U.S. Department of the Interior **Minerals Management Service Office of Communications**

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NEWS RELEASE

MMS' ROYALTY POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SET FOR JANUARY 20, DENVER

The Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service will hold the next Royalty Policy Committee meeting of the Minerals Management Advisory Board on Wednesday, January 20, in Denver, Colorado.

The meeting will be from 8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m., at the Sheraton Denver West Hotel, 360 Union Blvd. The agenda includes a discussion on net receipts sharing, the lessee/designee issue, MMS royalty-in-kind pilots, reengineering and operational models, joint ventures, annual performance reviews, and the marginal properties accounting relief regulations.

If time permits, the public will be invited to make statements during the meeting and file written statements with the Committee for consideration.

The Secretary of the Interior established the Royalty Policy Committee to provide advice on the Department's management of federal and Indian minerals leases, revenues, and other minerals related policies. Committee membership includes representatives from states, Indian Tribes and Indian allottee organizations, industry associations, the general public, and other federal agencies.

To submit written comments, contact Gary Fields, MMS, Royalty Management Program, P.O. Box 25165, MS 3062, Denver, CO 80225-0165. He may also be reached by phone at (303) 231-3102, or fax (303) 231-3781.

MMS is the federal agency that manages the Nation's natural gas, oil and other mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf, and collects, accounts for and disburses about \$6 billion yearly in revenues from offshore federal mineral leases and from onshore mineral leases on federal and Indian lands.