

The NewsRoom
Media Advisory
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Interior Official Brings Energy Message to Nebraska: America's Dependence on Foreign Oil and Gas to Deepen
New Frontiers May Offer Domestic Alternatives

America has grown increasingly reliant on oil and natural gas to fuel its economy. Today, gasoline prices are nearly 50 percent higher than last summer, oil prices are at a 25-year high and natural gas prices have reached sustained high historic levels.

The good news is that a significant portion of the domestic supply to meet America's growing energy needs comes from Federal lands, according to [Johnnie Burton, director of the Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service](#).

Last year the underwater lands that MMS manages produced more oil for U.S. consumers than was imported from Saudi Arabia. It also produced more natural gas than was imported from Canada – our number one foreign supplier. Bringing his domestic energy to the nation is critical for the growth of the local economy including agricultural and industrial interests, and household use.

Ms. Burton will deliver her energy awareness message, "America's National Energy Policy – Making Choices" Monday, August 16 to the Millard Rotary Club and Wednesday, August 18 to the Sarpy County Chamber of Commerce.

Media should call MMS Public Affairs at (202) 208-3985 to coordinate coverage or to schedule interviews.

What:	Speech - America's National Energy Policy – Making Choices
When:	12:00 p.m. August 16, 2004
Where:	Millard Rotary Club Bel Air Banquet Room 12100 West Center Road Omaha, Nebraska 68144
When:	12:00 p.m. August 18, 2004
Where:	Sarpy County Chamber of Commerce Karen's Fireside 1214 North Monroe Papillion, Nebraska 68046

The Minerals Management Service 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 American Indian lands. MMS disbursed more than \$8 billion in FY 2003 and more than \$135 billion since the agency was created in 1982. Nearly \$1 billion from those revenues go into the Land and Water Conservation Fund annually for the acquisition and development of state and Federal park and recreation lands.

Relevant Web Sites

[MMS Main Website](#)

Media Contacts

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