

Center for Regulatory Effectiveness

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July 14, 2009

Office of Science and Technology Policy
Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology,
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,
National Science and Technology Council
New Executive Officer Building
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20502

RE: Updating “Charting the Course”

The Center for Regulatory Effectiveness (CRE) appreciates this opportunity to provide these comments in response to OSTP’s Request for Public Input in updating the *Charting the Course* research priorities plan and implementation strategy.¹

In the *Federal Register* notice requesting comments, OSTP noted that “all submissions may be posted without change to <http://ocean.ceq.gov/about/jsost.html>.” [emphasis added.]

CRE requests that OSTP post all public comments as expeditiously as possible. CRE will be using these comments as the underpinning of a three-step process to assist OSTP with updating *Charting the Course*:

1. CRE will post all of the public comments on our Ocean Zoning Interactive Public Docket (IPD) found at <http://www.thecre.com/creipd/>.
2. CRE will invite all interested parties to discuss the posted comments. The IPD allows all persons, either with or without attribution at their discretion, to provide comments and to upload studies and other materials in support of the views expressed.
3. CRE will write a report on both the comments on the *Federal Register* notice and on the discussion of those comments. CRE’s report will be posted on the IPD and will be provided to OSTP.

The Ocean Zoning IPD is an eRulemaking tool that is fully compatible with the goals expressed by President Obama in his landmark Memorandum on Transparency and Open Government. Specifically,

¹ 74 FR 29523, June 22, 2009.

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- ▶ The IPD is transparent. All materials placed on the are easily accessible to viewers around the world. No registration or special software is required.
- ▶ The IPD promotes public engagement in important federal undertakings. By allowing all interested persons to freely comment on the material posted and to engage in a continuous dialog with other interested persons, the IPD provides an easy-to-use mechanism that encourages public participation in the development and implementation of federal marine sciences activities.
- ▶ The Ocean Zoning IPD is an innovative, collaborative mechanism. Unlike other eDocket tools that simply collect and display comments, the IPD allows all users to;
 - 1) Upload studies, charts and other supporting materials for public dissemination, review and comment;
 - 2) Comment on the materials posted and post supporting or contradictory materials; and
 - 3) Engage in an ongoing, substantive dialog with other stakeholders.

CRE requests that OSTP please advise us of when the comments on this *Federal Register* notice will be posted for public review.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jim Tozzi, Ph.D.

Member, Board of Directors