

Chapter 5

# **The GIS Project for the Geologic Assessment of Undiscovered Oil and Gas Resources of the Black Warrior Basin Province of Alabama and Mississippi**

By Christopher P. Anderson



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Chapter 5 of

**Geologic Assessment of Undiscovered Oil and Gas Resources of the Black Warrior Basin Province, Alabama and Mississippi**

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# The GIS Project for the Geologic Assessment of Undiscovered Oil and Gas Resources of the Black Warrior Basin Province of Alabama and Mississippi

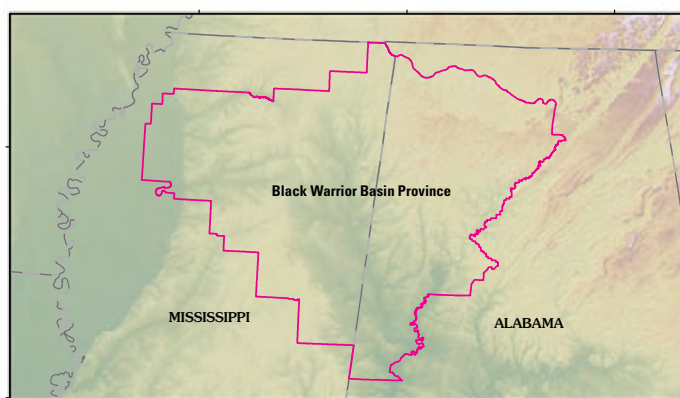
By Christopher P. Anderson

A geographic information system (GIS) focusing on the Black Warrior Basin was developed as a visual-analysis tool for the U.S. Geological Survey's 2002 assessment of undiscovered, technically recoverable oil and natural gas resources in the Black Warrior Basin Province. The Central Energy Resources Team of the U.S. Geological Survey has also developed an Internet Map Service to deliver the GIS data to the public. This mapping tool utilizes information from a database about the oil and natural gas endowment of the United States—including physical locations of geologic and geographic data—and converts the data into visual layers. Portrayal and analysis of geologic features on an interactive map provide an excellent tool for understanding domestic oil and gas resources for strategic planning, formulating economic and energy policies, evaluating lands under the purview of the Federal Government, and developing sound environmental policies. Assessment results can be viewed and analyzed or downloaded from the Internet Web site.

Hydrocarbon assessment-unit boundaries include the assessment results as attributes. Specialized maps, which we in the Central Energy Resources Team refer to as “cell maps,” illustrate the degree of exploration and the type and distribution of production for each assessment unit. Other data that are also available in the interactive map include the following:

- Cities
- Roads
- Geologic provinces
- Total petroleum system
- States
- Counties
- Streams and water bodies
- Federal surface ownership
- Shaded relief

Click on the map below to access the Black Warrior Basin Province Internet Map Service.



The spatial data that formed the basis of the GIS for the Black Warrior Basin are provided online at the USGS National Oil and Gas Assessment Web site (NOGA Online: <http://energy.cr.usgs.gov/oilgas/noga/>) and are also contained on this CD-ROM in the Spatial folder. Several data formats are provided as noted by subfolders (Shape and Export). The Doc folder contains metadata documentation in HTML format that is also incorporated in each shapefile and export file in XML format. Most of the base cartographic data layers used in the GIS project were obtained from the U.S. Department of the Interior National Atlas Web site, [www.nationalatlas.gov](http://www.nationalatlas.gov), or the U.S. Geological Survey National Map, <http://nmviewogc.cr.usgs.gov/viewer.htm>.



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