U.S. Department of the Interior Minerals Management Service Office of Public Affairs

NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE: March 5, 2001 CONTACT: Michael L.

Baugher

(303) 231-3162

MMS ROYALTY POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SET FOR NEW ORLEANS, MARCH 27

The Minerals Management Service will host the next <u>Royalty Policy Committee meeting</u> of the Minerals Management Advisory Board on Tuesday, March 27, in New Orleans, LA.

The meeting, which is open to the public, is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel, 500 Canal Street.

The committee will hear reports from the Sodium/Potassium, Marginal Properties and Coal Subcommittees. Other topics of discussion will include an overview of the Minerals Revenue Management's (formerly the Royalty Management Program's) reengineering effort, the Wyoming Royalty-in-Kind project, the administration's priorities and pending energy-related legislation.

If time permits, the public will be invited to make comments 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 mineral leases, revenues and other policies related to mineral resources. 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, Minerals Revenue Management, P.O. Box 25165, MS 300B3, Denver, CO 80225-0165. He may also be reached at (303) 231-3102, or fax (303) 231-3781.

The MMS, a bureau in the U.S. Department of the Interior, is the federal agency that manages the nation's natural gas, oil and other mineral resources on the outer continental shelf. The agency also collects, accounts for and disburses more than \$5 billion per year in revenues from federal offshore mineral leases and from onshore mineral leases on federal and Indian lands.

This press release and in-depth information about MMS programs may be found on the BOEM home page. To receive the latest MMS news releases automatically by email, send a request to Monica.Contee.

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