

**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~~**Garrett College**~~ [withdrawn]  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~~**Lock Haven University**~~ [withdrawn]  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~~**Mansfield University**~~ [withdrawn]  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  
45600 Woodland Road  
Sterling, VA 20166  
Phone: (703) 787-1077  
[gerard.moore@bsee.gov](mailto:gerard.moore@bsee.gov)

Eboné Pierce  
Operations Research Analyst  
Renewable Energy and Regulatory Compliance (RERC)  
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement  
1201 Elmwood Park Blvd  
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394  
Phone: (504) 429-1563  
[ebone.pierce@bsee.gov](mailto:ebone.pierce@bsee.gov)

*Administrative Representative(s)*

Robert Fila  
Program Analyst  
Renewable Energy and Regulatory Compliance  
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement  
45600 Woodland Road  
Sterling, VA 20166  
Phone: (703) 787-1224  
[robert.fila@bsee.gov](mailto: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'

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Paul Huang  
Deputy Director

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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