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## MMS CONDUCTS STAKEHOLDER MEETING IN DENVER

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS) conducted a two-day conference in Denver to consult with its principal stakeholders on the Administration's proposal to devolve the royalty collection function to states and Indian tribes.

Attending the meeting were representatives of states, Indian tribes and allottees, industry, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the MMS and the Office of the Secretary.

MMS Acting Deputy Director Carolita Kallaur said, The session demonstrated a common willingness by participants to openly explore ideas to make government work better and cost less.

Kallaur explained, We took the opportunity to establish a baseline of understanding of RMPs functions, processes and responsibilities.

MMS officials reinforced that a March 1995, proposal to devolve the Royalty Management Program was merely that a proposal the beginning of the consultative process with states, Indians and industry.

Some of our most valuable time was spent listening to comments of constituent participants, added Kallaur.

At the end of the meeting, Kallaur concluded, A new royalty program can only be achieved through consensus of all parties state and federal government, Indian tribes and allottee associations, and industry. Objectives for a successful proposal must be based on at least these three points:

- Less costs for all parties
- No loss of revenues for royalty recipients

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