



U.S. Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region

February 2002

**Survival of a Hydrocarbon-Utilizing Bacterium when Introduced
into Native and Foreign Environments**

[OCS Study MMS 2001-094](#)

The Minerals Management Service (MMS), Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, announces the availability of a new study report, *Survival of a Hydrocarbon-Utilizing Bacterium when Introduced into Native and Foreign Environments*.

Bioremediation is emerging as an attractive means to restore inaccessible or environmentally sensitive areas. The degradation of spilled hydrocarbons is one application where the seeding of bacteria is particularly attractive since it is the microbes that ultimately consume and remove these materials, whether they occur naturally (as in marsh plant cuticles) or as an anthropogenic input. Methods used by the molecular biologist were utilized to (1) quantitatively amplify the DNA of target species and (2) develop molecular probes that would unequivocally and rapidly identify the test species. The upshot of these efforts was the development of a methodology that may be used to assess changes in any microbial assemblage as a result of changes in the ecosystem, or for tracking introduced microbial species during bioremediation efforts.

You can obtain copies of the report from the Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, at a charge of \$5.00 by referencing OCS Study MMS 2001-094. You will be able to obtain this report also from the National Technical Information Service in the near future. Here are the addresses. You may also inspect copies at selected Federal Depository Libraries.

Minerals Management Service
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
Public Information Office (MS 5034)
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394
Telephone requests may be placed at
(504) 736-2519 or 1-800-200-GULF
or FAX: (504) 736-2620

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Technical Information Service
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, Virginia 22161
(703) 487-4650 or FAX: (703) 321-8547
Rush Orders: 1-800-336-4700

MMS is the federal agency in the U.S. Department of the Interior that manages the nation's oil, natural gas and other mineral resources on the outer continental shelf in federal offshore waters. The agency also collects, accounts for and disburses mineral revenues from federal and Indian leases. These revenues totaled nearly \$10 billion in 2001 and more than \$119 billion since the agency was created in 1982. Annually, nearly \$1 billion from those revenues go into the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the acquisition and development of state and federal park and recreation lands.

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MMS's Website Address: <http://www.mms.gov>

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