The Department of Defense (DoD) and the Department of the Interior (DOI) have worked together for decades to facilitate the needs of both departments in conjunction with offshore energy exploration and production.1

Since the 1970s, natural gas and oil development has occurred in concert with military operations, training and testing in areas along the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The same approach would apply to proposed Atlantic OCS sites.

DoD agrees that 90% of the Mid-Atlantic planning area could be available for offshore exploration and drilling without impact to military operations, training and testing.2

100% of proposed offshore leases are analyzed and evaluated by DoD.

DOI uses DoD’s evaluations to inform their decision-making process.

In August 2017, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and Defense Secretary James Mattis established an interagency working group that will, “provide an effective interface between the Department of Defense and the Department of [the] Interior.”

The U.S. military relies heavily on energy security to operate and protect our nation. $12.4B

DoD’s total energy bill was $12.4 billion in fiscal year 2016, making it America’s largest energy consumer.4

Just a decade ago, the U.S. was more dependent on overseas energy than ever. With continued cooperation between DoD and DOI, new exploration along the OCS can contribute to domestic energy self-sufficiency for decades to come.

1. Report on the compatibility of Department of Defense (DoD) activities with oil and gas resource development on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) 15 February 2010
4. Powering the Department of Defense: Initiatives to Increase Resiliency and Energy Security, September 2017