The Minerals Management Service (MMS) announces the availability of the publication Daily Oil and Gas Production Rate Projections From 2001 Through 2005, Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf. 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 1,526,000 to 1,967,000 barrels of oil per day by yearend 2005. The 1995 daily gas production rate of 13.09 billion cubic feet per day is projected at between 11.10 and 16.54 billion cubic feet per day by yearend 2005. (The term "oil production" includes both oil and condensate, and "gas" includes associated and nonassociated gas production.)

Deepwater Gulf of Mexico, defined as water depths 1,000 feet or greater, shows the greatest potentiality of development. In 2000, deepwater oil production surpassed shallow-water oil production for the first time in history. By yearend 2005, MMS estimates that as much as 67 percent of the daily oil production and 26 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 no charge by referencing OCS Report MMS 2001-044. The report will also be available in the near future from the National Technical Information Service. These addresses are provided below.

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 collections 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's Website Address: http://www.mms.gov

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