Media Advisory

Office of Public Affairs

For Immediate Release November 7, 2008 **News Media Contact:**

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MMS Director Announces First of Multi-Step Process for Oil and Gas Leasing Offshore Virginia

Initial information-gathering steps include public comment opportunity

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Wednesday, November 12, 2008, Minerals Management Service (MMS) Director Randall Luthi will announce a significant first step in the multistep leasing process for offshore Virginia. A step that will involve full public involvement and begin the work for an environmental analysis.

Luthi will discuss the announcement in a news media teleconference beginning at 11 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Who: Randall Luthi, Director of the Minerals Management Service

What: Announcement of a first step in leasing process for offshore Virginia

When: Wednesday, November 12, 2008: 11 a.m. Eastern Standard Time; 10 a.m.

Central Standard Time; 9 a.m. Mountain Standard Time; and 8 a.m. Pacific

Standard Time

Media: All credentialed news media are invited to participate.

Conference Call: News media representatives wishing to participate in the teleconference should dial 800-857-9037 and use the passcode 53860. Please provide your name and affiliation to the conference moderator.