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HOUSTON AREA FEDERAL EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED FOR
EFFORTS TO REINVENT GOVERNMENT (#40075)

The Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS) Houston Area Compliance Office celebrated the first anniversary of the National Performance Review (NPR) with an awards ceremony today. Led by Vice-President Al Gore, NPR's aims are to re-invent government, providing first-class service to all customers with a minimum of red tape, and to develop better ways to accomplish agency missions.

As the agency that manages and regulates the mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), and collects and disburses about \$4 billion annually from OCS leases and onshore leases on federal and Indian lands, MMS has incorporated these objectives in its mission.

Acting MMS Director Cynthia Quarterman provided an update from Washington, DC on NPR activities and recognized Houston area employees for their contributions in managing federal mineral revenues.

For their work in implementing a pilot project using peer review and staff consultation to audit contract settlements, certificates were presented to Moe Gonzales, Ronnie Ball, Clifford Coston and Darnell Harris. Paul Price was also recognized for his service on a special project team formed to develop and conduct a specialized contract settlements training course. David Slagle was cited for his efforts in helping to design and implement new automated systems to support MMS audits and compliance activities.

In her remarks, Quarterman thanked employees for their commitment to make government work more efficiently and become more responsive to customer needs.

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