

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

NTL No. 99-G23

Effective Date: December 6, 1999

Rescission Date: March 1, 2000

NOTICE TO LESSEES AND OPERATORS OF FEDERAL OIL, GAS, AND SULPHUR  
LEASES AND PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY HOLDERS  
IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF, GULF OF MEXICO OCS REGION

**Year 2000 (Y2K) Guidelines and Operations Coordinators Contact List**

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) Gulf of Mexico OCS Region (GOMR) is concerned about the effects Y2K may have on Gulf of Mexico oil and gas operations. It is possible that certain equipment will malfunction or otherwise fail to operate when Y2K begins. However, the potential effects are not known.

**Y2K Guidelines**

Because of these potential uncertainties, the MMS GOMR has developed the following guidelines should you experience Y2K problems with your Gulf of Mexico oil and gas operations and/or communication systems:

1. If you are required to make notifications or receive oral approvals to conduct operations, try first to contact the appropriate GOMR office by normal means (telephone, telefax, beeper, pager, etc.), as usual. Refer to Notices to Lessees and Operators (NTL) No. 98-22, dated October 5, 1998, and NTL No. 98-24, dated October 15, 1998, for contact procedures and numbers.

2. If you are required to make routine notifications or receive oral approvals to conduct operations, but you are **unable** to contact the appropriate GOMR office by normal means (telephone, telefax, beeper, pager, etc.) of communication, use the following guidelines:

a. You may delay making any required routine notifications (e.g., moving a drilling rig on and off location, repairing pipeline leaks) until normal means of communication have been restored.

b. You may take those actions that are routinely approved by the MMS GOMR (e.g., well deepening or sidetracking, changing metering option, flaring beyond 48 hours), including those that deviate from approved plans or permits, and receive approval from the MMS GOMR later when normal means of communication have been restored. You may take these actions only if the action complies with MMS regulations (unless the MMS GOMR normally grants a departure) **and** only if the action does not present an imminent threat to safety or the environment.

3. If you experience an emergency (e.g., accident, fire, major oil spill), but you are **unable** to contact the appropriate GOMR office by normal means (telephone, telefax, beeper, pager, etc.) of communication, make the required notification by contacting the MMS GOMR through our satellite phones at 011-8816-310-32860 or 011-8816-310-32863.

### **Y2K Operations Coordinators Contact List**

In NTL 99-G18, effective September 3, 1999, the MMS GOMR strongly suggested that each OCS operator and pipeline right-of-way holder in the Gulf of Mexico assign a Y2K operations coordinator and alternate and report the names and contact information to us by September 30, 1999. We have compiled a list of these coordinators (see Attachment) to facilitate communications between companies and with the MMS GOMR should Y2K problems arise. The list also contains contact information for the U.S. Coast Guard. You can read this list using *Adobe Acrobat Reader*. You can download this software from the Internet at [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com) free of charge.

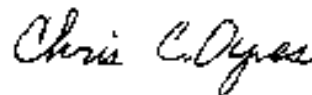
The MMS GOMR appreciates your cooperation in helping us and your industry counterparts to be prepared for potential Y2K problems.

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

The information collection referred to in this NTL provides clarification, description, or interpretation of requirements contained in MMS regulations and related forms. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the information collection requirements for these regulations and forms. You can find the various assigned OMB control numbers for collecting this information in 30 CFR Parts 250, 251, 254, and 256. This NTL does not impose additional information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

### **Contact**

If you have any questions or comments regarding this NTL, please contact Mr. Robert Whitaker at (504) 736-2847.



Chris C. Oynes  
Regional Director

Attachment