



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
Office of Public Affairs

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT
Eileen Angelico, 504/736-2595
Caryl Fagot, 504/736-2590

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, April 16, 2007

Mississippi Allocated \$30.9 million Under Coastal Impact Assistance Program

\$20.1 million to State and \$ 10.8 million to 3 Counties in FY 2007 & FY 2008 Allocations

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of the Interior’s Minerals Management Service (MMS) today announced in the Federal Register the availability of individual Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) allocation amounts for fiscal years 2007 and 2008. Mississippi has been allocated \$30,939,850.55 for each of those fiscal years, of which \$10,828,947.69 is allocated directly to 3 counties, classified as Coastal Political Subdivisions (CPSs).

The CIAP was established under the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and authorizes the Secretary of the Interior, through MMS, to distribute \$250 million annually to Alabama, Alaska, California, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas in fiscal years 2007 through 2010. In the February 16, 2007 Continuing Resolution, Congress approved a 3 percent appropriation of the CIAP funds to be used by MMS to administer the CIAP program. The balance of the funds are allocated to each producing state and eligible CPSs (counties, parishes or boroughs) based upon allocation formulas prescribed by the Act. Each eligible State is allocated their share based on the State’s Qualified Outer Continental Shelf Revenue (QOCSR) generated off of its coast in proportion to total QOCSR generated off the coasts of all eligible states.

“MMS is making these amounts known to the CIAP states and Coastal Political Subdivisions so they can better plan for the qualifying projects and activities that will benefit coastal areas.” MMS Director Johnnie Burton said. “MMS, as part of our mission, takes seriously the need for coastal restoration. To that end, we will be reviewing the state’s plans and proposals carefully to ensure that the funds are applied appropriately.” The CIAP funds will be awarded through a grant process.

With today’s announcement, MMS will now begin accepting state CIAP plans for review and approval, which is required before states can apply for funding. Although not required, states are encouraged to submit a draft plan, which enables MMS and states to identify and address concerns and issues prior to the submittal of the state’s final plan. A final plan for at least the first year’s funds must be submitted to MMS for approval not later than July 1, 2008.

-MORE-

CIAP Fiscal Year 2007 and Fiscal Year 2008 Allocations

Producing State	Percent	Total Allocation	Direct to States	Direct to CPSs
Alabama	10.54%	\$25,551,607.04	\$16,608,544.58	\$8,943,062.46
Alaska	1.00%	\$2,425,000.00	\$1,576,250.00	\$848,750.00
California	3.07%	\$7,444,441.75	\$4,838,887.13	\$2,605,554.61
Louisiana	52.60%	\$127,547,898.57	\$82,906,134.07	\$44,641,764.50
Mississippi	12.76%	\$30,939,850.55	\$20,110,902.86	\$10,828,947.69
Texas	20.04%	\$48,591,202.09	\$31,584,281.36	\$17,006,920.73
Total to all 6 States	100.00%	\$242,500,000.00	\$157,625,000.00	\$84,875,000.00
Total to all 6 States	100.00%	\$242,500,000.00	\$157,625,000.00	\$84,875,000.00

**Mississippi Coastal Political Subdivisions
CIAP Fiscal Year 2007 and Fiscal Year 2008 Allocations**

Coastal Political Subdivisions (CPS)	Percent of Allocation	Total Allocation
Hancock	19.70%	\$ 2,132,996.51
Harrison	39.46%	\$ 4,273,308.96
Jackson	40.84%	\$ 4,422,642.22
Total Mississippi	100.00%	\$10,828,947.69

The Energy Policy Act requires that all CIAP funding be used for projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetlands; mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, or natural resources; planning assistance and the administrative costs of complying with CIAP legislation; implementation of a federally-approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan; or mitigation of the impact of Outer Continental Shelf activities through funding of onshore infrastructure projects and public service needs.

Once state CIAP plans are approved by MMS, CIAP recipients may submit grant applications for projects included in the plan. MMS will begin accepting grant applications in mid-October 2007. All funds will be disbursed through a grant process.

-- MMS --