



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20240-0001

JUN 20 2016

Mr. John W. Kelly, President  
Florida Atlantic University  
777 Glades Road  
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Re: Interim Policy Lease Relinquishment Accepted

Dear Mr. Kelly:

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) received your application for the full relinquishment of interim policy lease OCS-A 0495 on May 31, 2016. We have completed our review of the relinquishment application and found it to be in compliance with the terms and conditions of the lease. Therefore, the relinquishment is accepted effective May 31, 2016, the date it was received by BOEM. The relinquished lease area is described as:

OCS-A 0495, Bahamas NG17-06  
Block 7053, NE1/4 of SE1/4  
Block 7054, N1/2 of SE1/4

If you have questions, you may contact Ms. Gina Best at 703-787-1341 or [gina.best@boem.gov](mailto:gina.best@boem.gov).

Sincerely,

James F. Bennett  
Program Manager  
Office of Renewable Energy Programs

cc: David Kian  
Vice President and General Counsel  
[dkian@fau.edu](mailto:dkian@fau.edu)

Camille E. Coley  
Associate Vice President for Research  
[ccoley@fau.edu](mailto:ccoley@fau.edu)



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MAY 31 2016

Office of Renewable  
Energy Programs

May 31, 2016

Mr. James F. Bennett  
Chief, Office of Renewable Energy Programs  
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
United States Department of the Interior  
45600 Woodland Road  
VAM-OREP  
Sterling, Virginia 20166

RE: Lease OCS-A 0495

Dear Mr. Bennett:

Florida Atlantic University ("FAU") was granted Lease OCS-A 0495 (the "Lease") on June 1, 2014. Under the terms of the Lease, the Southeast National Marine Renewable Energy Center of FAU ("SNMREC") will conduct activities offshore southeast Florida to determine the potential of harnessing ocean currents for the production of electricity. Activities approved in the Lease include constructing, installing, using, maintaining, and removing buoys and ocean current turbines for this purpose. In addition, studies will be conducted to determine ocean current flow, motion, frequency, speed, rise and fall, or direction during the term of the Lease.

A request was submitted (May 20, 2015) and approved (June 25, 2015) to extend the original Project Plan effective date (June 1, 2015) until October 31, 2015. A subsequent request was approved (November 5, 2015) to extend the Project Plan effective date until April 29, 2016 so that FAU could further evaluate Lease site conditions prior to selecting an initial anchoring location. After conducting detailed sea floor surveys of the Lease areas, FAU discovered conditions to be challenging for installation of marine renewable energy small-scale testing infrastructure.

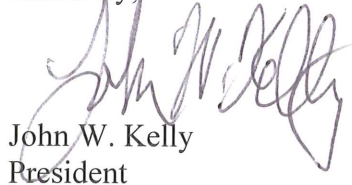
Lease OCS-A 0495 was issued under BOEM's Interim Policy program with a five year limited term and does not grant FAU priority rights for subsequent development of a renewable energy facility for commercial-scale generation (as described in Notice of Intent NOI 76 FR 30184). Given unfavorable site conditions associated with the current Lease area, it is SNMREC's intention to seek an alternative site which can accommodate both small-scale and commercial-scale renewable energy facilities in the future. **Therefore, at this time, FAU wishes to surrender Lease OCS-A 0495.**

Mr. James F. Bennet  
May 31, 2016  
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FAU would like to thank BOEM for its support during Lease preparation and generally, for its support of marine renewable energy development on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). In particular, FAU would like to recognize the efforts of the project teams assigned to this Lease and accompanying Environmental Assessment. This Lease has helped to provide invaluable information to accelerate OCS marine energy industry progress, especially in southeast Florida. We look forward to engaging BOEM for future offshore leasing activities and continuing to participate in Florida's Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force.

Please contact David Kian, Vice President and General Counsel, Daniel Flynn, Vice President for Research, Camille Coley, Associate Vice President for Research, or Gabriel Alsenas, General Manager for SNMREC, if you have any questions or need further clarification.

Sincerely,



John W. Kelly  
President

cc: David Kian, Vice President and General Counsel  
([dkian@fau.edu](mailto:dkian@fau.edu) and 561-297-3007)  
Daniel Flynn, Vice President for Research  
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