

Lease Term	Extension or Suspension	Requirements
(1) Each limited lease issued competitively has a preliminary term of 6 months to submit a GAP. The preliminary term begins on the effective date of the lease.	If we receive a GAP that satisfies the requirements of §§ 285.640 through 285.648 of this part, the preliminary term will be automatically extended for the period of time necessary for us to conduct a technical and environmental review of the plans.	The GAP must meet the requirements of §§ 285.640 through 285.648.
(2) The operations term begins when MMS approves your GAP and issues your lease. A limited lease issued noncompetitively does not have a preliminary term.		You must submit and MMS must approve your GAP before we will issue a lease. The GAP must meet the requirements of §§ 285.640 through 285.648.
(3) Each limited lease has an operations term of 5 years for conducting site assessment, technology testing, or other activities. The operations term begins on the date that we approve your GAP.	We may order or grant a suspension of the operations term as provided in §§ 285.415 through 285.421.	

(b) If you do not timely submit a GAP, you may request additional time to extend the preliminary term of your limited lease that includes a revised schedule for submission of a GAP.

§ 285.237 What is the effective date of a lease?

(a) A lease issued under this part must be dated and becomes effective as of the first day of the month following the date a lease is signed by the lessor.

(b) If the lessee submits a written request and MMS approves, a lease may be dated and become effective the first day of the month in which it is signed by the lessor.

§ 285.238 Are there any other renewable energy research activities that will be allowed on the OCS?

(a) The Director may issue OCS leases, ROW grants, and RUE grants to a Federal agency or a State for renewable energy research activities that support the future production, transportation, or transmission of renewable energy.

(b) In issuing leases, ROW grants, and RUE grants to a Federal agency or a

State on the OCS for renewable energy research activities under this provision, MMS will coordinate and consult with other relevant Federal agencies, any other affected State(s), affected local government executives, and affected Indian tribes.

(c) The MMS may issue leases, RUEs, and ROWs for research activities managed by a Federal agency or a State only in areas for which the Director has determined, after public notice and opportunity to comment, that no competitive interest exists.

(d) The Director and the head of the Federal agency or the Governor of a requesting State, or their authorized representatives, will negotiate the terms and conditions of such renewable energy leases, RUEs, or ROWs under this provision on a case-by-case basis. The framework for such negotiations, and standard terms and conditions of such leases, RUEs, or ROWs may be set forth in a memorandum of agreement (MOA) or other agreement between MMS and a Federal agency or a State. The MOA must include the agreement of the head of the Federal agency or