



Media Advisory

U.S. Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
Office of Public Affairs

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MMS to Hold Public Hearings in Pensacola on Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Lease Sale in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico

NEW ORLEANS — The Minerals Management Service (MMS) will hold two public hearings in Pensacola, Florida, on July 26, 2007, to obtain input from the public on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for a proposed oil and gas lease sale in the Eastern Planning Area of the Gulf of Mexico. Lease Sale 224, mandated by the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006, is scheduled for March 2008.

What: Public Hearings on the Draft SEIS for Eastern Gulf Sale 224

When: Thursday, July 26, 2007, at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Where: New World Landing
600 South Palafox Street
Pensacola, Florida, 32501

Why: To receive comments from State, Federal, and local agencies and the public on information and analyses presented in the Draft SEIS. The meetings will also inform participants about the proposed sale and the SEIS process. This SEIS updates the environmental and socioeconomic analyses in the EIS completed in 2001 for the original Sale 181 area.

All statements, whether oral, written, delivered in person at the meeting, by e-mail, or by regular mail, will receive the same weight. Comments may also be sent by e-mail to environment@mms.gov, or by mail in an envelope labeled "Comments on the Lease Sale 224" and addressed to:

Regional Supervisor Leasing and Environment
Minerals Management Service (MS 5410)
Gulf of Mexico Region
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394.

(MORE)

Comments must be received by August 13, 2007.

An electronic copy of the draft EIS is available on the MMS website at
<http://www.gomr.mms.gov/homepg/regulate/environ/nepa/nepaprocess.html>.

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