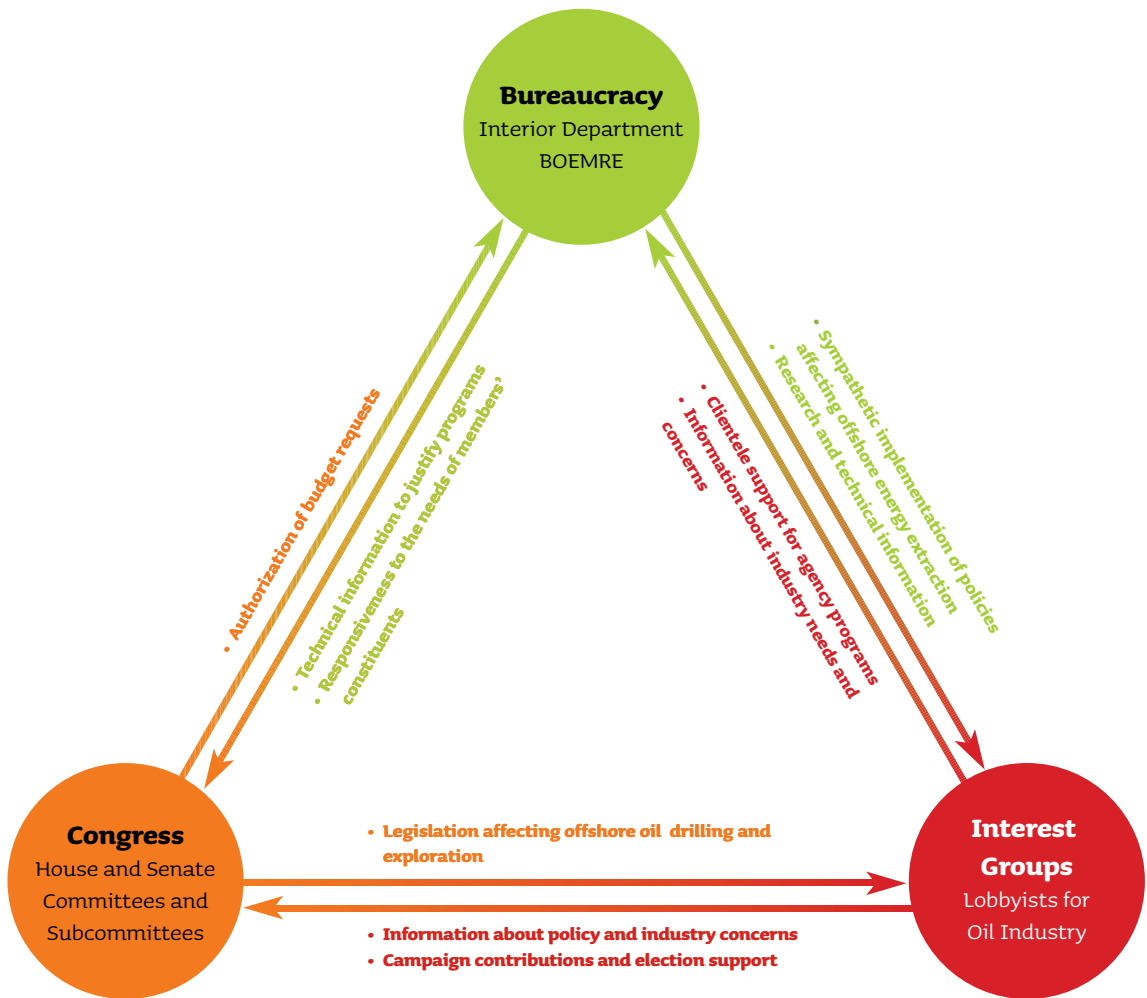


FIGURE 8.1 THE OIL INDUSTRY-BOEMRE IRON TRIANGLE



Iron triangles (involving Congress, the bureaucracy, and special interest groups) exist on nearly every subgovernment level. In this example, you can see how the BOEMRE (the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement), which depends on the House and Senate for its budget, influences and is influenced by oil company lobbyists, who in turn influence and are influenced by House and Senate committees and subcommittees. This mutual interdependence represents a powerful monopoly of power.