NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE:

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MMS EXTENDS COMMENT PERIOD FOR SUPPLEMENTAL PROPOSED FEDERAL CRUDE OIL VALUATION RULE

The Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS) is extending the comment period by an additional two weeks for its supplementary proposed rule for valuing crude oil from Federal leases. The comment period, originally set to close today, will remain open until April 7, 1998. This extension will allow those wishing to submit comments further time to analyze the proposed amendments.

Official notification of this extension will be published in the March 2 edition of the Federal Register.

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

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