Offshore OCS Access

**Issue:** Additional areas available for leasing should include those currently under moratoria, off the Eastern, Western, and Florida coasts, where they can be shown to have economic benefit and acceptable environmental risk.

**Background:** The petroleum industry has demonstrated its ability to protect the environment while safely producing a significant portion of the nation's oil and gas from these offshore areas. It is in the interest of the United States to explore and develop its Outer Continental Shelf and Slope, one of the most prospective areas of the country.

**Statement:** AAPG supports the full exploration, development and production of the petroleum resources of the Outer Continental Shelf and Slope of the United States.