



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

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*Socioeconomic and Environmental Issues Analysis of Oil and Gas Activity in the  
Outer Continental Shelf of the Western Gulf of Mexico*

OCS Study MMS 2002-011

The Minerals Management Service (MMS), Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, announces the availability of a new study report, Socioeconomic and Environmental Issues Analysis of Oil and Gas Activity in the Outer Continental Shelf of the Western Gulf of Mexico.

This research was conducted in five Texas coastal counties and focused on the perceptions individuals held on a number of issues and on their perspectives about the relationship between the oil and gas industry and Texas coastal communities. The report is organized around five topical areas that grew from 39 discussions the researchers held with community leaders in business, government, and environmental organizations. The report emphasizes the variation of responses. One of its strengths is its numerous verbatim quotations. The report concludes that, in spite of the 1980's oil price bust, Texas coastal communities continue to be dependent on the oil industry. Given this level of dependency, one could easily oversimplify the social and economic issues salient to the people in coastal communities. In actuality, the relationships between the oil and gas industry and the communities that host its various activities are complex, perhaps best viewed as a series of balances between competing interests, needs, values, and goals.

You can obtain copies of the report from the Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, at a charge of \$3.00 by referencing OCS Study MMS 2002-011. You will be able to obtain this report also from the National Technical Information Service in the near future. Here are the addresses. You may also inspect copies at selected Federal Depository Libraries.

Minerals Management Service  
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region  
Public Information Office (MS 5034)  
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394  
Telephone requests may be placed at  
(504) 736-2519 or 1-800-200-GULF  
or FAX: (504) 736-2620

U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Technical Information Service  
5285 Port Royal Road  
Springfield, Virginia 22161  
(703) 487-4650 or FAX: (703) 321-8547  
Rush Orders: 1-800-336-4700

MMS 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 Indian leases. These revenues totaled nearly \$10 billion in 2001 and more than \$120 billion since the agency was created in 1982. Annually, nearly \$1 billion from those revenues go into the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the acquisition and development of state and federal park and recreation lands.

**-MMS-GOM-**

MMS's Website Address: <http://www.mms.gov>

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