

FOR RELEASE: December 21, 1994 CONTACT: Robin Lee Cacy
907-271-6070
800-764-2627

ALASKA STAKEHOLDERS TASK FORCE TO MEET IN JANUARY

A regional Stakeholders Task Force established to advise the U.S. Department of the Interior on the next 5-Year Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) leasing schedule will meet January 4-5, 1995 in Anchorage. The Task Force was established by the OCS Policy Committee to advise the Committee and the Interior Department's Minerals Management Service (MMS) on the next 5-Year Leasing Plan in Alaska. Recommendations from the task force will be used by MMS when developing that portion of the 1997-2002 5-Year Natural Gas and Oil Program for federal waters offshore Alaska.

Policy Committee members from Alaska are Jerome Selby, Mayor of the Kodiak Island Borough, and Paul Gronholdt, who represents the fishing industry. The Task Force is composed of members drawn from State and local governments, business, industry, environmental, and Alaskan Native groups.

Task Force members are: Becky Gay, Executive Director, Resource Development Council of Alaska; Rosa Meehan, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Delbert Rexford, Special Assistant to the Mayor of the North Slope Borough; Judy Brady, Executive Director, Alaska Oil and Gas Association; Linda Freed, Kodiak Island Borough; Jerome Selby, Mayor, Kodiak Island Borough; Frank Stein, Northwest Arctic Borough; Donald Gilman, Mayor, Kenai Peninsula Borough; Walt Reede, Lake and Peninsula Borough; Daryl James, Mayor, City of Yakutat; Ron Morris, National Marine Fisheries Service; Chuck Degnan, Director, Bering Straits Coastal Resource Service Area; Pam Miller, Greenpeace and Paul Gronholdt, representing the fishing industry. Additional appointments may be made.

The first meeting will be held at the Minerals Management Service Regional Office at 949 East 36th Avenue in Anchorage from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on January 4 and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on January 5. Meetings are open to the public.

MMS is the federal agency that manages and regulates the nation's natural gas, oil and other mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf, and collects and disburses revenues from offshore federal mineral leases and from onshore mineral leases

on federal and Indian lands.

-MMS-