

CITATION

**SAFETY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
SANTA MARIA DISTRICT
PACIFIC OCS REGION**

**TORCH OPERATING COMPANY
PLATFORM IRENE
PRODUCTION**

This award is presented to Torch Operating Company in recognition of its excellent safety record and for the professional manner in which it conducted operations on Platform Irene for the period January 1 through December 31, 1999.

During the rating period, Minerals Management Service (MMS) personnel conducted 61 inspections of production operations at Platform Irene, covering 1,130 components, with only 2 incidents of noncompliance detected. The annual inspection, which requires every safety device on the platform to be function-tested, resulted in zero incidents of noncompliance. The results of these inspections underscore Torch's outstanding record during 1999 in conducting operations in accordance with MMS regulations and criteria established for the SAFE program. Torch's cooperation with MMS personnel was excellent. Torch was proactive in the areas of safety and environmental protection, as exhibited by Torch's pipeline inspection program and the spool replacement at the platform's J-tube when an anomaly was detected. Torch field and management personnel showed excellent awareness and knowledge in their application of Federal 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**