



U.S. Department of the Interior

Office of Natural Resources Revenue

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News Release

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ONRR Announces Final Regulation to Implement the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Department of the Interior’s Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) issued a final regulation on the distribution and disbursement of qualified revenues from certain leases on the Gulf of Mexico’s Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), in accordance with provisions contained in the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (GOMESA). In accordance with GOMESA Phase II, ONRR will annually disburse up to \$375 million to Gulf States and their eligible coastal political subdivisions and up to \$125 million to the stateside Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).

“The final regulations published today implement Phase II of the GOMESA legislation. Under the legislation, Phase II broadens the scope of leases subject to revenue sharing and thus increases the annual GOMESA disbursements to Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, and Texas, and their eligible counties and parishes,” said Greg Gould, Director of the Office of Natural Resources Revenue.

GOMESA provides for sharing 37.5 percent of qualified oil and gas leasing revenues from certain Outer Continental Shelf leases with the four Gulf States and their coastal parishes and counties. GOMESA also specifies that 12.5 percent of qualified revenues are provided to the stateside Land and Water Conservation Fund and that the remaining 50 percent is sent to the U.S. Treasury General Fund.

Under Phase II, GOMESA expands the definition of qualified revenues to include the majority of existing leases issued in the Gulf of Mexico program area since December 20, 2006, and any future Federal leases issued on the Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf. GOMESA Phase II revenue sharing will begin with the disbursement of fiscal year 2017 qualified revenues in fiscal year 2018.

The final rule becomes effective 30 days after its publication in the Federal Register. The rule is available for public inspection today at www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection and will be available tomorrow in the Federal Register and at www.regulations.gov.

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