

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management****[WY-920-1310-01; WYW 134974]****Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease**

July 10, 2000.

Pursuant to the provisions of 30 U.S.C. 188(d) and (e), and 43 CFR 3108.2-3(a) and (b)(1), a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease WYW1349744 for lands in Fremont County, Wyoming, was timely filed and was accompanied by all the required rentals accruing from the date of termination.

The lessee has agreed to the amended lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$10.00 per acre, or fraction thereof, per year and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ percent, respectively.

The lessee has paid the required \$500 administrative fee and \$125 to reimburse the Department for the cost of this **Federal Register** notice. The lessee has met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in Section 31 (d) and (e) of the Mineral Lands Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), and the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate lease WYW134974 effective February 1, 2000, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

Theresa M. Stevens,*Acting Chief, Leasable Minerals Section.*

[FR Doc. 00-18381 Filed 7-19-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-M**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Minerals Management Service****Announcement of Posting of Invitation for Bids on Crude Oil From Federal Leases and State of Wyoming Properties in Wyoming**

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of IFB on Federal and State of Wyoming crude oil in the State of Wyoming.

SUMMARY: The Minerals Management Service (MMS), in cooperation with the State of Wyoming, will post on MMS's Internet Home Page and make available in hard copy a public competitive offering of approximately 6,600 barrels per day (bpd) of crude oil, to be taken as royalty in kind (RIK) from a combination of Federal and State properties in Wyoming's Bighorn and

Powder River Basins through an Invitation For Bids (IFB), Number 1435-02-00-RP-40329.

DATES: The IFB will be posted on MMS's Internet Home Page on or about July 25, 2000. Bids will be due for both, MMS and the State, at the posted receipt location on or about August 21, 2000. MMS and the State will notify successful bidders on or about August 25, 2000. The Federal Government and the State will begin actual taking of awarded royalty oil volumes for delivery to successful bidders for a 6-month period beginning October 1, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The IFB will be posted on RMP's Home page at <http://www.rmp.mms.gov> under the icon "What's New." The IFB may also be obtained by contacting Mr. Todd Leneau at the address in the **FURTHER INFORMATION** section. Bids should be submitted to the address provided in the IFB.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information concerning the IFB document, terms, and process for Federal leases, contact Mr. Todd Leneau, Minerals Management Service, MS 2730, P.O. Box 25165, Denver, Co 80225-0165; telephone number (303) 275-7385; fax (303) 275-7303; e-mail Todd.Leneau@mms.gov. For additional information concerning the IFB document, terms, and process for State of Wyoming properties, contact Mr. Harold Kemp, Office of State Lands and Investments, Herschler Building, 3rd Floor West, 122 West 25th Street, Cheyenne, WY 82002-0600; telephone number (307) 777-6643; fax (307) 777-5400; e-mail: hkemp@missc.state.wy.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The offering in this IFB continues the ongoing RIK program in Wyoming. The State and MMS believe that taking oil royalties as a share of production, or RIK, from the properties offered in the IFB is a viable alternative to the agencies' usual practice of collecting oil royalties as a share of the value received by the lessee for sale of the production. Both agencies will continue to monitor the effectiveness of the RIK approach to taking crude oil royalties in Wyoming.

This sale involves approximately 6,600 bpd of crude oil from 380 Federal and State properties located in Wyoming's Bighorn and Powder River Basins. The volume represents an increase of about 1,700 bpd compared to the most recent IFB, No. 31053, which offered 4,900 bpd of crude oil for delivery to purchasers for production months April 2000 through September 2000. Most production is pipeline-connected. In the few instances where

there is also some trucked production on a property, Exhibit A to the IFB will detail those properties.

Purchasers may bid on specific pipeline subgroups and/or on the entire packages of Wyoming sweet crude oil, Wyoming general sour crude oil, or Wyoming asphaltic sour crude oil. Bids will be due as specified in the IFB on or about August 21, 2000, and successful bidders will be notified on or about August 25, 2000.

MMS is allowing bidders to self-certify their financial solvency for the purpose of pre-qualifying to bid without the need for a letter of credit. Details will be available in the IFB.

The following are some of the additional details regarding the offerings that will be posted in the IFB on or about July 25, 2000:

- List of specific properties;
- For each property—tract allocations, royalty rate(s), average daily royalty volume, quality, current transporter, and operator;
- Bid basis;
- Reporting requirements;
- Terms and conditions; and
- Contract format.

