



Minerals Management Service

People Promoting Energy, the Environment, and the Economy

Media Advisory

Office of Public Affairs

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MMS Director Liz Birnbaum to Host Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 210

NEW ORLEANS –The Director of Minerals Management Service, Liz Birnbaum, will host Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 210 in New Orleans on August 19. She will open the Federal oil and gas lease sale at 9 a.m. CDT at the Royal Sonesta Hotel with brief remarks. Immediately following the bid reading, she will hold a media availability to discuss the results of the sale.

The sale, held by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS), encompasses 3,435 unleased blocks covering approximately 18.4 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 16 feet (5 meters) to more than 10,978 feet (3,346 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: Liz Birnbaum, MMS Director

What: Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 210

When: Wednesday, August 19, 2009: 9:00 a.m. CDT for opening remarks and bid reading

Media availability will be held following the reading of the bids, at approximately 10:45 a.m.

Where: Royal Sonesta Hotel
300 Bourbon Street
Grand Ballroom for bid reading, First Floor
Esplanade Room for media availability
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Media: Media representatives unable to attend the Lease Sale in New Orleans may participate in the press conference by dialing in at 888-989-3380. The passcode is: ENERGY.

For more information about Sale 210, visit the MMS website at <http://www.gomr.mms.gov/homepg/lseale/210/wgom210.html> .

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