

MMS Recognizes Companies for Safety Excellence

NEW ORLEANS – The Interior Department’s Minerals Management Service announced today the 2009 District Safety Award for Excellence (SAFE) recipients for the Gulf of Mexico Region. The SAFE Program recognizes those operating companies that conduct their operations in a safe manner, adhering to all regulatory requirements, employing trained and motivated personnel, and enhancing safe operations.

“The MMS Gulf of Mexico Region is committed to having the safest and most environmentally sound offshore operations,” said MMS Regional Director Lars Herbst. “We take great pride in recognizing the exemplary performances of these companies that are setting the standard for safety and environmental excellence.”

The 2009 SAFE award winners for each MMS Gulf of Mexico District are the following:

DISTRICT	PRODUCTION-HIGH	PRODUCTION-MODERATE	DRILLING CONTRACTOR	PRODUCTION CONTRACTOR
New Orleans	Anadarko Petroleum Corporation	ANKOR Energy LLC	Helmerich & Payne’s <i>H&P 201</i>	None
Houma	Eni US Operating Co., Inc.	BHP Billiton Petroleum (GOM), Inc.	Helmerich & Payne’s <i>H&P 100</i>	None
Lafayette	Chevron Corporation	Nexen Petroleum U.S.A., Inc.	Diamond Offshore Drilling, Inc.	None
Lake Charles	Mariner Energy, Inc. - <i>Vermilion 26 Field.</i>	EI Paso Exploration & Production Company	Hercules Offshore Drilling <i>Hercules 253</i>	None
Lake Jackson	Chevron Corporation	EI Paso Exploration & Production Company	Noble Drilling Services, Inc.	Danos & Curole Marine Contractors, Inc.

Recipients of this year’s District SAFE Awards will be presented with their awards at a program held today at the Sheraton Galleria, Metairie, LA.

The SAFE award program was established by MMS in 1983 to recognize and honor companies that make a concerted effort to train and motivate their employees to conduct offshore operations in a safe and environmentally sound manner. The agency recognizes two categories: production-high and production-moderate. Drilling and production contractors with exemplary OCS performance are also recognized. Winners are selected by each District office on the basis of their safety performance and compliance with applicable regulations within the District during the rating period.

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