The internet posting and availability of the IFB in hard copy are being announced in oil and gas trade journals as well as in this **Federal Register** notice.

Dated: July 14, 2000.

Lucy Querques Denett,*Associate Director for Royalty, Management Program.*

[FR Doc. 00-18342 Filed 7-19-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Minerals Management Service****Outer Continental Shelf, Western Gulf of Mexico, Oil and Gas Lease Sale 177**

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Final notice of Sale 177.

On August 23, 2000, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) will open and publicly announce bids received for blocks offered in Sale 177, Western Gulf of Mexico, pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331-1356, as amended) and the regulations issued thereunder (30 CFR part 256). Bidders can obtain a "Final Notice of Sale 177 Package" containing this Notice of Sale and several supporting and essential documents referenced herein, from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Region's Public Information Unit, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard,

New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, (504) 736-2519 or (800) 200-GULF, or via the MMS Gulf of Mexico Region's Internet site at <http://www.gomr.mms.gov>. The MMS also maintains a 24-hour Fax-on-Demand Service at (202) 219-1703. The "Final Notice of Sale 177 Package" contains information essential to bidders, and bidders are charged with the knowledge of the documents contained in the package.

Location and Time: Public bid reading will begin at 9 a.m., Wednesday, August 23, 2000, in the Grand Ballroom of the Royal Sonesta Hotel, 300 Bourbon Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. All times referred to in this document are local New Orleans time.

Filing of Bids: Bidders must submit sealed bids to the Regional Director (RD), MMS Gulf of Mexico Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., prior to the Bid Submission Deadline at 10 a.m., Tuesday, August 22, 2000. If the bids are mailed, mark on the envelope containing all the sealed bids the following:

Attention: Mr. John Rodi—Contains Sealed Bids for Sale 177

If the RD receives bids later than the time and date specified above, he will return the bids unopened to bidders. Bidders may not modify or withdraw their bids unless the RD receives a written modification or written withdrawal request prior to 10 a.m., Tuesday, August 22, 2000. In the event of widespread flooding or other natural disaster, the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office may extend the bid submission deadline. Bidders may call (504) 736-0557 for information about the possible extension of the bid submission deadline due to such an event.

Areas Offered for Leasing: The MMS is offering for leasing all the blocks and partial blocks listed in the document "List of Blocks Available for Leasing, Sale 177" included in the Sale Notice Package. All of these blocks are shown on the following Leasing Maps and Official Protraction Diagrams (which may be purchased from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office Public Information Unit).

Outer Continental Shelf Leasing Maps—Texas, Nos. 1 through 8. These 16 maps sell for \$2.00 each:

- TX1 South Padre Island Area (revised 09/01/99)
- TX1A South Padre Island Area, East Addition (revised 09/09/98)
- TX2 North Padre Island Area (revised 09/01/99)
- TX2A North Padre Island Area, East

- Addition (revised 09/01/99)
- TX3 Mustang Island Area (revised 09/01/99)
- TX3A Mustang Island Area, East Addition (revised 09/01/99)
- TX4 Matagorda Island Area (revised 09/01/99)
- TX5 Brazos Area (revised 09/01/99)
- TX5B Brazos Area, South Addition (revised 09/01/99)
- TX6 Galveston Area (revised 09/01/99)
- TX6A Galveston Area, South Addition (revised 09/01/99)
- TX7 High Island Area (revised 09/01/99)
- TX7A High Island Area, East Addition (revised 05/30/97)
- TX7B High Island Area, South Addition (revised 03/15/99)
- TX7C High Island Area, East Addition, South Extension (revised 03/15/99)
- TX8 Sabine Pass Area (revised 05/30/97)

Outer Continental Shelf Official Protraction Diagrams. These diagrams sell for \$2.00 each:

- NG14-03 Corpus Christi (revised 09/01/99)
- NG14-06 Port Isabel (revised 09/09/98)
- NG15-01 East Breaks (revised 09/01/99)
- NG15-02 Garden Banks (revised 03/15/99)
- NG15-04 Alaminos Canyon (revised 09/09/99)
- NG15-05 Keathley Canyon (revised 04/27/89)
- NG15-08 (Unnamed) (revised 04/27/89)

Note: A CD-ROM (in ARC/INFO format) containing all of the Gulf of Mexico Leasing Maps and Official Protraction Diagrams, except for those not yet revised to digital format, is available from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office Public Information Unit for a price of \$15.00. Only NG15-05 and NG15-08 in the Western Gulf are not available on the CD-ROM. The Leasing Maps and Official Protraction Diagrams are also available on our Internet site. See also 65 FR 2191, published on January 13, 2000, for the current status of all Gulf of Mexico Leasing Maps and Official Protraction Diagrams.

