Florida

The Benefits of U.S. Offshore Oil and Natural Gas Development in the Eastern Gulf

Florida is projected to see an increase in spending, employment and contributions to its economy if Eastern Gulf OCS oil and natural gas resources are developed. Florida could see annual spending over **$2.6 billion within 20 years** due to offshore oil and natural gas exploration in the Eastern Gulf and development activity through significant private investment related to oil and natural gas development activities.

### Employment

Employment in Florida due to spending by the Eastern Gulf offshore oil and natural gas industry is projected to reach **over 56,000 jobs**. Direct employment due to offshore oil and natural gas exploration and production could reach over 16,000 jobs, with indirect and induced employment of over 40,000 jobs projected throughout the project.

### Benefits for Florida’s Economy

Contributions to Florida’s state economy due to spending on Eastern Gulf OCS oil and natural gas exploration and development activities could be nearly **$4.5 billion per year** by the end of the forecast period. Additionally, if the Gulf of Mexico state/federal revenue sharing arrangement is enacted, Florida could see a 37.5% share of the Eastern Coast bonuses, rents and royalties generated which are projected to reach **$1.3 billion per year** within 20 years, with cumulative effects totaling **$11.7 billion**.

### Eastern Gulf Development Bolsters FL’s Existing Industries

Annual spending at the end of the forecast period in Florida is projected at around **$2.6 billion per year**, with spending primarily focused on drilling, operational expenditures, and engineering. Florida is already host to major oil and natural gas industry suppliers such as Crowley, one of the largest operators of large offshore tugs used for the transportation of drilling rigs and production units and Oceaneering’s Panama City umbilical plant which is one of the largest facilities of its type in the world.

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