

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE  
GULF OF MEXICO OCS REGION**

NTL No. 98-28

Effective Date: December 1, 1998

NOTICE TO LESSEES AND OPERATORS OF FEDERAL OIL AND GAS LEASES  
IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF, GULF OF MEXICO OCS REGION

**Drilling Windows, Eastern Gulf of Mexico**

**Drilling Window Program**

The Gulf of Mexico OCS Region (GOMR), after consultation with the U.S. Air Force, established a drilling window program in 1991 for exploratory activities on oil and gas leases that were obtained through Lease Sales Nos. 79, 94, and 116 and that contain Lease Stipulation No. 5. In accordance with this lease stipulation, the drilling window program ensures that exploration activities can be conducted predictably, orderly, and safely without interfering with scheduled military activities or jeopardizing the national defense mission.

The drilling window program divides the subject leases into five groups as follows:

Group "A" — A rectangle in the Pensacola Area with Block 768 as the northwest corner, Block 988 as the southwest corner, Block 996 as the southeast corner, and Block 776 as the northeast corner.

Group "B" — A group that includes blocks in the Pensacola Area to the east of a line that extends north from the southwest corner of Block 997 to the State-Federal boundary offshore Florida and north of a line that extends east from the southwest corner of Block 997 to the State-Federal boundary offshore Florida.

Group "C" — A rectangle in the Destin Dome Area with Block 20 as the northwest corner, Block 460 as the southwest corner, Block 468 as the southeast corner, and Block 28 as the northeast corner.

Group "D" — A rectangle in the Destin Dome and Apalachicola Areas with Destin Dome Block 29 as the northwest corner, Destin Dome Block 469 as the southwest corner, Apalachicola Block 443 as the southeast corner, and Apalachicola Block 3 as the northeast corner.

Group "E" — A group that includes a rectangle in the Destin Dome Area with Block 507 as the northwest corner, Block 771 as the southwest corner, Block 776 as the southeast corner,

and Block 512 as the northeast corner, Destin Dome Blocks 969 and 973, and all the leased blocks in the DeSoto Canyon, Florida Middle Ground, the Elbow, and Lloyd Ridge Areas.

Enclosed is an up-to-date list of the actual leased blocks in these groups.

Under the drilling window scheme established in 1991 and in place since that time, the GOMR opens one group of leases every three months. Since the last established drilling window, the Forty-first Drilling Window, closed on October 31, 1998, the GOMR, in consultation with the Air Force, hereby establishes the following schedule:

Group "A" will open as the Forty-second Drilling Window effective December 1, 1998.

Group "B" will open as the Forty-third Drilling Window effective March 1, 1999.

Group "C" will open as the Forty-fourth Drilling Window effective June 1, 1999.

Group "D" will open as the Forty-fifth Drilling Window effective September 1, 1999.

Group "E" will open as the Forty-sixth Drilling Window effective December 1, 1999.

If the GOMR receives any Exploration Plan or Development and Production Plan proposing operations in any of these groups of leases, we will consult with the Air Force and determine what changes, if any, we will make to this schedule to accommodate all those concerned.

### **Effect of Drilling Window Approvals**

This section is provided pursuant to 30 CFR 250.110(b)(3) concerning suspensions of operations, 30 CFR 250.110(f) concerning lease extensions, and 30 CFR 218.154(a) and (c) concerning payment of rentals and lease anniversary date.

A. Pursuant to 30 CFR 250.110(b)(3), the GOMR will direct a suspension of operations (SOO) and it will be in effect for all oil and gas leases that were obtained through Lease Sales Nos. 79, 94, and 116, contain Lease Stipulation No. 5, and are not located within an open drilling window. Similar suspensions will likewise be directed by separate letters of notification for all such leases not included in a future drilling window and will be effective as of the date of the opening of the drilling window. Any such SOO will terminate when the lease is included in an open drilling window pursuant to 30 CFR 250.110(j).

B. Pursuant to 30 CFR 250.110(f), the term of any affected lease will be extended for a period of time equal to the period that the SOO is in effect.

C. Pursuant to and consistent with the purpose of 30 CFR 218.154(a), no payment of rental or minimum royalty will be required for or during the period of the SOO.

D. Pursuant to 30 CFR 218.154(c), if the lease anniversary date occurs within a period that an SOO is in effect for which no rental or minimum royalty payments are required, the prorated rentals or minimum royalties are due and payable as of the date the SOO terminates. The anniversary date of the lease will not change by reason of any period of lease suspension or rental or royalty relief resulting therefrom.