Acreage of all blocks is shown on these Leasing Maps and Official Protraction Diagrams. The available Federal acreage of all whole and partial blocks in this sale is shown in the document "List of Blocks Available for Leasing, Sale 177" included in the Sale Notice Package. Some of these blocks may be partially leased, or transected by administrative lines such as the Federal/State jurisdictional line, or partially included in the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (in accordance with

the President's June 1998 withdrawal directive, portions of blocks lying within National Marine Sanctuaries are no longer available for leasing). Information on the unleased portions of such blocks, including the exact acreage, is found in the document titled "Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 177—Unleased Split Blocks and Unleased Acreage of Blocks with Aliquots and Irregular Portions Under Lease," included in the Sale Notice Package.

Areas Not Available for Leasing: The following blocks in the Western Gulf of Mexico Planning Area are not available for leasing:

Blocks currently under lease; and
The following unleased block: High Island Area Block 170 (which is currently under appeal); and

High Island Area, East Addition, South Extension, Blocks A-375 and A-398 (at the Flower Garden Banks), and the portions of other blocks within the boundary of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary; portions of High Island Area, East Addition, South Extension, Block A-401; High Island Area, South Addition, Blocks A-502 and A-513; and Garden Banks Area Block 135; and

Mustang Island Area Blocks 793, 799, and 816 (blocks located off Corpus Christi which have been identified by the Navy as needed for testing equipment and training mine warfare personnel); and

The following blocks which are beyond the United States Exclusive Economic Zone and have been temporarily deferred from leasing by the Department of the Interior. These blocks are contained in an area subject to a treaty only recently negotiated and signed by the United States and Mexico (but not yet ratified). These blocks were deferred from this sale in the proposed Notice of Sale for Sale 177:

Keathley Canyon (Area NG 15-05)

Blocks

722 through 724
764 through 770
807 through 816
849 through 861
892 through 907
934 through 953
978 through 999

Area NG 15-08

Blocks

11 through 34
56 through 81
102 through 128
148 through 173
194 through 217
239 through 261

284 through 305

336 through 349

Leasing Terms and Conditions:

Primary lease terms, minimum bids, annual rental rates, royalty rates, and royalty suspension areas are shown on the map "Lease Terms and Economic Conditions, Sale 177, Final" for leases resulting from this sale:

Primary lease terms: 5 years for blocks in water depths of less than 400 meters; 8 years for blocks in water depths of 400 to 799 meters; and 10 years for blocks in water depths of 800 meters or deeper;

Minimum bids: \$25 per acre or fraction thereof for blocks in water depths of less than 800 meters and \$37.50 per acre or fraction thereof for blocks in water depths of 800 meters or deeper;

Annual rental rates: \$5 per acre or fraction thereof for blocks in water depths of less than 200 meters and \$7.50 per acre or fraction thereof for blocks in water depths of 200 meters or deeper, until a discovery in paying quantities of oil or gas is made;

Royalty rates: 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ percent royalty rate for blocks in water depths of less than 400 meters and a 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ percent royalty rate for blocks in water depths of 400 meters or deeper, except during periods of royalty suspension;

Minimum royalty: After a discovery in paying quantities of oil or gas is made: \$5 per acre or fraction thereof per year for blocks in water depths of less than 200 meters and \$7.50 per acre or fraction thereof per year for blocks in water depths of 200 meters or deeper;

Royalty Suspension Areas: Royalty suspension *may* apply for blocks in water depths of 200 meters or deeper; see the map for specific areas. See 30 CFR 260 for the final rule specifying royalty suspension terms. Threshold prices will be applied to royalty suspension determinations; see paragraph (l) of the document "Information To Lessees, Western Gulf of Mexico Sale 177" included in the Sale Notice Package. The minimum royalty requirement is not applicable during periods of royalty suspension.

The map titled "Stipulations and Deferred Blocks, Sale 177, Final" depicts the blocks where the Topographic Features, Military Areas, and Naval Mine Warfare Area stipulations apply. The texts of the lease stipulations are contained in the document "Lease Stipulations for Oil and Gas Lease Sale 177, Final" included in the Sale Notice Package. Also shown on this map are the deferred blocks noted above.

Rounding: The following procedure must be used to calculate minimum bid,

rental, and minimum royalty on blocks with fractional acreage: Round up to the next whole acre and multiply by the applicable dollar amount to determine the correct minimum bid, rental, or minimum royalty.

