

U. S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Eastern States 7450 Boston Boulevard, Springfield, Virginia 22153



**Press Release** 

For Release Immediately

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## Federal Government Leases Land in Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi for Oil and Gas Exploration

Nineteen parcels of Federal land brought in \$54,961.50 through a competitive auction of oil and gas leases conducted by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on Thursday, June 28, 2001 in Springfield, Virginia. Bonus bids, filing fees, and rental revenue amounting to \$34,108 will go to the U.S. Treasury and \$20,853 will be shared with the affected States.

The BLM has responsibility for leasing the federally-owned minerals located in the 31 states east of and adjoining the Mississippi River and offers selected parcels at quarterly competitive auctions. Regulations require the bidding to open at \$2 per acre. R&R Investments from Corpus Christi, Texas paid \$16,000 for a 40-acre parcel in Beauregard Parish, Louisiana. Their bid of \$400 per acre was the highest per-acre bid of the auction.

Leases are awarded for a term of 10 years and as long thereafter as there is production of oil and gas in paying quantities. The Federal Government receives a royalty of 12<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> percent of the value of production. Also, each State Government receives a 25 percent minimum share of the bonus bid and the royalty revenue from each lease issued in that state.

The next competitive oil and gas lease sale is scheduled for September 20, 2001. Visit our web site at <u>www.es.blm.gov</u> for more information about oil and gas lease sales and other BLM programs.

**NOTE:** A breakdown of the results of the sale is attached.

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## ADD ONE:

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT EASTERN STATES RESULTS OF THE COMPETITIVE OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE June 28, 2001

<u>State</u>	# of Parcels offered/sold		Acreage offered/sold		Federal <u>Revenue*</u>	State <u>Revenue*</u>
ALABAMA	1	0	280.90	0	0	0
ARKANSAS	55	4	92,307.68	3,726.52	6,892	6,452
LOUISIANA	5	5	424.67	424.67	10,253	8,888
MISSISSIPPI	21	10	12,044.61	5,235.68	16,963	5,513
TOTAL	82	19	105,057.90	9,386.87	34,108	20,853

Revenue rounded to the nearest dollar.