## How was the contractor selected for the Virginia Offshore Oil and Gas Readiness Study?

The contractor was selected through the Commonwealth's open bidding process. DMME issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on July 21, 2014 with a deadline of August 21, 2014. The RFP was advertised in the Richmond Times-Dispatch and was published on the eVA website. Two proposals were received. Proposals were reviewed by a panel consisting of the DMME State Geologist, the DMME Economic Geology Manager, the DMME Renewables Program Manager, the DEQ Virginia Coastal Zone Program Manager, and a private citizen who is a member of the board of the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center. The review panel was unanimous in their decision to select the proposal submitted by Fugro Consultants Inc., Norfolk, VA. DMME 's contract with Fugro was finalized on September 22, 2014, and the study began on October 1.