

CITATION

**SAFETY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
CAMARILLO DISTRICT
PACIFIC OCS REGION**

**TORCH OPERATING COMPANY
PLATFORM GILDA
PRODUCTION CONTRACTOR
for NUEVO ENERGY COMPANY**

This award is presented to Torch Operating Company, contractor for Nuevo Energy Company, in recognition of its accident-free record and for the professional manner in which it conducted production operations on Platform Gilda for the period January 1 through December 31, 1999.

During the rating period, Minerals Management Service (MMS) personnel conducted 12 unannounced partial production inspections and 1 announced complete (annual) production inspection with only 1 minor incident of noncompliance detected. The results of these inspections underscored Torch's outstanding safety record in dealing with high concentrations of hydrogen sulfide and carrying out overall production operations in accordance with MMS regulations and the criteria set up for the SAFE program. Procedures to promote communication and operational review among production personnel were excellent. Torch was extremely cooperative with MMS personnel and provided support when needed. Management and field personnel were exemplary in awareness, knowledge, and application of Federal, State, and County operating regulations.

The Secretary of the Interior and the Director of Minerals Management Service join me in commending Torch Operating Company for its part in the development of offshore mineral resources while maintaining a constant awareness for the safety of personnel, protection of the environment, and adherence to operating regulations.

**J. Lisle Reed
Regional Director
Pacific OCS Region**