



Media Advisory

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

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT
Caryl Fagot, 504/736-2590
Eileen Angelico, 504/736-2595

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, February 26, 2007

MMS to Hold Public Scoping Meetings in Pensacola on Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Lease Sale in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico

NEW ORLEANS —MMS will hold two public scoping meetings in Pensacola, Florida, on March 1, 2007, to obtain input from the public on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to be prepared for proposed oil and gas Lease Sale 224 in the Eastern Planning Area of the Gulf of Mexico.

What: Public Scoping Meetings on the Draft SEIS for Eastern Gulf Sale 224

When: Thursday, March 1, 2007, at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Where: New World Landing, 600 South Palafox Street, Pensacola, Florida, 32501

Why: To help MMS collect information, seek input, and provide an opportunity for the public to suggest the issues, alternatives, and impacts to be considered in the SEIS. The meetings will also inform the public about the proposed sale and the SEIS process. This SEIS will update the environmental and socioeconomic analyses in the EIS completed in 2001 for the original Sale 181 area.

Statements, oral and written, will be received at the meetings. Comments may also be submitted electronically at <https://ocsconnect.mms.gov> or by e-mail to environment@mms.gov, or by mail in an envelope labeled "Comments on the Lease Sale 224 SEIS" and addressed to:

Leasing and Environment, Regional Supervisor
Minerals Management Service (MS 5410)
Gulf of Mexico Region
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394.

(MORE)

- 2 -

Comments should be submitted no later than March 16, 2007.

Special Media Availability to be Held at 2:00 p.m.

MMS staff will be available to speak to members of the media and for on-camera interviews from 2:00 to 2:45 p.m.

—MMS—