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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

[MMAA 104000]

Notice of Availability of the Proposed Notice of Sale for Eastern Gulf of Mexico Planning Area Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Lease Sale 226

AGENCY: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of the Proposed Notice of Sale for EPA Sale 226.

SUMMARY: BOEM announces the availability of the Proposed Notice of Sale (NOS) for the proposed Eastern Gulf of Mexico Planning Area (EPA) Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Lease Sale 226 (EPA Sale 226). This Notice is published pursuant to 30 CFR 556.29(c) as a matter of information to the public. With regard to oil and gas leasing on the OCS, the Secretary of the Interior, pursuant to section 19 of the OCS Lands Act, provides affected States the opportunity to review the Proposed NOS. The Proposed NOS sets forth the proposed terms and conditions of the sale, including minimum bids, royalty rates, and rental rates.

DATES: Affected States may comment on the size, timing, and location of proposed EPA Sale 226 within 60 days following their receipt of the Proposed NOS. The Final NOS will be published in the *Federal Register* at least 30 days prior to the date of bid opening. Bid opening is currently scheduled for March 23, 2016.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Proposed NOS for EPA Sale 226 and a Proposed NOS Package containing information essential to potential bidders may be obtained from the Public Information Unit, Gulf of Mexico Region, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 1201

Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394. Telephone: (504) 736-2519.

The Proposed NOS and Proposed NOS Package also are available on BOEM's website at

<http://www.boem.gov/Sale-226/>.

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Dated: September 3, 2015.

Abigail Ross Hopper,
Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.

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