

## The NewsRoom

Note from MMS Director Randall Luthi

Date: February 13, 2008

### From the Director's Desk

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## Minerals Management Service: People for the Promotion of Energy, the Environment, and the Economy

To Our Guests:

Welcome to our web site. Thank you for taking the time to visit with us.

The dedicated men and women of the Minerals Management Service regulate domestic energy production off America's coast on the [Outer Continental Shelf \(OCS\)](#). We also collect and disburse [royalty revenue](#) generated from energy production on all Federal and American Indian lands. In our short, 25-year history, we have disbursed more than \$176 billion to states, American Indians, and the U.S. Treasury.

We, the people at MMS, oversee an [offshore energy program](#) that provides about 27 percent of America's domestic oil production and about 15 percent of our domestic natural gas production. Without MMS's hard work, our nation's reliance on foreign sources of oil would likely be even higher than it is today.

In addition, we were recently given the authority by the Congress to regulate the development of [alternative energy](#) on the OCS. We are in the process of developing the guidelines and regulations that will govern this new frontier with a goal of harnessing the energy potential of wind, wave, ocean current, tidal, and hydrogen generation.

While not frequently mentioned, our [environmental research](#) is world-class. This research provides the science which is the foundation of our rigorous standards for prevention and mitigation, which enables us to maintain a delicate balance between maximizing our domestic energy production while minimizing its impact on the environment.

We take seriously our responsibility as stewards of royalty revenues generated from energy production on Federal and American Indian lands. We return the money to the nation through disbursements to the Tribes, individual allottees, states, and the U.S. Treasury. Last year alone, we disbursed \$11.7 billion. We also hold the industry to high standards of financial reporting through our audit and compliance program, ensuring America receives fair return on our energy resources.

I eagerly accepted the position as [Director](#) of this agency, because I had witnessed first-hand the professionalism, integrity, and dedication of the people who work here and the importance of their work to the nation's energy security. I am proud to represent them, and I am proud of all they do for you and for our nation.

I invite you to take some time to get to know us. We look forward to sharing our story with you.

Randall Luthi, Director  
Minerals Management Service

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