Note: For the minimum bid only, if the calculation results in a decimal figure, round up to the next whole dollar amount (see next paragraph). The minimum bid calculation, including all rounding, is shown in the document "List of Blocks Available for Leasing, Sale 177" included in the Sale Notice Package.

Method of Bidding: For each block bid upon, a bidder must submit a separate signed bid in a sealed envelope labeled "Sealed Bid for Oil and Gas Lease Sale 177, not to be opened until 9 a.m., Wednesday, August 23, 2000." The total amount bid must be in a whole dollar amount; any cent amount above the whole dollar will be ignored by the MMS. Details of the information required on the bid(s) and the bid envelope(s) are specified in the document "Bid Form and Envelope" contained in the Sale Notice Package.

The MMS published a list of restricted joint bidders, which applies to this sale, in the **Federal Register** at 65 FR 16957, on March 30, 2000. Bidders must execute all documents in conformance with signatory authorizations on file in the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office. Partnerships also must submit or have on file a list of signatories authorized to bind the partnership. Bidders submitting joint bids must state on the bid form the proportionate interest of each participating bidder, in percent to a maximum of five decimal places, e.g., 33.33333 percent. The MMS may require bidders to submit other documents in accordance with 30 CFR 256.46. The MMS warns bidders against violation of 18 U.S.C. 1860 prohibiting unlawful combination or intimidation of bidders. Bidders are advised that the MMS considers the signed bid to be a legally binding obligation on the part of the bidder(s) to comply with all applicable regulations, including paying the $\frac{1}{5}$ bonus on all high bids. A statement to this effect must be included on each bid (see the document "Bid Form and Envelope" contained in the Sale Notice Package).

Bid Deposit: Submitters of high bids must deposit the $\frac{1}{5}$ bonus by using electronic funds transfer (EFT) procedures, following the detailed instructions contained in the document "Instructions for Making EFT Bonus Payments" included in the Sale Notice Package. All payments must be electronically deposited into an interest-bearing account in the U.S. Treasury

(account specified in the EFT instructions) during the period the bids are being considered. Such a deposit does not constitute and shall not be construed as acceptance of any bid on behalf of the United States.

Note: Certain bid submitters (*i.e.*, those that do not currently own or operate an OCS mineral lease OR those that have ever defaulted on a $\frac{1}{5}$ bonus payment (EFT or otherwise)) are required to guarantee (secure) their $\frac{1}{5}$ bonus payment. For those who must secure the EFT $\frac{1}{5}$ bonus payment, one of the following options may be used: 1. Provide a third-party guaranty; 2. Amend Development Bond Coverage; 3. Provide a Letter of Credit; or 4. Provide a lump-sum check. The EFT instructions specify the requirements for each option.

Withdrawal of Blocks: The United States reserves the right to withdraw any block from this sale prior to issuance of a written acceptance of a bid for the block.

Acceptance, Rejection, or Return of Bids: The United States reserves the right to reject any and all bids. In any case, no bid will be accepted, and no lease for any block will be awarded to any bidder, unless the bidder has complied with all requirements of this Notice, including the documents contained in the associated Sale Notice Package and applicable regulations; the bid is the highest valid bid; and the amount of the bid has been determined to be adequate by the authorized officer. Any bid submitted which does not conform to the requirements of this Notice, the OCS Lands Act, as amended, and other applicable regulations may be returned to the person submitting that bid by the RD and not considered for acceptance. To ensure that the Government receives a fair return for the conveyance of lease rights for this sale, high bids will be evaluated in accordance with MMS bid adequacy procedures. A copy of the current procedures, "Modifications to the Bid Adequacy Procedures" (64 FR 37560 of July 12, 1999), is available from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office Public Information Unit.

Successful Bidders: As required by MMS, each company that has been awarded a lease must execute all copies of the lease (Form MMS-2005 (March 1986) as amended), pay the balance of the cash bonus bid along with the first year's annual rental for each lease issued by EFT in accordance with the requirements of 30 CFR 218.155, and satisfy the bonding requirements of 30 CFR 256, Subpart I, as amended. Each bidder in a successful high bid must have on file, in the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office Adjudication Unit, a currently valid certification (Debarment Certification Form) certifying that the

bidder is not excluded from participation in primary covered transactions under Federal nonprocurement programs and activities. A certification previously provided to that office remains currently valid until new or revised information applicable to that certification becomes available. In the event of new or revised applicable information, the MMS will require a subsequent certification before lease issuance can occur. Persons submitting such certifications should review the requirements of 43 CFR, Part 12, Subpart D. A copy of the Debarment Certification Form is contained in the Sale Notice Package.

