



Coastal and Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment



ICF International offers the full range of services to support project development, environmental impact analyses, and permitting for coastal and offshore projects. We routinely bring together multidisciplinary teams to guarantee the success of our clients.

- Our energy experts use an integrated suite of analytical tools and power market expertise to design and analyze effective renewable energy projects
- Our seasoned environmental experts are scientists and engineers with experience in all aspects of resource management, environmental science, and archeological and cultural resources
- Our communications experts bring seasoned public outreach and facilitation expertise to our clients to ensure success for all stakeholders
- Our team of economists provide the analytical and modeling capabilities to effectively forecast economic and socioeconomic impacts

Passion. Expertise. Results.

ICF International is recognized for its ability to successfully support all aspects of complex, high-profile environmental assessment projects, with an emphasis on energy. Our clients have included the U.S. government, private developers, and foreign government entities under both the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and international World Bank Guidelines and Standards.

Altogether, we have prepared or reviewed several hundred environmental impact statements, environmental assessments, and related documents, and supported policy analyses for private applicants and U.S. agencies such as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Minerals Management Service, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Agency, U.S. Coast Guard, the Maritime Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and U.S. Department of Defense.

Selected Experience

[Analysis of Environmental Effects of Alternative Energy Uses on the Outer Continental Shelf](#)

ICF is part of a team supporting the U.S. Minerals Management Service in the first phases of developing the outer continental shelf alternative energy program. Our professionals have provided the following:

- Overview of current and future trends in technology and an analysis of the best geographic locations for project siting
- Worldwide comprehensive survey of all offshore alternative energy projects (including wind, wave, current, and solar) in the operational, permitting, and planning stages
- Web-enabled database of all existing information on the environmental impacts of these projects
- Survey of the strategies and outreach tools that have been successfully employed to gain public acceptance of operational offshore alternative energy projects
- Facilitation of a workshop to identify research goals to support the outer continental shelf alternative energy program

[Environmental Impact Statements for Deepwater Ports](#)

The U.S. Coast Guard and the Maritime Administration requested ICF's support to prepare multiple environmental impact statements (EISs) for the construction and operation of deepwater ports off the coasts of Florida, Louisiana, and Texas. The Calypso Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Deepwater Port would be constructed in federal waters, approximately eight to ten miles offshore of Port Everglades. The other two ports are approximately twenty miles offshore in waters 1,200 feet deep. ICF's EIS studies included examination of the physical, biotic, and human environments, and the potential impacts resulting from the construction and operation of the deepwater ports. Special studies were conducted to examine the potential regional land use and economic impacts.

Selected Experience (continued)

Environmental Impact Report for LNG Terminal and Pipelines, Point Conception, California

For the California Public Utilities Commission, ICF prepared an environmental impact report for a proposed LNG import terminal facility at Point Conception, including 112 miles of pipeline. Siting the project in an area used for ranching, recreational purposes, and low-density residential development required an evaluation of impacts involving air and water quality, geo-seismic factors, marine and terrestrial biology, land use, visual aspects, socioeconomics, induced growth, cultural resources, transportation impacts, and energy use. ICF also coordinated related studies performed by other contractors on marine traffic, facility security and safeguards, and energy alternatives to the project.

Environmental Impact Statement for Expansion of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve

The U.S. Department of Energy contracted ICF to prepare an EIS analyzing the expansion of the SPR capacity. Analysis included review of coastal and offshore impacts for the seven potential sites located along the Gulf of Mexico coastline in Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Key issues included the impact of discharging brine in the Gulf of Mexico, hydrological and water quality impacts to coastal marshlands, and dredging impacts. ICF prepared coastal consistency determinations as required by the Coastal Zone Management Act and also prepared an Essential Fish Habitat Assessment for National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries. This aggressive project timeline was driven by a Congressional mandate to reach a decision in one year.

Legislative Environmental Impact Statement for Managing Interactions between Marine Mammals and Commercial Fishing

NOAA Fisheries contracted ICF to develop a Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (LEIS) and proposed a regime for managing the interactions between marine mammals and commercial fishing. The LEIS and a proposed regime, mandated by Congress in amendments to the Marine Mammal Protection Act, required NOAA Fisheries to examine the potential environmental and economic impacts. ICF provided estimates of the economic and environmental impacts of the management approaches under consideration for marine mammals, turtles, and sea birds, and conducted various analyses of the results of NOAA's efforts to reduce marine mammal interactions with commercial fishing.

Environmental Assessment for the Navy's Stores Separation Test and Evaluation of the F/A-18E/F Fighter Jet

The Naval Air Station Patuxent River contracted ICF to prepare an environmental assessment for the Stores Separation Test and Evaluation of the F/A-18E/F. The stores separation was scheduled to occur in restricted areas in the Chesapeake Bay and warning areas off the Atlantic Coast. The environmental assessment examined the potential for impacts to air quality, water quality, biological resources, and underwater archaeological resources in the restricted and warning areas. Also assessed were the potential impacts from transportation, storage, and handling of ordnance.

Multiple Environmental Impact Assessments, Environmental Management Plans, Mitigation Studies for Natural Gas Pipelines for ChevronTexaco

For ChevronTexaco, ICF prepared five separate environmental impact assessments (EIAs) for the West African Gas Pipeline offshore venture—one of West Africa's most significant and challenging regional energy projects. Slated to deliver natural gas from Nigeria to Benin, Togo, and Ghana, this joint pipeline project involved six energy resource companies and the governments of all the involved West African nations. ICF prepared EIAs, as well as environmental management plans, health and safety plans, and resettlement action plans for each of the four countries involved in the project. The EIA effort included coastal and offshore environmental baseline surveys, including scrub brush, agricultural areas, barrier islands, and near-shore benthic and pelagic communities.

Upgrading Economic Impact Models for Energy Projects on the Outer Continental Shelf

For Minerals Management Service, ICF developed a model of the regional economic impacts of offshore oil and gas exploration and drilling. The model was applicable to all the offshore regions in the country, with emphasis on its applicability for the Gulf of Mexico and the Alaska Outer Continental Shelves. This required that the model be accurate for a broad range of offshore activities. The model developed by ICF can estimate the direct effects of any exploration and development scenario. It then interacts with the commercially available IMPLAN® economic impact modeling system developed by MIG, Inc., to estimate the multiplier impacts of these activities (i.e., their indirect and induced impacts) on both the regional and the national economy.

For more on the IMPLAN® model visit www.implan.com.

About ICF International

ICF International (NASDAQ: ICFI) partners with government and commercial clients to deliver consulting services and technology solutions in the energy, climate change, environment, transportation, social programs, health, defense, and emergency management markets. The firm combines passion for its work with industry expertise and innovative analytics to produce compelling results throughout the entire program life cycle, from analysis and design through implementation and improvement. Since 1969, ICF has been serving government at all levels, major corporations, and multilateral institutions. More than 2,500 employees serve these clients worldwide. ICF's Web site is <http://www.icfi.com>.

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