
Leasing Activities Information



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

FINAL NOTICE OF SALE 197 Eastern Gulf of Mexico

Attached is the Final Notice of Sale 197 Package (FNOS 197 Package), Eastern Gulf of Mexico (GOM), scheduled to be held on March 16, 2005, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

This Package consists of:

- FNOS 197
- Lease Stipulations
- Royalty Suspension Provisions
- Information To Lessees
- List of Blocks Available for Leasing
- Example of Preferred Format - Geophysical Data and Information Statement
- Bid Form and Envelope
- Telephone Numbers/Addresses of Bidders Form
- Instructions for Making EFT Bonus Payments
- Lease Terms, Economic Conditions, and Stipulations Map

All documents listed above are available from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Region Public Information Unit; telephone (800) 200-GULF or (504) 736-2519; or by written request to:

Minerals Management Service
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
Public Information Unit (MS 5034)
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394

All of these documents may also be found on the MMS Homepage Address on the Internet: www.mms.gov.

Please Notice:

Terms and conditions for FNOS 197 are generally the same as the December, 2003, Eastern GOM Sale 189 except for the following noteworthy matters:

Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement)

Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters are no longer required to be filed with the MMS in order to qualify to bid at an OCS lease sale. However, compliance requirements for debarment and suspension (nonprocurement) will be prescribed in an addendum included in each lease resulting from this lease sale. Please refer to paragraph (j) of the Information To Lessees document included in the FNOS 197 Package.

Bids Submitted by Mail

The FNOS 197 includes specific instructions regarding bids mailed to the GOM Region. This is needed to minimize the chance of bid receipt delay due to misrouting within the GOMR mail system.

Military Areas

NTL No. 2004-G02, effective January 27, 2004, provides Internet links to maps and the addresses and telephone numbers of the individual military command headquarters for the military warning and water test areas in the GOM. This NTL is for information and convenience only, and does not change the provisions of Stipulation No. 1 for this sale relative to recent Eastern lease sales.

Not Offered:

132 blocks currently under lease

Statistical Information (Lease Sale 197):

Size: 124 unleased blocks; 714,240 acres

Initial Period: 10 years

Minimum Bonus Bid Amount: \$37.50 per acre or fraction thereof

Rental/Minimum Royalty Rates: \$7.50 per acre or fraction thereof

Royalty Rates: 12-1/2%

Royalty Suspension Area: A royalty suspension of 12 million barrels of oil equivalent will apply to all leases in this sale.

For more information on the FNOS 197 Package, potential bidders are advised to contact Ms. Jane Burrell Johnson at (504) 736-2811 or Ms. Nancy Kornrumpf at (504) 736-2726 of the MMS GOM OCS Region Sales and Support Unit.

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Economic Value for America*