

Minerals Management Service

People Promoting Energy, the Environment, and the Economy

News Release

Office of Public Affairs For Immediate Release December 19, 2008 **News Media Contact:** Nicholas Pardi, (202) 208-3985

MMS Extends the Comment Period for Virginia Offshore Oil and Gas Lease Sale 220 Call for Information and Notice of Intent

WASHINGTON – Minerals Management Service (MMS) is extending the public comment period for the Call for Information and Interest/Nominations and Notice of Intent (Call/NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for initial information gathering for a proposed OCS Lease Sale 220 offshore Virginia.

The Call/Notice of Intent was published in the Federal Register on November 13, 2008 and the comment period was scheduled to close on December 29, 2008. Due to the holiday season, MMS believes it is reasonable to grant a 15-day extension of the current comment period for all commenters. Therefore, the comment period is extended until **January 13, 2009**.

As described in the Call/NOI, please submit comments on the Call to:

Minerals Management Service Gulf of Mexico OCS Region Attention: Mr. Carrol Williams 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard Mail Stop 5422 New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394

Comments on the NOI to:

Minerals Management Service Gulf of Mexico OCS Region Attention: Mr. Gary Goeke 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

You may also submit comments via email to "sale220@mms.gov"

--MMS---

R-08-3943