

MMS Securing Ocean Energy & Economic Value for America

Minerals Management Service

www.mms.gov

eWell: A Good System Made Better, Post-Katrina

The devastation wrought by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita prompted a major refinement to the Minerals Management Service's (MMS) "eWell" system that will improve preparations for the 2006 hurricane season and beyond. The new feature will provide faster, more efficient access to hurricane damage reports and will provide offshore operators with a faster and more reliable method for reporting production curtailment, evacuations, and damage – before and after a storm.

MMS's electronic reporting system - eWell - is a key method of communication between MMS and offshore energy operators. Since its launch in 2004, eWell has improved the speed and efficiency of communication, particularly in the permitting process. About 90 percent of offshore operators in the Gulf of Mexico use the eWell system.

Thanks to the eWell system, the traditional manual system of completing transactions – wherein energy companies completed written forms that had been developed by MMS and mailed them back to MMS – is no more.

To make certain that operators are well versed in the new system features, MMS held workshops in New Orleans and Houston in June 2006.



MMS manages offshore oil and gas exploration as well as renewable energy sources including wind, wave, solar, and underwater current on 1.76 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf while protecting the human, marine, and coastal environments. MMS also collects, accounts for, and disburses mineral revenues from Federal and American Indian lands.

For more information on eWell, visit www.mms.gov.

Energy – MMS – Value