

FOR RELEASE: August 18, 1994 CONTACT: John Barclay
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MMS SETS AUGUST 30 INFORMATIONAL MEETING
FOR GAS MARKETING PILOT PROJECT (#40061)

The Interior Department's Minerals Management Service (MMS) has set August 30 as the date for a question-and-answer forum on its recently announced Royalty Gas Marketing Pilot Project, MMS officials have announced.

The meeting, for interested gas producers, will be at the MMS Houston Area Audit Office, 4141 N. Sam Houston Parkway E., Suite 104, Houston, TX 77032-3843. It will begin at 10 a.m.

The pilot program, the result of discussions between MMS and natural gas producers, is intended to reduce paperwork and simplify the process of royalty collection for both MMS and the industry. The project will involve MMS taking the Federal government's royalty share of gas production in kind, at or near the lease, and immediately selling it to one or more competitively chosen gas marketers.

The agency recently solicited volunteers for the program and has received a favorable response from the industry. MMS will select pilot leases early in September from those volunteered. Later in the month, the agency will issue a public Invitation for Bids to gas marketers. MMS will enter into a contract with the successful company or companies in November.

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Subject: PR-8/18/94 Gas Marketing/MMS Sets August 30 Informational Meeting for Gas Marketing Pilot Project (#40061)