## **Documents Rescinded**

The Notice to Lessees and Operators (NTL) No. 85-2, dated February 4, 1985, and NTL No. 97-04, dated January 31, 1997, are hereby rescinded. The Letters to Lessees and Operators dated April 23, 1991; July 31, 1992; January 29, 1993; October 28, 1993; January 26, 1995; April 30, 1996; and August 1, 1997, on this subject are also hereby rescinded.

## **Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Statement**

The information referred to in this NTL is intended to provide clarification, description, or interpretation of requirements contained in 30 CFR part 250, Subparts A and B. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the information collection requirements in these regulations. The applicable OMB clearance numbers are 1010-0030 for Subpart A and 1010-0049 for Subpart B. This NTL does not impose any information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

## **Contact**

Please address any questions on the content of this NTL to Mr. Michael Tolbert at (504) 736-2867.



Chris C. Oynes  
Regional Director

Enclosure

**ENCLOSURE**  
**ACTIVE LEASES IN DRILLING WINDOW GROUPS**

**GROUP A**

Lease OCS-G6392	-PE 0949	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G6396	-PE 0996	Murphy Exploration & Production
Lease OCS-G8308	-PE 0904	Texaco Exploration and Production
Lease OCS-G8309	-PE 0906	Amoco Production Company
Lease OCS-G8310	-PE 0907	Amoco Production Company
Lease OCS-G8317	-PE 0989	Amoco Production Company
Lease OCS-G8318	-PE 0990	Amoco Production Company
Lease OCS-G8319	-PE 0991	Murphy Exploration & Production
Lease OCS-G10413	-PE 0945	Anadarko Petroleum Corporation
Lease OCS-G10414	-PE 0946	Anadarko Petroleum Corporation
Lease OCS-G10417	-PE 0988	Anadarko Petroleum Corporation

**GROUP B**

Lease OCS-G10404	-PE 0867	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10405	-PE 0868	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10408	-PE 0911	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10409	-PE 0912	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10410	-PE 0913	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10415	-PE 0957	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.

**GROUP C**

Lease OCS-G6429	-DD 0285	Union Oil Company of California
Lease OCS-G6430	-DD 0328	Union Oil Company of California
Lease OCS-G6432	-DD 0375	Murphy Exploration & Production
Lease OCS-G6433	-DD 0376	Murphy Exploration & Production
Lease OCS-G6436	-DD 0419	Murphy Exploration & Production
Lease OCS-G6440	-DD 0460	Murphy Exploration & Production

**GROUP D**

Lease OCS-G6401	-DD 0037	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G6402	-DD 0038	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G6408	-DD 0081	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G6409	-DD 0082	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G8333	-DD 0077	Texaco Exploration and Production
Lease OCS-G8334	-DD 0078	Texaco Exploration and Production
Lease OCS-G8346	-DD 0208	Texaco Exploration and Production
Lease OCS-G10426	-DD 0253	Anadarko Petroleum Corporation

**GROUP D (Continued)**

Lease OCS-G10427	-DD 0297	Anadarko Petroleum Corporation
Lease OCS-G10430	-AP 0177	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10431	-AP 0178	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
Lease OCS-G10432	-AP 0179	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
Lease OCS-G10433	-AP 0222	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
Lease OCS-G10434	-AP 0223	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
Lease OCS-G10435	-AP 0266	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION

**GROUP E**

Lease OCS-G6442	-DD 0511	Marathon Oil Company
Lease OCS-G6443	-DD 0555	Marathon Oil Company
Lease OCS-G6444	-DD 0556	Marathon Oil Company
Lease OCS-G6464	-DC 0427	Conoco Inc.
Lease OCS-G6469	-DC 0472	Conoco Inc.
Lease OCS-G6470	-DC 0476	Conoco Inc.
Lease OCS-G6474	-DC 0516	Conoco Inc.
Lease OCS-G6475	-DC 0517	Conoco Inc.
Lease OCS-G6476	-DC 0520	Conoco Inc.
Lease OCS-G6477	-DC 0521	Conoco Inc.
Lease OCS-G8361	-FM 0411	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G8362	-FM 0412	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G8363	-FM 0455	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G8364	-FM 0456	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G8365	-FM 0499	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G8366	-FM 0500	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G8367	-FM 0543	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G8368	-FM 0587	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10428	-DD 0969	Marathon Oil Company
Lease OCS-G10429	-DD 0973	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
Lease OCS-G10436	-DC 0003	Marathon Oil Company
Lease OCS-G10437	-DC 0004	Marathon Oil Company
Lease OCS-G10438	-DC 0008	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
Lease OCS-G10439	-DC 0047	BP Exploration & Oil Inc.
Lease OCS-G10440	-DC 0048	BP Exploration & Oil Inc.
Lease OCS-G10441	-DC 0089	Amoco Production Company
Lease OCS-G10442	-DC 0090	BP Exploration & Oil Inc.
Lease OCS-G10443	-DC 0091	BP Exploration & Oil Inc.
Lease OCS-G10444	-DC 0133	Amoco Production Company
Lease OCS-G10445	-DC 0177	Amoco Production Company
Lease OCS-G10446	-DC 0297	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10447	-DC 0298	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10448	-DC 0299	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.

