NOTICE TO LESSEES AND OPERATORS OF FEDERAL OIL AND GAS LEASES IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF, GULF OF MEXICO OCS REGION

Clarification of Eastern Gulf of Mexico Sale 181 Military Areas Stipulation

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service published the Final Notice of Sale for Eastern Gulf of Mexico Sale 181 in the Federal Register on October 26, 2001 (66 FR 54277). The Final Notice of Sale specifies that a Military Areas Stipulation will apply to all leases resulting from this sale. The specific text of that stipulation is contained in the document "Lease Stipulations for Oil and Gas Lease Sale 181," included in the Final Notice of Sale 181 Package http://www.gomr.mms.gov/homepg/lsesale/181/181noticef.html. This Notice to Lessees and Operators (NTL) is issued to clarify the "Hold and Save Harmless" provision of the Military Areas Stipulation for Sale 181. The MMS is clarifying that the Government does not intend that the lessee be held responsible for any damage resulting from military operations to other than the lessee's or lessee-controlled activities. In other words, if military operations result in damage to parties not associated with or controlled by the lessee, the Cove, ment does not intend that the lessee would be held responsible for such damages.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Statement: This NTL contains no requir .ment sub, . to the Paperwork Reduction Act

Contact: If you have any questions on this NTL, you may contact Mr. John Roa of the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office at (504) 736-2768 or John.Rodi@boemre.gov.

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