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MMS RELEASES OFFSHORE NATURAL GAS REPORT

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS) announced today that its report, Facts about Offshore Natural Gas, has been published and is available from the agency.

Natural gas from the federal Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) plays a major role in meeting the nation's energy needs. In 1993, OCS natural gas represented 18 percent of U.S. reserves, about 25 percent of U.S. production, and almost 56 percent of MMS OCS revenue. Natural gas has provided the majority of OCS production royalties since 1977.

In fiscal year 1993, MMS collected a total of \$2.8 billion in revenues from OCS leases and disbursed \$1.7 billion to the U.S. Treasury's General Fund; \$77.5 million to the coastal states of Alabama, Alaska, California, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas; \$900 million to the Land and Water Conservation Fund; \$150 million to the Historic Preservation Fund.

Facts about Offshore Natural Gas provides information on:

- OCS revenues,
- energy's contribution to the U.S. trade deficit,
- industry jobs lost,
- natural gas prices,
- OCS natural gas resources,
- OCS natural gas reserves,
- OCS drilling activity,
- cumulative OCS production,
- U.S. natural gas imports,
- state consumption and production, and
- top natural gas producers on the OCS.

Copies of the report are available free of charge by writing or calling MMS at: 381 Elden St., MS 4810, Herndon, VA 22070-4817, (703) 787-1080. Specify OCS Report 94-0069.

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

lands.

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