
Leasing Activities Information



U.S. Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region

FINAL NOTICE OF OCS SALE 175

Central Gulf of Mexico March 15, 2000

Attached is the Final Notice of OCS Sale (FNOS) 175, Central Gulf of Mexico, to be held on March 15, 2000, in New Orleans.

In addition to the Final Notice, this package consists of:

- o Information to Lessees for Sale 175
- o Lease Stipulations for Oil and Gas Lease Sale 175
- o List of Blocks Available for Leasing, Sale 175
- o Unleased Split Blocks and Unleased Acreage of Blocks with Aliquots and Irregular Portions Under Lease
- o Debarment Certification Form
- o Bid Form and Envelope
- o Phone Numbers/Addresses of Bidders Form
- o Instructions for Making EFT 1/5th Bonus Payments
- o Lease Terms and Economic Conditions, Sale 175 Map
- o Stipulations and Deferred Blocks, Sale 175 Map

All of these documents may be found on the MMS Homepage Address on the Internet: <http://www.mmm.gov>.

All of the terms and conditions for Sale 175 are the same as for the most recent Central Gulf of Mexico Sale (Sale 172), **except** that the MMS now requires the use of Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) for the payment of the 1/5th bonus deposit (see below).

NOTICE:

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) payments for the 1/5th bonus. The MMS now **requires** the use of EFT for payment of the 1/5th bonus deposit. Current OCS lessees and operators may secure such payment using only a signed bid form; others will be required to secure the EFT payment by any one of four additional methods. Procedures for the use of EFT are included in this Sale Notice Package and are available on our Homepage or from our Public Information Unit (see below). Questions or comments regarding EFT procedures should be directed to Ms. Vicki Zatarain at (504) 736-2779.

Unleased blocks offshore Baldwin County, Alabama. Potential bidders are advised that a stipulation will be included in any lease resulting on Mobile Area Blocks 829, 957, 958, and 1001. Furthermore, the MMS will consult with the State regarding placement of structures in this area. See Stipulation 4 in the Lease Stipulations document and paragraph (u) of the Information to Lessees document included in this package.

Tracts beyond U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone. Tracts beyond the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (tracts in the Northern Portion of the Western Gap and in the Northern Portion of the Eastern Gap) are **NOT** offered for leasing in this sale.

Administrative Appeals Withdrawn. The administrative appeals relating to the termination of the leases on the following blocks have been withdrawn. These blocks **ARE** available for bid in Sale 175:

- West Cameron Area Blocks 252 and 253
- West Cameron Area, West Addition, Block 405
- Main Pass Area, South and East Addition, Blocks 291 and 293

Leasing Maps and Official Protraction Diagrams (OPDs). Bidders should note the publication in the January 13, 2000, Federal Register (65 FR 2191) of a notice regarding the status of outer continental shelf leasing maps and OPDs. The notice lists all of the Gulf of Mexico Region's leasing maps and OPDs and the dates of last revision. These maps and OPDs are currently available through our Public Information Unit at \$2.00 each (the Louisiana and Texas maps are no longer sold as sets). Also available is a CD-ROM (at \$15.00) of all the maps and OPDs of the Gulf of Mexico that are in digital format as listed in the Federal Register notice (in the Central Gulf only NG15-09 is not available in digital format). Note also that area NG16-07 has been named Lund South.

NOTE: The CD-ROM contains the maps and OPDs in .pdf format (for viewing and printing in Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is also on the CD) as well as in .gra format (for use in ARC/INFO). The digital maps and OPDs are also available on our web site in both formats.

Phone Numbers/Addresses of Bidders Form. This form has changed slightly, but the information requested is the same as on the previous version.

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**NOT OFFERED:**

Viosca Knoll Block 69 (under appeal)  
NG15-09 Area Blocks 133 through 135, 177 through 184, 221 through 238, 265 through 281, 309 through 320, and 358;  
Lund South Area Blocks 172, 173, 213 through 217, 252 through 261, 296 through 305, and 349  
(blocks beyond the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone)

Bidders are reminded that Leasing Activity Update Lists are prepared monthly and are available on or about the 20th of each month through the MMS Gulf of Mexico Public Information Unit and on the MMS Homepage (see below).

**STATISTICAL INFORMATION (Sale 175)**

- o **SIZE:** 4,203 Unleased blocks; 22.29 million acres
- o **PRIMARY LEASE TERMS:**
  - 5 Year - Water depths less than 400 meters - 1,218 Blocks
  - 8 Year - Water depths between 400-800 meters - 125 Blocks
  - 10 Year - Water depths 800 meters or deeper - 2,860 Blocks
- o **MINIMUM BID:** \$25.00 per acre or fraction thereof - Water depths less than 800 meters - 1,343 Blocks  
\$37.50 per acre or fraction thereof - Water depths 800 meters or deeper - 2,860 Blocks
- o **ANNUAL RENTAL RATES:** \$5.00 per acre or fraction thereof - Water depths less than 200 meters - 1,153 Blocks  
\$7.50 per acre or fraction thereof - Water depths 200 meters or deeper - 3,050 Blocks
- o **ROYALTY RATES:** 16 2/3% Royalty - Water depths less than 400 meters - 1,218 Blocks  
12 1/2% Royalty - Water depths 400 meters or deeper - 2,985 Blocks
- o **ROYALTY SUSPENSION AREAS:** 200-400 Meter Royalty Suspension Area - 65 Blocks  
400-800 Meter Royalty Suspension Area - 125 Blocks  
800 Meter and Greater Royalty Suspension Area - 2,860 Blocks

For more information on this FNOS, potential bidders are advised to contact Mr. Charles Hill of the MMS GOM OCS Region Sales and Support Unit at (504) 736-2795.

**-MMS-**

Gulf of Mexico Public Information Unit  
Minerals Management Service  
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**MMS Homepage Address on the Internet: <http://www.mms.gov>  
24-hour Fax-on-Demand service: (202) 219-1703**