



## Comment on BSEE-2015-0002-0001

This is a Comment on the **Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) Proposed Rule: Oil and Gas and Sulphur Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf; Blowout Preventer Systems and Well Control**

For related information, [Open Docket Folder](#)

[Comment Now!](#)

Due Jun 16 2015, at 11:59 PM ET

**ID:** BSEE-2015-0002-0016

**Tracking Number:** 1jz-8ik2-4x8r

### Comment

The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement proposed very responsible new regulations on equipment used in deep water drilling operations in the Outer Continental Shelf. The rules specifically target those mechanisms that failed and in part resulted in the tragic oil spill of the Deepwater Horizon well, which left 3.2 million barrels of oil in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as 11 people dead. Specifically, it's vital that regulations on Blowout Preventers, which are supposed to seal wells in emergency situations, be comprehensive and up to date, and carry with it strong enforcement. Blowout Preventers serve as the last defense against a natural disaster. The tragedy of the Deepwater Horizon well removed any assurance that the reliability of the mechanisms of deep water drilling are being regulated appropriately, and it's shameful that stronger regulations haven't been passed sooner. The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement held a public offshore energy forum in 2012 that brought together a variety of experts to discuss additional steps to ensure the safety of Blowout Preventers and of the total industry as a whole. Out of this came a number of substantive and effective ideas that are included in this proposal. One such example of a common sense measure proposed is stronger enforcement of shearing requirements, which consist of ensuring that in a time of emergency Blowout Preventers, with the use of a device called a blind shearing ram, are able to cut through drill pipe so the well can shut close. Furthermore, it's proposed that those workers responsible for inspection, maintenance, and repair are highly skilled personnel.

In conclusion, this proposal was drawn up by the regulatory agency responsible for drilling activities, in reaction to the disaster of the Deepwater Horizon well, and has in it comprehensive measures, based on extensive research and expertise, to prevent such a disaster from ever happening again. It's necessary to allow the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement to take the measure it sees fit to protect and preserve the environment, as well as workers lives.

### Document Information

**Date Posted:**

Apr 29, 2015

**RIN:**

1014-AA11

[Show More Details](#)

### Submitter Information

**Submitter Name:**

Noah Nusbaum

**Organization Name:**

University of Miami