Affirmative Action: The MMS requests that the certification required by 41 CFR 60–1.7(b) and Executive Order No. 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended by Executive Order No. 11375 of October 13, 1967, on the Compliance Report Certification Form, Form MMS–2033 (June 1985), and the Affirmative Action Representation Form, Form MMS–2032 (June 1985) be on file in the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office Adjudication Unit prior to bidding. In any event, these forms are required to be on file in the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office Adjudication Unit prior to execution of any lease contract. Bidders must also comply with the requirements of 41 CFR 60.

Information to Lessees: The Sale Notice Package contains a document titled “Information to Lessees.” These Information to Lessees items provide information on various matters of interest to potential bidders.

Thomas R. Kitsos,
Acting Director, Minerals Management Service.

Approved: July 14, 2000.

Sylvia V. Baca,
Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management.

[FR Doc. 00–18365 Filed 7–19–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–MR–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Badlands National Park; Environmental Statements; Notice of Intent

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare a general management plan and environmental impact statement for Badlands National Park, South Dakota.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) will prepare a general management plan (GMP) and an

associated environmental impact statement (EIS) for Badlands National Park, South Dakota, in accordance with section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). This notice is being furnished as required by NEPA Regulations 40 CFR 1501.7.

To facilitate sound planning and environmental assessment, the NPS intends to gather information necessary for the preparation of the EIS, and to obtain suggestions and information from other agencies and the public on the scope of issues to be addressed in the EIS. Comments and participation in this scoping process are invited.

Participation in the planning process will be encouraged and facilitated by various means, including newsletters and open houses or meetings. The NPS will conduct public scoping meetings to explain the planning process and to solicit opinion about issues to address in the GMP/EIS. Notification of all such meetings will be announced in the local press and in NPS newsletters.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and information concerning the scope of the EIS and other matters should be directed to: Ms. Jan Harris, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, P.O. Box 25287, Denver, Colorado 80225. E-mail: jan_harris@nps.gov

Requests to be added to the project mailing list should be sent to Ms. Constance Lemos, Badlands National Park, P.O. Box 6, Interior, SD 57750. Telephone: 605–433–5361, ext. 281. E-mail: constance_lemos@nps.gov

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Constance Lemos, Badlands National Park, at the address and telephone number listed above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Badlands National Park consists of nearly 244,000 acres of sharply eroded buttes, pinnacles and spires blended with the largest, protected mixed grass prairie in the United States. The Badlands Wilderness Area is made up of 64,000 acres and is the site of the reintroduction of the black-footed ferret, the most endangered land mammal in North America. The Stronghold Unit is co-managed with the Oglala Sioux Tribe and includes sites of 1890s Ghost Dances. Established as Badlands National Monument in 1939, the area was redesignated “National Park” in 1978. Badlands National Park contains the world’s richest Oligocene epoch fossil beds, dating 23 to 35 million years old. The evolution of mammal species such as the horse, sheep, rhinoceros and pig can be studied in the Badlands formations.

In accordance with NPS Park Planning policy, the GMP will ensure the Park has a clearly defined direction for resource preservation and visitor use. It will be developed in consultation with Servicewide program managers, interested parties, and the general public. It will be based on an adequate analysis of existing and potential resource conditions and visitor experiences, environmental impacts, and costs of alternative courses of action.

The environmental review of the GMP/EIS for Historic Site will be conducted in accordance with requirements of the NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*), NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1500–1508), other appropriate Federal regulations, and National Park Service procedures and policies for compliance with those regulations.

Dated: July 10, 2000.

William W. Schenk,

Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 00–18338 Filed 7–19–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–70–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

[FES–00–29]

CALFED Bay-Delta Program, California

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Final Programmatic EIS/EIR).

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the California Environmental Quality Act, the Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Environmental Protection Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Army Corps of Engineers, and the California Resources Agency, as joint lead agencies, have prepared a Final Programmatic EIS/EIR for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. The CALFED Bay-Delta Program is a cooperative effort of 18 State and Federal agencies with regulatory and management responsibilities in the San Francisco Bay-Sacramento/San Joaquin River Bay-Delta to develop a long-term plan to restore ecosystem health and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system. This Final Programmatic EIS/EIR is a result of this collaborative planning