



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
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MMS Announces Change in Time for Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 200

NEW ORLEANS – The U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service announced that Lease Sale 200 will take place tomorrow, August 16, 2006 at 2:30 p.m. at the Marriott Hotel located at 555 Canal St., (Acadia Ballroom) downtown New Orleans.

Bids for Western Lease Sale 200 will continue to be accepted from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 16, 2006, in Mardi Gras Ballroom D, at the Marriott Hotel, 555 Canal Street in New Orleans.

This sale will be WebCast through the Offshore Oil Scouts Association at www.oosa.com. Real Player will need to be installed in order to run the WebCast. Webcast of the lease sale does not imply any endorsement by MMS.

—MMS—

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