

**From:** William Douros - NOAA Federal  
**To:** [Lindow, Emily](#)  
**Cc:** [Michael Weiss - NOAA Federal](#); [Bowman, Randal](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Follow on NOAA Questions - EO 13795  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 13, 2017 6:14:08 PM

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Thank you Emily. Just in time to weave this into the report we are drafting.

Regards, Bill

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On Mon, Sep 11, 2017 at 9:01 AM, Lindow, Emily <[emily.lindow@boem.gov](mailto:emily.lindow@boem.gov)> wrote:  
Hi Bill - BOEM responses to your follow up questions are attached. Thanks, Emily

On Thu, Aug 24, 2017 at 4:45 PM, William Douros - NOAA Federal  
<[william.douros@noaa.gov](mailto:william.douros@noaa.gov)> wrote:  
Good afternoon Emily.

About a week ago Michael received and passed along DOI/BOEM's responses to questions we had posed back in June related to Executive Order 13795. Thank you for that material. As you can appreciate, BOEM's responses to our questions have generated the follow-on questions below. We have limited these to only the critical questions we need clarified so that we may complete the report directed by the President. All page numbers refer to the draft document provided to us dated August 5, 2017.

As we are scrambling with completing the section regarding opportunity costs, we appreciate in advance as rapid a turn around as you can provide. If you want to direct me to key staff people to get these resolved, happy to do that. Also we can take answers in pieces or batches, and no need to wait until all are answered.

Warm regards, Bill

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1. Page 2 – Regarding NCSMNM, can you provide more information about how wells drilled in Africa increase the confidence about potential oil and gas resource estimates off New England?
2. Page 2 – Regarding NCSMNM, unless BOEM can provide more specific estimates of “risked mean undiscovered technically recoverable oil and gas resources” for this monument, NOAA will calculate the percent of the North Atlantic OCS Planning Area that the monument overlays and assume this percentage of oil and gas resources are potentially within the monument. Please advise if you have a more accurate estimate.
3. Page 2 and 3 – Regarding NCSMNM and Davidson Seamount/MBNMS, past NOAA analyses to expand MBNMS to include Davidson Seamount assumed, based in part on

input from BOEM Pacific Region representatives, that historical volcanic activity at the seamount was not conducive to long term reservoir storage of hydrocarbon resources. Hence, why Davidson Seamount likely contains no recoverable oil and gas reserves, despite there being estimated reserves in adjacent yet somewhat distant basins. Does BOEM believe that is still an accurate assumption for Davidson Seamount? And if so, should NOAA extrapolate that assumption – about the impact of past volcanic activity degrading petroleum reserves – to the seamount area of NCSMNM?

4. Page 4 – Regarding CBNMS and GFNMS, under NOAA Data Request 2, has BOEM identified any specific challenges to or difficulties with establishing a leasing/development program for the Central California and Northern California planning areas, and if so, how are those challenges to be factored in to assessing confidence in developing these reserves?

5. Page 5 – Regarding CBNMS and GFNMS, the document assumes about 20% of the reserves within the Point Arena Basin and Bodega Basin lie within these two sanctuaries. However, the response regarding the economic value of those reserves does not reach any conclusion. Does BOEM believe it is accurate to assume 20% of the NEV for Central California Planning Area can be attributable to the expansion areas of GFNMS and CBNMS, assuming costs for developing necessary infrastructure are born by many, future development projects?

6. Page 8 – Regarding CBNMS and GFNMS, under NOAA Data Request 3, BOEM states that it cannot provide estimates of the net value of the offshore renewable energy potential in these sanctuaries' expansion areas, and that "project proponents are better suited to provide such estimates". BOEM then outlines some potential benefits of allowing offshore wind in these areas. It would be similarly beneficial to understand, like in BOEM's analysis for oil and gas, whether any challenges or difficulties with leasing offshore wind in these areas have also been identified (e.g., lack of efficient and cost effective technology, new infrastructure development, etc.).

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