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Contact: Patrick Etchart, (303) 231-3162
Nicolette Nye, (202) 208-3985

States earn \$1.24 billion in FY '04 mineral revenues

DENVER -- More than \$1.24 billion was distributed to 36 states during Fiscal Year 2004 as part of their share of federal revenues collected by the Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS).

The \$1,248,693,178 distributed to states during the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30 compares with Fiscal Year 2003 payments to states that totaled \$1,019,980,807.

"These revenues can be crucial to states where energy production occurs," said Johnnie Burton, Director of the Minerals Management Service. "In many cases," she said, "states share their revenues with individual counties and the money is used for a variety of local needs ranging from school funding to infrastructure improvements."

The \$1.24 billion distributed through September of this year represents the states' cumulative share of revenues collected from mineral production on federal lands located within their borders, and from federal offshore oil and gas tracts adjacent to their state waters boundary.

During Fiscal Year 2004, the state of Wyoming again led all states by receiving more than \$564 million as its share of revenues collected from mineral production on federal lands within its borders, including oil, gas and coal production. New Mexico's share was more than \$364 million, while \$80.5 million was received by the state of Colorado. Other states sharing revenues included Utah with more than \$69 million; Louisiana with more than \$39 million; Montana at \$30.2 million; California with more than \$28.9 million; and Texas, which received more than \$15 million in Fiscal Year 2004.

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) is the federal agency responsible for collecting, auditing and disbursing revenues associated with mineral leases on federal and American Indian lands. Disbursements are made to states on a monthly basis as royalties, rents, bonuses and other revenues are collected by MMS.

A state is entitled to a share of the mineral revenues collected from federal lands located within that state's boundaries. Most states receive 50 percent of the revenue collected from leases on onshore federal land, while the other 50 percent goes to various funds of the U. S. Treasury, including the Reclamation Fund for water projects. Alaska receives a 90 percent share as prescribed by the Alaska Statehood Act. States may also receive appropriations from the offshore royalty-funded Land and Water Conservation Fund to help them with park and land acquisitions.

In addition, coastal states with producing federal offshore tracts adjacent to their seaward boundaries receive 27 percent of those mineral royalties. Remaining offshore revenues collected by the Minerals Management Service are deposited in various accounts of the U.S. Treasury, with the majority of those revenues going to the General Fund.

Since its creation in 1982, the Minerals Management Service has collected and distributed approximately \$143 billion to federal, state and American Indian accounts. MMS is one of the largest annual contributors to the U.S. Treasury.

States receiving revenues during Fiscal Year 2004 include:

Alabama	\$14,316,127
Alaska	\$17,543,935
Arizona	\$152,314
Arkansas	\$2,365,308
California	\$28,931,791
Colorado	\$80,531,107
Florida	\$24,956
Idaho	\$2,172,061
Illinois	\$113,909
Indiana	\$59
Kansas	\$1,519,882
Kentucky	\$90,388
Louisiana	\$39,621,446
Michigan	\$405,314
Minnesota	\$11,185
Mississippi	\$1,165,829
Missouri	\$711,805
Montana	\$30,294,623
Nebraska	\$20,027
Nevada	\$2,651,062
New Mexico	\$364,957,736
North Carolina	\$119

North Dakota	\$6,155,005
Ohio	\$350,454
Oklahoma	\$4,756,477
Oregon	\$11,470
Pennsylvania	\$27,852
South Carolina	\$102
South Dakota	\$473,553
Tennessee	\$99
Texas	\$15,212,841
Utah	\$69,013,576
Virginia	\$21,774
Washington	\$472,266
West Virginia	\$264,172
Wyoming	\$564,332,554
Total:	\$1,248,693,178

*** * * MMS: Securing Ocean Energy and Economic Value for America * * ***