

THE NEWS ROOM

FOR RELEASE:
April 19, 2011

THE BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY
MANAGEMENT,
REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Office of Public Affairs

BOEMRE Completes Draft Supplemental EIS for Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale

Public Comment Period will Include Meetings in Houston and New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS – The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) announced today the completion of a draft supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) for proposed oil and gas Lease Sale 218 in the Western Planning Area in the Gulf of Mexico. This draft SEIS updates the findings in several previously published EISs covering the Gulf of Mexico, as well as new analyses using the latest available information following the Deepwater Horizon explosion and oil spill.

“The analyses published in this SEIS will allow us to make objective, science-based decisions about the activities involved in offshore energy exploration, development and production,” said BOEMRE Director Michael R. Bromwich. “The public hearings on the draft SEIS we are announcing today are key steps to obtain public input on the environmental impact of oil and gas operations after Deepwater Horizon.”

The draft SEIS can be accessed at <http://www.gomr.boemre.gov/homepg/regulate/envIRON/nepa/nepaprocess.html>. Comments will be used to prepare the Final SEIS for Sale 218.

Two public meetings will be held to give all interested parties an opportunity to comment on the draft SEIS. The meetings are scheduled as follows:

- Houston, Texas: Tuesday, May 17, 2011, Houston Airport Marriott at George Bush Intercontinental, 18700 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77032, beginning at 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. CDT.
- New Orleans, Louisiana: Thursday, May 19, 2011, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, 1201, Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123, beginning at 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. CDT.

Federal, state and local government agencies, and other interested parties are requested to send their comments on the SEIS no later than June 6, 2011, by email to [WPA Supplemental EIS@boemre.gov](mailto:WPA_Supplemental_EIS@boemre.gov) or by mail addressed, “Comments on the WPA Draft SEIS,” to Gary D. Goeke, Chief, Environmental Assessment Section, Leasing and Environment (MS 5410), Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394.

Contact: [BOEMRE Public Affairs-GULF](#)