



**U.S. Department of the Interior
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RELEASE:

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Daily Oil and Gas Production Rate Projections from 1996 Through 2000 in the Gulf of Mexico

OCS Report MMS 97-0006

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) announces the availability of the publication Daily Oil and Gas Production Rate Projections from 1996 Through 2000 in the Gulf of Mexico. The report projects the daily oil and gas production rates for the Gulf of Mexico in that period, forecasting an increase from 945,000 barrels of oil per day in 1995 to a range of from 1,660,000 to 1,932,000 barrels of oil per day by yearend 2000. During this same period, the daily gas production rate of 13.09 billion cubic feet per day will rise to between 12.02 and 17.20 billion cubic feet per day. (The term "oil production" includes both oil and condensate, and "gas" includes associated and nonassociated gas production.)

Future daily gas projections are less optimistic because the 40 identified deepwater fields whose rate projections were also included tend to be oil-prone. Nevertheless, the relatively less expensive development aspect of gas reservoirs and the ability of gas wells to be economically completed in subsea fashion may cause the gas rate productions to rise above the Agency's conservative projections.

Deepwater Gulf of Mexico, defined as water depths 1,000 feet or greater, shows the greatest potentiality of development. By 2000, MMS estimates that as much as 65 percent of the daily oil production and 28 percent of the daily gas production will originate in deepwater.

The entire report can be found on the Minerals Management Service homepage on the Internet. Copies of this report can be obtained from the Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, at a charge of \$3.00, by referencing OCS Report MMS 97-0006. The report will also be available in the near future from the National Technical Information Service. These addresses are provided below.

Minerals Management Service
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
Public Information Office (MS 5034)
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Technical Information Service
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, Virginia 22161

New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394
(504) 736-2519 or 1-800-200-GULF
or FAX: (504) 736-2620

Telephone requests may be placed at
(703) 487-4650 or FAX: (703) 321-
8547
Rush Orders: 1-800-336-4700

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MMS Internet website address: <http://www.boem.gov>
24 hour Fax-on-Demand Service:(202) 219-1703