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MMS AND TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE
SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (#40033)

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS) and the Texas General Land Office (GLO) signed an agreement today to encourage cooperative efforts and promote consistent regulations and practices, MMS officials announced.

"MMS and the Texas General Land Office have similar mineral resource management responsibilities," said MMS Director Tom Fry. "This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will foster a greater exchange of information as we seek to achieve consistency and improved coordination in our procedures.

"The result will be more efficient and effective service for our customers," Fry said.

The MOU outlines cooperative efforts in the following areas:

- Oil-Spill Prevention and Response Preparedness
- Inspections, Training, and Investigations
- Technology Assessments and Research
- Mapping
- Leasing and Coastal Zone Management
- Royalty Management
- Exchange of Personnel

"The bottom line: this agreement is going to allow more effective management and protection of our state's greatest natural resource, the Gulf Coast. It's a tangible good which comes from the dedicated efforts of many individuals and agencies, at many different levels, to reinvent government," said Garry Mauro, Texas Land Commissioner.

Both agencies will review internal procedures and, where appropriate, revise them to accommodate the provisions of this MOU.

A senior official from each agency will be responsible for coordination, Fry added.

MMS manages the nation's undersea mineral resources located on

the outer continental shelf, seaward of state waters. The Texas GLO manages the submerged land under Texas coastal waters.

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Subject: PR-5/25/94 MOU with TX G.L.O./MMS and Texas General Land Office Sign Memo of Understanding (#40033)