

**Minerals Management Service (MMS)
Outer Continental Shelf (OCS)
Scientific Committee (SC)
Meeting Agenda**

MEETING DATES: April 29, 30, and May 1, 2009
LOCATION: Sheraton Anchorage
401 E. 6th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

- 8:30 a.m. Welcome and Introductions **Dr. D. Michael Fry**, Chair, OCS SC and
(please turn cell phones off or set to silent) **Dr. James Kendall**, Executive Secretary of
the OCS SC, MMS
- 8:45 a.m. MMS Director's Welcome **Mr. John Goll**, Director, MMS Alaska OCS
Region
- 9:15 a.m. Status of Offshore Energy and Minerals
Management

Background information will be provided about the MMS including the recent challenges that it is facing and particularly, Offshore Energy and Minerals Management.

9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. BREAK

- 10:15 a.m. Alaska OCS Regional Overview **Mr. John Goll**, Director, MMS Alaska OCS
Region

Mr. John Goll, Alaska Regional Director, will provide an overview of ongoing and planned activity in Alaska. The Alaska OCS is now producing oil, has had renewed industry interest in its great oil and gas resource potential, and has some exciting projects coming down the road. But numerous challenges persist, including technical, environmental, and sociological, plus litigation.

- 11:00 a.m. A Comprehensive Approach Towards Future **Dr. Rodney Cluck**, Chief, Environmental
MMS Scientific Needs Sciences Branch

Dr. Cluck will present the MMS Headquarters ESP that will highlight future goals of ESP. The presentation will discuss a comprehensive approach to management of studies where oil and gas efforts, sand and gravel, and alternative energy are all included in regional studies planning. The focus will be on the integration of alternative energy into the existing studies process.

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. LUNCH

1:30 p.m. Overview of Regional Environmental Programs including Regional components of the ESP (45 minutes each)

**Presented by the Regional Supervisors,
Office of Leasing and Environment**

- Alaska OCS Region
- Gulf of Mexico/Atlantic OCS Regions

Dr. Cleve Cowles
Mr. Joe Christopher

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. BREAK

- Pacific OCS Region

Dr. Fred Piltz

Presentations will be given by Regional Supervisors to provide a brief orientation of the OCS Program as well as regional challenges. The presentations will focus on the most pressing issues facing Alaska, the Gulf of Mexico/Atlantic, and the Pacific Regions.

4:15 p.m. Our Goal for the Next Day

Dr. Rodney Cluck, Chief, Environmental Sciences Branch

MMS Headquarters and Regional Studies Development Plans outline the overall research needs and priorities of the National and Regional Studies Programs. Discussions should address current issues, information/knowledge gaps, the most pressing research needs, how the various disciplines fit together in the overall picture, and future Studies efforts, in terms of expenditures and prioritization.

4:45 p.m. Recess

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Thursday, April 30, 2009

7:50 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Charge to the Discipline Breakout Groups

Dr. D. Michael Fry, Chair

Physical Sciences, Biology, and Socioeconomic Disciplines meet separately to discuss national and regional studies plans.

Biology/Ecology or Interdisciplinary	Physical Sciences	Social Sciences
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Alaska	8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Atlantic	8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Gulf of Mexico
	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Gulf of Mexico	
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Pacific		9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Atlantic
	OPEN	OPEN
11:30 – 1:00 LUNCH		
1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Pacific continued	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Pacific	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Alaska
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Gulf of Mexico		
	2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Alaska	2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Pacific
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Atlantic		

Sessions include sand and gravel and renewable energy study profiles.

Refreshments will be available at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

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Friday, May 1, 2009

8:00 a.m. Preparation of Discipline Breakout Groups Reports **OCS SC representatives and MMS**

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. BREAK

10:30 a.m. Renewable Energy Discussion
(please turn cell phones off or set to silent)

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. LUNCH

1:00 p.m. Reports From Discipline Breakout Group Sessions
(20 minutes each)

- Ecology/Biology
- Physical Oceanography
- Social Sciences

2:00 p.m. Open Discussion of Breakout Group Sessions Reports

3:00 p.m. Public Comment

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. BREAK

3:45 p.m. Committee Business

- Items for Letter to the Director
- Emerging Issues/Topics of Interest
- Other Business
- Dates and locations for the next meeting

4:00 p.m. Final Comments

4:30 p.m. Adjourn