NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE:

September 13, 2001

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MMS Postpones Royalty Policy Committee Meeting

The Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service has postponed the Royalty Policy Committee meeting of the Minerals Management Advisory Board.

The meeting was scheduled for September 18 at the Sheraton Hotel in Lakewood, Colorado. A new meeting date has not been set.

The Secretary of the Interior established the Royalty Policy Committee to provide advice on managing federal and Indian minerals leases and revenues.

MMS is the federal agency in the U.S. Department of the Interior that manages the nation's oil, natural gas and other mineral resources on the outer continental shelf in federal offshore waters. The agency also collects, accounts for and disburses mineral revenues from-federal and Indian leases. These disbursements totaled nearly \$8 billion last year and more than \$110 billion since the agency was created in 1982. Annually, nearly \$1 billion from those revenues go into the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the acquisition and development of state and federal park and recreation lands.

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MMS Internet website address: http://www.mms.gov