

The OOC was formed some 50 years ago shortly after the second World War and has evolved into the Oil and Gas industry's principal representative regarding regulation of offshore exploration, development and producing operations in the Gulf of Mexico. This effort has been accomplished principally through volunteer work by technical, supervisory and management personnel of many companies who staff various OOC "standing and ad hoc" committees. Occasionally, we supplement our work with commissioned studies by consultant or contract engineering firms or laboratories.

Our accomplishments have required close coordination with industry organizations such as NOIA, OMSA, API, IADC and LMOGA, for example. However, the major committee work has involved direct participation in the rulemaking process which various governmental bodies follow in establishing regulations. Although these efforts are far too numerous to even summarize, our major work in recent years has been with new or revised MMS, EPA and USCG regulations. Of major importance to our industry, significant new regulations were mandated by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 and were drafted in 1992. We invite your contact with any of our Subcommittee Chairmen, the other industry organizations or the regulatory agencies if you have any questions about our effort or accomplishments on behalf of the industry.

We are convinced it is in the best interest of our industry to continue monitoring the pending regulations and provide input as appropriate. That input has more significance with the regulatory agencies when they recognize we represent essentially all companies operating in the Gulf of Mexico. We are, therefore, asking you to consider joining the OOC. There is no membership fee -- but each Member Company pays annual dues as follows:

OOC 2005 DUES BASED ON MMS ACTIVITY LEVEL (WITH OOC EXECUTIVE SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS AT HIGHER DUES LEVEL)		
LEVEL	# OF COMPANIES	2005 DUES AMOUNT
Executive Subcommittee Members	13	\$10,000.00
High Activity Members	4	\$5,000.00
Moderate Activity Members	25	\$3,000.00
Low Activity Members	15	\$2,000.00
Large Associate Members ("A")	25	\$2,000.00
Small Associate Members ("B")	30	\$1,000.00
Total Members	112	

These funds are principally used for administrative costs of stationary and mailings, and periodic funding of research projects related directly to regulatory proposals. Remember, however, that the overwhelming majority of the various technical subcommittees' work is accomplished by volunteers.

Should you have further questions regarding the OOC, please call our Executive Director, Allen Verret, at (504) 934-2159.

Very truly yours,

Paul Landry
Secretary/Treasurer

(Introductory Letter – Operators.doc)