**GROUP E (Continued)**

Lease OCS-G10449	-DC 0343	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10450	-DC 0344	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10451	-DC 0349	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10452	-DC 0387	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10453	-DC 0388	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10454	-DC 0393	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10455	-DC 0426	Conoco Inc.
Lease OCS-G10456	-DC 0432	Conoco/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10457	-DC 0446	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
Lease OCS-G10458	-DC 0447	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
Lease OCS-G10459	-DC 0470	Conoco Inc.
Lease OCS-G10460	-DC 0471	Conoco Inc.
Lease OCS-G10461	-DC 0475	Conoco/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10462	-DC 0477	Conoco/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10463	-DC 0515	Conoco Inc.
Lease OCS-G10464	-DC 0519	Conoco/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10465	-DC 0560	Conoco Inc.
Lease OCS-G10466	-DC 0561	Conoco Inc.
Lease OCS-G10467	-DC 0662	Murphy Exploration & Production
Lease OCS-G10468	-DC 0666	Murphy Exploration & Production
Lease OCS-G10469	-DC 0793	Murphy Exploration & Production
Lease OCS-G10470	-DC 0794	Murphy Exploration & Production
Lease OCS-G10471	-DC 0829	Conoco/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10472	-DC 0830	Conoco/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10473	-DC 0831	Conoco/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10474	-DC 0837	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
Lease OCS-G10475	-DC 0838	Murphy Exploration & Production
Lease OCS-G10476	-DC 0840	Marathon Oil Company
Lease OCS-G10477	-DC 0875	Conoco/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10478	-DC 0883	Murphy Exploration & Production
Lease OCS-G10480	-DC 0927	Marathon Oil Company
Lease OCS-G10481	-DC 0929	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
Lease OCS-G10482	-DC 0970	Texaco Exploration and Production
Lease OCS-G10483	-DC 0971	Conoco/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10484	-FM 0309	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10485	-FM 0353	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10486	-LL 0001	Texaco Exploration and Production
Lease OCS-G10487	-LL 0002	Texaco Exploration and Production
Lease OCS-G10488	-LL 0133	Marathon Oil Company
Lease OCS-G10489	-LL 0134	Marathon Oil Company
Lease OCS-G10490	-LL 0136	Petrofina Delaware, Incorporated
Lease OCS-G10491	-LL 0267	Murphy Exploration & Production

**GROUP E (Continued)**

Lease OCS-G10492	-LL 0268	Petrofina Delaware, Incorporated
Lease OCS-G10493	-LL 0382	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
Lease OCS-G10494	-LL 0383	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
Lease OCS-G10495	-LL 0427	MOBIL OIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
Lease OCS-G10496	-LL 0511	Kerr-McGee Corporation
Lease OCS-G10497	-LL 0737	Kerr-McGee Corporation
Lease OCS-G10498	-EL 0273	Conoco/MOBIL/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10499	-EL 0274	Conoco/MOBIL/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10500	-EL 0317	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10501	-EL 0318	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10502	-EL 0319	Conoco/MOBIL/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10503	-EL 0361	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10504	-EL 0362	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10505	-EL 0363	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10506	-EL 0364	Conoco/MOBIL/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10507	-EL 0406	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10508	-EL 0407	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Lease OCS-G10509	-EL 0408	Conoco/MOBIL/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10510	-EL 0452	Conoco/MOBIL/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10511	-EL 0840	MOBIL/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10512	-EL 0841	MOBIL/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10513	-EL 0884	MOBIL/Murphy
Lease OCS-G10514	-EL 0885	Marathon Oil Company