



United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR
Washington, D.C. 20240

April 16, 2021

M-37068

Memorandum

To: Secretary

From: Principal Deputy Solicitor

Subject: Withdrawal of M-37062, *Secretarial Discretion in Promulgating a National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program*

On January 13, 2021, the Solicitor issued an M-Opinion entitled, *Secretarial Discretion in Promulgating a National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program* (M-37062), which concluded that, under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA), the Secretary must promulgate a National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program and that such a program may consist of a schedule with as few as two lease sales, but no fewer.

Pursuant to delegated authority, I hereby withdraw M-37062. I intend to review OCSLA and its requirements and may or may not issue a new opinion on this subject. In the meantime, my office will continue to provide you with any necessary advice regarding the OCSLA program.

Robert T. Anderson