

**Memorandum of Understanding Between the  
Regional Director of the Minerals Management Service  
Alaska OCS Region and the Assistant Regional Administrator of the  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region X, Alaska Operations Office**

**Purpose**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes Minerals Management Service (MMS) responsibility for offshore oil facilities located in Cook Inlet, Alaska, as authorized in the MOU between the Secretary of the Interior, Secretary of Transportation, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, dated February 3, 1994, regarding division of Agency jurisdictional responsibilities for spill prevention and control, response planning, and equipment inspection activities under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90).

**Background**

The MOU between Department of the Interior, Department of Transportation, and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines the jurisdictional boundaries between MMS and EPA as "the line of ordinary low water along that portion of the coast which is in direct contact with the open sea and the line marking the seaward limit of inland waters." Under the MOU, the EPA has OPA 90 responsibilities for existing oil and gas platforms in Cook Inlet because they are, by definition, located in inland waters. The MOU further allows regional offices to establish exceptions to this boundary on a facility specific basis. Exceptions to the jurisdictional boundaries are herewith established as stated below.

**Responsibilities**

It is agreed that MMS shall have responsibility for OPA 90 implementation for offshore oil facilities located in Cook Inlet including any exploratory drilling activities as listed in the attachment. Future exploratory drilling operations or new oil production facilities located in Upper Cook Inlet normally will also be subject to MMS jurisdiction but will be reviewed and mutually agreed upon on a case-by-case basis, if there are any questions as to jurisdiction by either MMS or EPA. Deepwater ports and their associated seaward pipelines are excluded. Also, specifically excluded are the Drift River and Nikiski offshore loading facilities. Affected parties listed in the attachment will be notified of this MOU.



COOK INLET OFFSHORE OIL FACILITIES UNDER MMS JURISDICTION

Granite Point Field

Platform Bruce  
Platform Anna  
Platform Granite Point

Offshore Portion of the Tesoro Product Line

Exploratory Drilling from the Tyonek Platform  
ARCO's Exploratory Program for Cook Inlet

Trading Bay Unit

Platform Spark  
Platform Spur  
Platform Monopod

Trading Bay Unit and McArthur River Oil Field

Platform King Salmon  
Platform Grayling  
Platform Steelhead  
Platform Dolly Varden

Middle Ground Shoal Field

Platform Baker  
Platform A  
Platform C  
Platform Dillon