



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

FOR RELEASE: August 25, 1998

Barney Congdon
(504) 736-2595

Caryl Fagot
(504) 736-2590

News Desk Alert:

Lease Sale 171 Receives 486 Bids on 402 Tracts

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service announced at 10 a.m. today that it has received 486 bids on 402 tracts offered in the Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 171.

Comparative Western Lease Sales

Sale 168	September 27, 1997	1,224 bids on 804 tracts
Sale 161	September 25, 1996	929 bids on 617 tracts
Sale 74	August 24, 1983	773 bids on 436 tracts
Sale 122	August 27, 1989	676 bids on 488 tracts
Sale 84	July 18, 1984	593 bids on 402 tracts
Sale 112	August 12, 1987	519 bids on 367 tracts
Sale 171	August 26, 1998	486 bids on 402 tracts
Sale 125	August 22, 1990	465 bids on 307 tracts

Lease Sale 171 will take place tomorrow, August 26, 1998, at 9 a.m., Grand Ball Rooms A, B, and C, Hyatt Regency Hotel, 500 Poydras Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. In addition, the Offshore Oil Scouts Association will sponsor live radio coverage to be broadcast on stations:

WTUL (91.5 FM) in New Orleans	KNON (89.3 FM) in Dallas
KRVS (88.7 FM) in Lafayette	KTSU (90.9 FM) in Houston

The MMS is the Federal agency that manages the Nation's oil and gas and other mineral resources on the OCS and collects, accounts for and last year disbursed about \$6 billion in revenues from Federal offshore leases and Federal and Indian onshore mineral leases.

-MMS-GOM-

MMS's Website Address: www.mms.gov
24 Hour Fax-on-Demand Service: 202-219-1703

