UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

NTL No. 2000-N02

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NOTICE TO LESSEES AND OPERATORS OF FEDERAL OIL, GAS, AND SULPHUR LEASES ON THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

Floating Production Storage and Offloading (FPSO) Systems Workshop

The Minerals Management Service will hold a 2-day workshop to assess worldwide operational experiences for FPSOs on June 7 & 8, 2000, in Houston, Texas. The objectives of the workshop are to (1) promote an open and comprehensive discussion of experiences and concerns based on FPSO operations worldwide, (2) identify operational and regulatory issues and successful practices that have resulted from this experience, and (3) identify mitigation measures or technology needs to address these concerns. The MMS has contracted the Offshore Technology Research Center (OTRC) at Texas A&M University to organize the workshop on our behalf. The event will be cosponsored by the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and the industry organization, DeepStar.

We are holding the workshop to assess if FPSOs are viable and acceptable options for the Gulf of Mexico and other offshore areas. We believe that this workshop will help to concentrate industry and government efforts and result in an improved understanding of FPSO operations. The first day of the workshop will include presentations from an invited international panel from Mexico, Brazil, New Zealand, Australia, Norway, United Kingdom, and Canada, as well as members from the MMS and the USCG. These presentations will be followed by a session of panels from industry, FPSO contractors and certification agencies to respond to issues presented from the international panel presentations and discussions. An open question and discussion session for all workshop attendees will follow. The second day will include a series of technical sessions to discuss mitigation measures and technology needs related to the issues brought forth during the first day.

We welcome and encourage your participation in this workshop and all interested parties are invited. If you have questions, please contact Phil Wibourn at (931) 526-8089 or pwilbrourn@citink.net, or Skip Ward at (979) 862-2288 or egward@tamu.edu with OTRC. To register, contact Beth Rhea, OTRC, Texas A&M University, 1200 Mariner Drive, College Station, Texas 77845, (979) 845-6000, Fax (979) 845-9273.

Workshop Details:
Where: Adam's Mark Hotel, 2900 Briarpark Dr., Houston, Texas 77042, (713) 987-7400
Date/Time: June 7 & 8, 2000 -- Registration at 8:00 a.m. -- Workshop begins at 8:30 a.m.
Cost: $150.00 (Includes proceedings, continental breakfasts, luncheons, coffee breaks, reception)
Who should attend: Engineers, managers, regulators, and executives involved with current and future FPSO operations.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) Statement: This NTL does not refer to or impose any information collection subject to the PRA.

Date: 5/10/00

Carolita U. Kallaur
Associate Director for
Offshore Minerals Management