

THE NEWS ROOM

THE BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT,
REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT

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BOEMRE Approves \$1.8 Million Grant for Mississippi Facility

Phase 1 of Hancock County Sewer System Project to Improve Water Quality, Reduce Pollution

NEW ORLEANS – The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) announced today that it has approved a grant for \$1,829,525 to Hancock County in Mississippi through the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP). The grant will fund Phase I of a project to construct a sewer system in Pearlington, Miss., and engineering and design work for a proposed system in several unincorporated coastal areas 20 miles west of Bay St. Louis, Miss.

Created by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, CIAP provides funding to the six Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) oil and gas producing states to conserve and protect the coastal environment. CIAP is an ongoing program with grant funding that is allocated based on the offshore energy revenues collected by the United States.

“We will continue to work with the State of Mississippi in its vital coastal restoration efforts,” said BOEMRE Director Michael R. Bromwich. “Supporting essential conservation and construction initiatives like the Hancock County Sewer Implementation is only one example of the ways our ongoing partnership is benefiting Mississippi’s coastal counties.”

Grant funding for this first phase of the sewer system construction will improve water quality in the East Pearl River and the Mississippi Sound by reducing polluted runoff and seepage related to faulty and malfunctioning septic systems. Specifically, this grant will fund the construction of the sewer project to approximately 260 households in Pearlington, Miss. and complete engineering and design work for the Ansley, Lakeshore and Heron Bay, Miss. sewer system.

CIAP will receive \$250 million in appropriated funds for each of the Fiscal Years 2007-2010 to be disbursed to six eligible OCS oil and gas producing states – Mississippi, Alabama, Alaska, California, Louisiana and Texas.

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