



MEDIA ADVISORY

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

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT
Caryl Fagot, 504-736-2590
Eileen Angelico, 504-736-2595

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MMS Director Randall Luthi to Host Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 204

NEW ORLEANS –The Director of Minerals Management Service, Randall Luthi, will host Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 204 in New Orleans on August 22. He will open the Federal oil and gas lease sale at 9 a.m. at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside with brief remarks. Immediately following the bid reading, he will hold a media availability to discuss the results of the sale.

The annual sale held by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS) encompasses 3,338 unleased blocks covering approximately 18 million acres in the Western GOM Outer Continental Shelf Planning Area offshore Texas. The blocks are located in Federal waters from nine to more than 250 miles offshore, in water depths of 13 feet (4 meters) to more than 11,237 feet (3,425 meters). MMS estimates the lease sale could result in the production of 242 to 423 million barrels of oil and 1.64 to 2.64 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

Who: Randall Luthi, MMS Director

What: Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 204

When: Wednesday, August 22, 2007
9:00 a.m.

***Media availability will be held following the reading of the bids, at approximately 11:30 a.m.**

Where: The Hilton New Orleans Riverside
Grand Salon B
Two Poydras Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70140

For more information about Sale 204, visit the MMS website at
<http://www.gomr.mms.gov/homepg/lseale/204/wgom204.html> .

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