

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between**



**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF NATURAL GAS AND PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY**

And



**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE**

**For The
IMPLEMENTATION OF AND PARTICIPATION IN
TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION TO
BENEFIT PRODUCTION IN THE ULTRA-DEEPWATER
GULF OF MEXICO**

A. OBJECTIVES

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is entered into by the United States Department of Energy Office of Natural Gas and Petroleum Technology ("NGPT") and the United States Department of the Interior Minerals Management Service ("MMS") (collectively the "Parties") for the purpose of formalizing their commitment to create, support and participate in technology development and commercialization for ultra-deepwater oil and gas production in the Gulf of Mexico and elsewhere.

Specifically, the Parties desire to partner in achieving the following objectives:

- a) Promote the development, commercialization and implementation of new and existing technologies which will lower the cost of ultra-deepwater (i.e.,