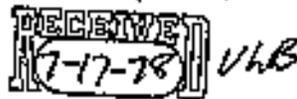


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Recd 7/17/98



Chevron

July 15, 1998

Chevron U.S.A. Production Company
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Mark S. Witten
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Minerals Management Service
Mail Stop 4024
381 Elden Street
Herndon, VA 22070-4817

Attention: Rules Processing Team (Comments)

**MMS Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
Postlease Operations Safety**

Chevron U.S.A. Inc., Gulf of Mexico operations, is pleased to provide comments on the Minerals Management Service's (MMS) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking pertaining to Postlease Operations Safety that was published in the Federal Register on February 13, 1998 on page 7335. Our company is a major producer, explorer and leaseholder of oil and gas in the Gulf of Mexico, both on the shelf and deepwater, and would be significantly affected by the subject rules proposed by the MMS.

Chevron was an active participant in developing comments with the American Petroleum Institute (API) and the Offshore Operators Committee (OOC) and fully endorses and supports those comments.

Although we encourage the rewriting of regulations into a format that is more easily understood, rewriting the regulations in "plain English" in some cases changed or added additional regulatory requirements. We suggest that future rulemaking that utilizes "plain English" provide a side-by-side comparison with existing language to allow the reader to identify changes that although not intended may have a significant impact.

Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Witten