chemical, geological, geophysical, cultural, environmental, oceanographical, meteorological, and engineering disciplines. In accordance with the aforementioned authorities, BSEE is authorized to enter into this cooperative agreement to continue the Chesapeake Watershed CESU to assist in providing research, technical assistance, and education.

ARTICLE III. TERM OF AGREEMENT

- A.1. The effective date of the Chesapeake Watershed CESU Cooperative and Joint Venture Agreement is 05 August 2021.
- A.2. The effective date of this Amendment to the Chesapeake Watershed CESU Cooperative and Joint Venture Agreement shall be determined from the date of the last signature.

ARTICLE IV. KEY OFFICIALS

- A.14. The representative(s) for the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement are as follows:

Technical Representative(s)

Gerard Moore
Deputy Assistant Director
Renewable Energy and Regulatory Compliance
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
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Eboné Pierce
Operations Research Analyst
Renewable Energy and Regulatory Compliance (RERC)
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Administrative Representative(s)

Robert Fila
Program Analyst
Renewable Energy and Regulatory Compliance
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
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Phone: (703) 787-1224
robert.fila@bsee.gov

ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENT AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

Per Article III. C., the following authorizing signatures are attached:

- N. Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
- O. THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND (HOST)
University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENT AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

N. Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

PAUL HUANG Digitally signed by PAUL HUANG
Date: 2024.11.15 10:36:18 -05'00'

Paul Huang
Deputy Director

Date

ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENT AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

O. THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND (HOST)

[not required for new partner amendment]

Jay A. Perman
Chancellor

Date

O.1. University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science



Ginger Steelman
Director
Office of Research Administration and Advancement

10/23/2024
Date