**What is Oil?**

- Crude oil is a mixture of hydrocarbons that formed from plants and animals that lived millions of years ago.
- Over the years, the remains were covered by layers of sediment.
- Heat and pressure from these layers helped the remains turn into crude oil.
- Crude oil exists in liquid form in underground pools or reservoirs, in tiny spaces within sedimentary rocks.

**How is it Formed?**

- Approximately 100 Million Years Ago
- Present Day
- Particles of mud, plant & marine animal matter form layers of sediments
- Pressure increases as layer on layer of sediments deposit
- As more sediments accumulate, pressure and heat builds.
- Hydrocarbons begin to form eventually becoming crude oil

**How is Oil Found?**

- Hydrocarbon resources are found using exploration techniques such as seismic imaging.
- Seismic imaging assists in identifying the potential areas that may contain oil and gas.
- If an area is identified as a prospective reservoir, an exploratory well is drilled to test for the presence of hydrocarbon resources.

**Example of Activities and Timeline for a Deepwater Offshore Project**

- The lifecycle of OCS oil and gas activities is a lengthy process consisting of various phases.
- Once production begins it may continue for several decades.

**How is Oil Produced?**

- Once an oil pool is discovered, delineation wells are drilled to characterize the size of the accumulation.
- Production facilities are then fabricated and installed to extract the oil.
- Different types of facilities exist, based on water depths, to safely produce and transport the oil to shore.