



ADVANCING AMERICAN FREEDOM

August 28, 2023

Via Federal eRulemaking Portal:

<https://www.regulations.gov/docket/BOEM-2023-0027>

Liz Klein
Director
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

RE: Docket Number (BOEM-2023-0027); Comment

Dear Director Klein,

Advancing American Freedom (AAF) submits the following comment in connection with the proposed rule from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) that would increase the bonding requirements for non-investment-grade drilling companies. This proposed rule would result in a major setback for American energy independence, forcing the country to rely upon our adversaries and foreign despots for our domestic energy needs.

Advancing Energy Independence

Under the Trump-Pence administration, our nation became a net energy exporter. In the Freedom Agenda, AAF's blueprint for a brighter American future, we criticize the ways in which our energy independence has been sacrificed on the altar of climate alarmism. We call for American leaders to "reestablish policies that promote not just American energy independence, but also American energy dominance" by fighting against policies that discriminate against American coal and petroleum in favor of energy that "relies on resources from foreign countries" like China. We are deeply concerned that many of the administration's regulations and proposed rulemaking, such as this one, "put a thumb on the scale for politically favored energy sources over other forms of American energy."

Rather than impose new impediments to domestic energy production, the Biden administration ought to eliminate these mandates and regulations that sanctimoniously drive energy production abroad. It is time, as we argue in our energy legislative agenda (Future of Freedom: Unleashing American Energy), to “restore the United States’ status as a global leader in energy production and supply, ending the reliance on foreign adversaries for our energy needs and countering attempts by countries such as China and Russia to exert power by withholding these vital natural resources.

On behalf of Advancing American Freedom, I therefore respectfully request that the proposed rule be withdrawn, and that a new rule be drafted that would advance our energy needs domestically and U.S. energy leadership abroad.

Respectfully,

John Shelton
Advancing American Freedom
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Washington, D.C 20004